Austral Eden NSW farmer Steve Calleja said his first S&W Sweet As trial "grew like a mushroom right from the start", delivering tonnes of much-needed feed from a single small rain event.

The one-hectare trial was planted on Christmas Eve 2018.

“People were quickly commenting on how well it grew”, said Mr Calleja.

The hectare delivered 24 tonnes of much-needed feed from a single 12mm rain event in an extremely tough season.

“I was mowing in mid-February, and it was quite amazing what came off it. I thought, if I can get 30 bales I’ll be doing well, but I ended up getting 46, which was great off such a small block”.

“Sweet As is a very good yielding crop”, he said. “It seems to handle the dry weather really well. It wraps up well, with great volume, and appears to hold excellent nutritional value. It’s a very fast-growing thing, and for the little amount that you plant, and with minimal moisture, you quickly get a lot of feed off it”.

Mr Calleja operates almost 1000ha with a mix of beef and dairy, and said the feed was a big help in current circumstances. He has already planted substantial further blocks with the seed, with plans for even more in future.

“*You quickly get a lot of feed*

Steve Calleja
Austral Eden, NSW

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Austral Eden, NSW
SWEET AS FORAGE SORGHUM

Product Guide

Benefits
- High tonnage
- High sugar content
- Good standability
- Sweet, juicy stalks
- 2.5 - 3m tall
- Good drought tolerance

Positioning/Management
SWEET AS is a late maturing, tall silage hybrid with high tonnage yield performance. Due to a high sugar content, stalks are very sweet and juicy. It is adapted for all but the shorter, cooler growing seasons and at higher elevations. Plant height reaches 2.5 - 3m tall with very good standability. In some areas it may be grown for bio-mass ethanol production.

Harvest Management
Harvest at soft dough stage for optimum silage harvest. Whole plant moisture should be about 65%.

Grazing Management
SWEET AS should be initially grazed at a minimum height of 1.5m. It is very suitable for stand-over feed to be grazed in the field due to the high sugar content of the stalk. High sugar content forage sorghum does have higher risks of prussic acid poisoning if grazed when drought stressed, frosted or if the plant or regrowth is less than 50cm tall. Contact your local agronomist or S&W representative if you are concerned prior to grazing.

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Hybrid Forage Sorgum Management
Planting Date: Late August through late January depending on latitude. Soil temperatures should be 14 degrees Celsius and rising. Planting too early can cause slow early growth and reduced population.

Planting Depth: 25 - 40mm deep depending on soil moisture.
Row Width: 380mm - 1m rows.

Fertility
Nitrogen: 8 to 12 kg/ha per tonne of silage harvested.
Phosphorus: 2 - 3 kg/ha per tonne of silage harvested.
Potassium: 3 - 5 kg/ha per tonne of silage harvested.

Actual P&K needs should be based on current soil test levels.

Note: Fertilizer rates need to be determined in consultation with your agronomist and in conjunction with a recent soil test.

Descriptive Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agronomic Traits</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forage Yield Potential</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Growth Rate</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standability</td>
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<td>Drought Tolerance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leafiness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appearance</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalk Sweetness</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prussic Acid (HCN) Potential Risk</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% Grain in Forage | 5% - 15%
Plant Height | 2.5 - 3m
Head Type | Compact
Head Exsertion | 150 - 230mm
Harvest Grain Colour | Red
Endosperm | Normal
Avg seeds/kg (x1000) | 28 - 32 000

Principal Uses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal Uses</th>
<th>Rating</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Silage: Tonnage (Forage)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality (Grain)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greenchop</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalk Grazing</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Footnotes: 1. Numerical Rating: 1 = Excellent, 5 = Average, 9 = Poor