Sugargraze

FOR SILAGE

FOR QUALITY SILAGE IN TOUGH GROWING CONDITIONS

SWEET SORGHUM X SWEET SORGHUM HYBRID

Key features

- Very high Dry Matter production
- Very high sugar levels
- Wide range of disease resistances

Recommended uses of Sugargraze

- Makes very good silage in areas less favorable to high grain crop yields eg (corn and sorghum)
- Ideal for pit silage

Productivity and feed quality

The big benefit Sugargraze has over other forages is its very high sugar content. Sugargraze has been tested at 35% sugar on a dry matter basis by NSW Department of Agriculture.

The high sugar content improves digestibility, feed quality and increases palatability. The sugar levels in the plant increase as the plant matures with the highest levels occurring after flowering, during the seed set stage. See Fig 2. This is when it should be cut for silage.

The slow decline in the digestibility percentage (as would be expected) is reversed and actually improves as the sugar levels rise. (See Fig. 3) As feed energy level is closely linked to digestibility, the feed value remains good, apart from the falling protein level. This is why Sugargraze has a very wide chopping window of some 50 days compared to 10 - 12 days for corn and sorghum.

Fig.1 *Silage quality results are the average of five year trials on Pacific Seeds Research Farm, Gatton Qld*

Plant Type and planting information					Planting rates			Feed quality		
	Genetic type	Time to flower	Soil temp required for sowing	Seed size (seeds/kg)	Marginal dryland (kg/ha)	Favourable dryland (kg/ha)	Irrigation or high rainfall (kg/ha)	M.E. (MJ/kg)	Protein %	Silage yield @ 32% DM (mt/ha)
Sugargraze	Sweet sorghum x sweet sorghum hybrid	late	Avove 16°C	30-35,000	3-5	5-10	15-20	8.82	5.4	95.4

Fig.2

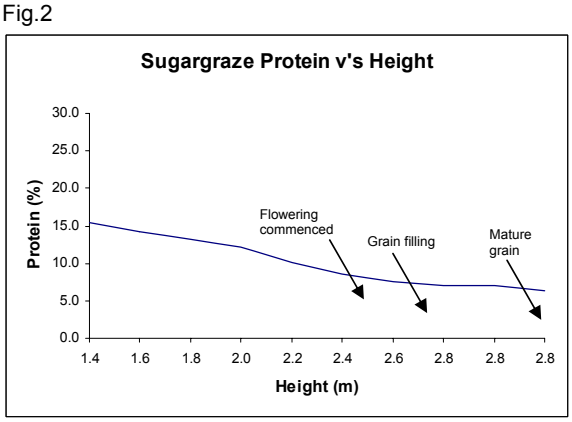
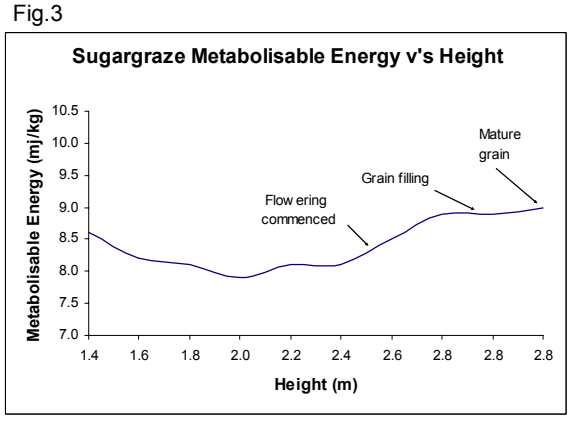


Fig.3



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