

Forage Sorghum (Sorghum bicolor)

HP 101 BMR

- * Significantly lower stem Lignin concentration.
- * Improved digestibility equals milk production of Corn.
- * Requires 1/3 less water than Corn for same production.

HP 101 BMR is a Brown Midrib hybrid Forage Sorghum type. The lignin content of the stem has been dramatically reduced which significantly improves digestibility by 40 percent over conventional forage sorghums. This improvement in digestibility allows HP 101 BMR Forage Sorghum to equal the milk production of Corn. The reduced lignin content of the HP 101 BMR stems makes it more prone to lodging than conventional Forage Sorghums. Because of these weaker stems, HP 101 BMR should be planted at the recommended rates for your area and harvest should be done on time.

The water requirement of HP 101 BMR is 1/3 less than that required to produce an equivalent amount of Corn. This high water use efficiency of HP 101 BMR makes it ideally suited where water is a major yield-limiting factor.

Disease/Insect/Nematode Ratings:

Downy Mildew: R

Agronomic Traits:

Early Seedling Vigor:	Good
Growth Habit:	Upright with Large Head
Recovery After Cutting:	Fair
Maturity:	100 days to Soft Dough
Uniformity:	Excellent
Plant Color:	Tan
Midrib Type:	Brown
Standability:	Fair

Adaptation Ratings:

Photosynthetic Type:	Warm Season
Soil Temperature:	Warm (60 F)
Water Requirement:	Very Low

Crop Use Information:

Life Cycle:	Annual
Ease of Establishment:	Good
Shade Tolerance:	Poor - Fair
Drought Stress:	Excellent
Wet Soil:	Fair
Low pH Tolerance:	Moderate
Minimum pH:	6.0
Saline Soils (White Alkali):	Fair
Saline – Sodic Soils (Black Alkali):	Poor - Fair
Hay:	Fair
Silage:	Excellent
Continuous Grazing:	Do not Graze
Rotational Grazing:	Do not Graze
Palatability:	Excellent
Anti-Quality:	Prussic Acid and Nitrogen

Planting Rates:

Bushel weight:	56 lbs.
Seeds per Pound:	16,000

Rate (Lbs.):	<u>Dryland</u>	<u>Irrigated</u>
Rows:	4 – 8	5 -7
Broadcast:	4 – 9	6 - 9

Seeds/Sq. Ft.	2 – 4	3 – 7
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Quality Data - HP 101 BMR Forage Sorghum:

Effects of Diet on Lactational Performance of Dairy Cows Fed BMR 100 Forage Sorghum for 10 Weeks.

Pounds of Milk/Day	Normal Sorghum	HP101 BMR Sorghum	Corn
1996	52.26	55.35	53.80
1997	48.29	53.58	65.04
1998	44.76	66.37	58.21
3-Year Average	48.44	58.43	59.01

Intake of Feed/Day

1996	44.98	55.79	50.94
1997	43.44	43.44	48.95
1998	52.26	55.34	54.69
3-Year Average	46.89	51.52	51.53

Economic Value

Milk Value (\$/cow/day)	\$5.81	\$7.01	\$7.08
Milk Value (\$/cow/lac.)	\$1,772.00	\$2,138.00	\$2,159.00
Feed Cost	\$2.28	\$2.51	\$2.67
Return Over Feed	\$3.53	\$4.50	\$4.41
1 Ton of Feed	\$224.19	\$268.14	\$263.36

HP 101 BMR Forage Sorghum Management and Production Guide:

Strengths

Highly digestible.
40 percent greater IVTD over forage sorghum.
33 percent less water required than corn.
Equals corn in milk production.
Good disease package.

Seeding:

Soil temperature should be at least 60 F.
HP 101 BMR is usually planted between April 10 and July 10.
Can be no tilled into the stubble of winter and spring crops.
Planting depth should be 1".
If planted in soils with pH greater than 7.5 to 8.0. Chlorosis can be a problem.
HP 101 BMR is an excellent companion with Forage Soybeans or Black Autrey Cowpeas.

Harvest:

HP 101 BMR is usually harvested 100 days after seeding.
Protein will decline as harvest is delayed, but energy will increase upon heading because of Continued sugar formation in the sorghum stalks and leaves, and carbohydrate deposition in the developing grains.

Avoiding Nitrate and Prussic Acid Poisoning from Sorghum:

Avoid large nitrogen applications prior to expected drought periods.
Increase Prussic Acid concentration for several weeks after application.

Do not harvest drought-damaged plants within four days following a good rain.
Do not greenchop within seven days of a killing frost.
Cut at a higher stubble height, nitrates tend to accumulate in the lower stalk.
Wait one month before feeding silage to give Prussic Acid enough time to escape.

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