



Speedfeed 2

FOR WHEN YOU NEED FEED FAST

SORGHUM X SUDAN HYBRID

Key features

This very productive hybrid can provide rapid growth rates and quick recovery after grazing or cutting.

Under favorable conditions Speedfeed 2 can grow in excess of 5cm (2in) per day. Because of this rapid growth it is important to start using Speedfeed 2 when it is only 1 metre tall.

If the feed is allowed to continue to grow taller it can quickly reach 2 metres and start to go to head.

Should this occur the feed is lower in quality and more feed will be wasted when it is eventually grazed. See Figures 4 & 5 over.

Productivity and feed quality

The effect of age and height on both protein and digestibility of Speedfeed 2 is shown in the graphs in Figures 4 and 5 over.

This illustrates the decline in feed quality with age which is typical of all conventional forage sorghums. The graphs confirm the need to intensively manage Speedfeed 2.

The use of rotational or strip grazing methods to graze the crop at the desired 1m height will achieve good feed quality. At 1.25m, crude protein of 17% and digestibility of 62% can be expected. However, if the forage is allowed to go to head it rapidly loses quality, therefore Speedfeed 2 should not be used in less intensive range grazing situations.



Grazing management

Intensive strip or rotational grazing for Speedfeed 2 for maximum feed quality and quantity cannot be over emphasized.

The quickest regrowth after grazing will occur if the crop is not grazed below 15cm (6in).

Uses of Speedfeed

Using intensive management, Speedfeed 2 is ideally suited to grazing, greenchop or haymaking. However it will go to head within 60 to 70 days if not well managed.

Variety	Average dry matter productivity (mt/ha) for 2 years' trials @ Pacific Seeds research farm, *Gatton, Queensland			
	Cut 1	Cut 2	Cut 3	Total
Speedfeed 2	4.94	4.73	4.54	14.21
Bettagraze	4.76	4.58	4.26	13.60

*Grown under favourable dryland conditions

04/04/08



Figure 1

Plant type and planting information					Planting rates			Feed quality		
	Genetic type	Time to flower	Minimum Soil temp required for sowing	Seed size (seeds/kg)	Marginal dryland (kg/ha)	Favorable dryland (kg/ha)	Irrigation or high rainfall (kg/ha)	Digestibility %	Protein %	Ideal grazing height
Speedfeed 2	Sorghum x Sudan	Quick	16°C	30-35,000	3-5	5-10	15	56-61	12-18	1 metre

Figure 2

Guide to production potential											
Continuous grazing					Good dryland partial irrigation		Hay production potential with some irrigation		Silage potential		
Number of 400kg beasts/ha					Rotational grazing	DM production			Tonnes of silage/ha at 68% MC		
	Coast irrigation	Good dryland	Tough dryland	Number of weeks grazing	Grazings per season (Mid Sept plant)	mt/ha per season	Number of cuts at 1.5 metre	Production cut tonnes/ha	Number of cuts	Plastic wrap per cut	Pit silage (one cut only)
Speedfeed 2	7	2	1.5	6-10	3-4	14	3-4	5-6	2-3	20	30-60

Figure 3

Feed use suitability									
Variety	Quick spring feed	Flexible grazing (Sept-April)	Autumn winter carryover	Hay	Silage	Beef production	Milk production	Feb-April feed	Sheep
Speedfeed 2	Good choice	OK	NR	Good choice	round bale	OK	OK	OK	OK

Figure 4

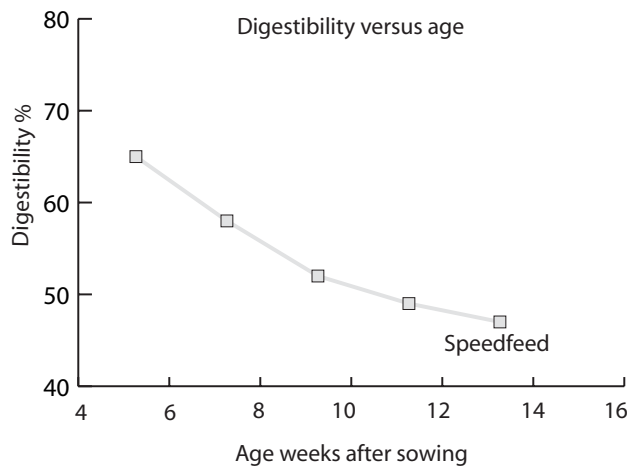
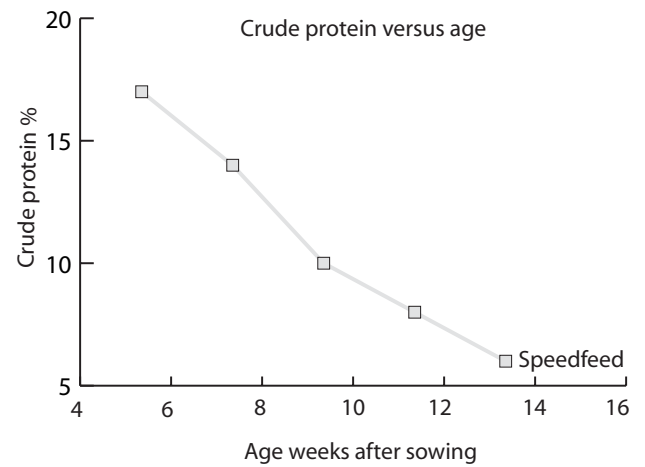


Figure 5



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