

## **CHARACTERISTICS & RATINGS**

**Late** Relative Maturity

115 Days to Soft Dough

**BMR-6** Midrib

15-20 Seeds/Lb (1,000) - check seed bag

Yield for Maturity									2	
Forage Yield Potent	ial									1
Palatability										1
Digestibility										1
Seedling Vigor							4			
Recovery After Cutt	ing							3		
Plant Uniformity										1
Standability										1
Downy Mildew								3		
Anthracnose									2	
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

Recommended Seeding Rates: Seeding rates may vary depending on local growing

on local growing conditions. Please see your Alta Seeds retailer for local recommendations.



Excellent

# **CROP USE**

Silage	1
Dry Hay	Not Rated
Continuous Grazing	Not Rated
Rotational Grazing	Not Rated

AF7401 features a genetic combination of BMR-6 and brachytic dwarf that enhances both productivity and efficiency. AF7401 has a reduced internode length that creates a compact, leafy and prolific plant. However, it yields with taller sorghums due to the standability and tillering attributes of the brachytic dwarf characteristic. Producers get the best of both worlds: excellent forage qualities and a dependable high-yielding feedstock.

# FIELD POSITIONING

Tough Dryland	MA
High Yield Dryland	HS
Limited Irrigation	HS
Full Irrigation	HS
No-Till	HS
Poorly Drained Soils	S
Anthracnose Prone Area	HS
Fusarium Prone Area	HS

 $\begin{aligned} & \text{Observed Suitability and Field-by-Field Positioning} \\ & \text{HS} = \text{Highly Suitable} & \text{S} = \text{Suitable} \\ & \text{MA} = \text{Manage Appropriately} & \text{X} = \text{Poor Suitability} \end{aligned}$ 

## FORAGE SORGHUM MANAGEMENT AND PRODUCTION GUIDE

#### **STRENGTHS:**

- Highly digestible and consistent form of quality silage
- High levels of structural carbohydrates in stalks and I eaves for overall increased animal performance
- 40 percent greater IVTD forage quality rating over standard forage sorghum
- Requires approximately 30 to 35 percent less water than corn for similar productivity
- Excellent standability from brachytic dwarf genetics
- Excellent heat and drought stress tolerance
- Performs well on less productive soils
- Potential to equal or exceed corn silage in milk production

### **SEEDING:**

- Soil temperature should be at least 60 °F.
- Average seeds per pound: 15,000-20,000.
  Maximum 100,000 plants/acre (see bag for details).
- Planting depth should be 1"-1.5"
- Seeding rate is important. Follow recommended plant populations for your area.
- Can be no-tilled into the stubble of winter and spring crops.

## **FERTILITY:**

- A soil test is highly recommended to establish a base line of fertility requirements.
- Nitrogen fertility should not exceed 100 units per acre including available nitrogen in the soil.
- Potassium levels should be kept up, particularly if the soil pH is lower than 6.2.
- If soil pH is above 7.5, a foliar application of iron may be necessary or iron chlorosis (yellowing of the leaves) may be a problem. This can be corrected by foliar feeding iron while plants are still young.

#### **HARVEST:**

- AF7401 is usually harvested between 115 days after emergence.
- For highest foliage protein levels, cut prior to heading.
- Protein levels will decline as harvest is delayed, however energy will increase upon heading. This energy increase is due to continued sugar formation in the sorghum stalks and leaves and carbohydrate deposition in the developing grain.
- Optimum harvest recommendation is when 50 percent or more of heading has occurred to soft dough stage of the grain.

# AVOIDING NITRATE AND PRUSSIC ACID POISONING FROM SORGHUM

- Avoid large nitrogen applications prior to expected drought periods, which can 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.

Note: Ratings are based on testing over a number of years in numerous locations. Adverse environmental conditions and planting dates may alter a hybrid's performance, maturity and resistance to certain diseases and insects.