

FOR GRAZING, WINTER  
STANDOVER AND PIT SILAGE

## SWEET SORGHUM X SWEET SORGHUM HYBRID

### Key features

- ▶ Very high Dry Matter production
- ▶ Very high sugar levels
- ▶ Wide range of disease resistances
- ▶ Wide chopping window for quality silage.

Not only is it the preferred hybrid for later sowings to provide autumn-winter feed but it is also ideal for early sowings as it can be utilised at any stage during the summer, autumn or winter.

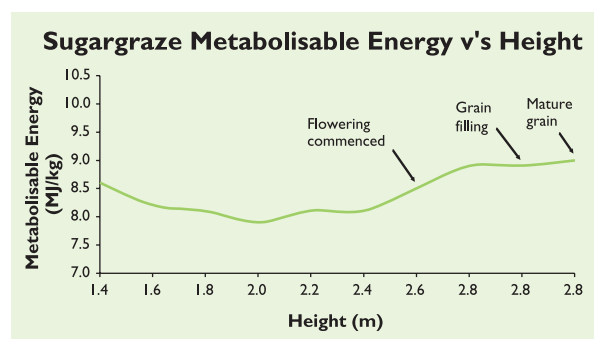
### Recommended uses of Sugargraze

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

### Grazing and cutting management

- ▶ Grazing of young crops can commence once the feed is 1.5m high
- ▶ For maximum regrowth retain at least 15cm of stubble when grazed or cut for silage
- ▶ If used for hay the crop should be cut well before flowering, a mower conditioner is essential due to thick stalks.

Since the advent of sorghum ergot (*Claviceps africana*) the heads of flowering forage sorghum crops may be infected with ergot if conditions are favourable. For more details on ergot contact your local Dept of Agriculture.



Results from a trial conducted by Pacific Seeds Forage Research Team showing the effect of growth stage on crude protein and metabolisable energy of Sugargraze. Sampling started when the crop was 1.4m and continued at regular intervals for eight weeks until plants had flowered.

The information provided in this publication is intended as a guide only. Pacific Seeds Pty Ltd (including its officers, employees, contractors and agents) ('Pacific Seeds') can not guarantee that every statement is without flaw of any kind. While Pacific Seeds has taken all due care to ensure that the information provided is accurate at the time of publication, various factors, including planting times and environmental conditions may alter the characteristics and performance from plants. Pacific Seeds shall not be liable for any errors or omissions in the information or for any loss, injury, damage or other consequence whatsoever that you or any person might incur as a result of your use of or reliance upon the products (whether Pacific Seeds products or otherwise) and information which appear in this publication. To the maximum extent permitted by law, the liability of Pacific Seeds for any claim whatsoever arising out of the supply or use of or reliance upon the products and information in this publication (including liability for breach of any condition or warranty implied by the Trade Practices Act 1974 or any other law) is limited at its discretion, to the replacement of the products, the supply of equivalent products or the resupply of the publication. For application to specific conditions, seek further advice from a local professional.

### 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 by NSW Department of Agriculture.

The high sugar content improves feed quality, increases palatability and results in very minimal feed wastage even when used for late season and winter feed. The sugar levels in the plant increase as the plant matures with the highest levels occurring after flowering, during the seed set stage. This is the stage at which Sugargraze should be chopped for silage.

As well as the large increases in sugar content, other significant differences in feed quality occur, as shown below.

The slow decline in the digestibility percentage (as would be expected) is reversed and actually improves as the sugar levels rise. As feed energy level is closely linked to digestibility, the feed value remains good, apart from the falling protein level. This explains why many graziers report that cattle 'do well' on mature Sugargraze which appears dry and of little value.

Mature Sugargraze provides adequate energy for good weight gains. If other young feed is not available, protein supplementation to stock in the form of urea and some 'protected' protein would greatly improve livestock performance.

