

FS1085 Forage Sorghum

Key Features

FS 1085, the earliest maturing BMR6 forage sorghum on the market, has a package to suit the majority of conditions in the northern United States and surrounding regions. This forage sorghum includes the BMR6 marker that ensures the very best digestibility while providing top yields and quality.

While this forage sorghum has had some success in the south, it is recommended to keep this variety north of the I-70 corridor with the exception of areas of higher altitude. Less seed costs per acre, lower nitrogen rates, less water usage, and heat and drought tolerance all make it an attractive option to compliment corn silage on tougher soils and growing conditions.



Uses

Grazing
Silage

Planting Time

Late Spring- Early Summer

Establishment

Plant FS 1085 at the regular rate with a lower seeding rate for wide rows, and a heavier rate if planted with a grain drill. Seed in late spring to early summer when soils have reached 65 degrees. It is very important during establishment and early development for soils to be 65° and the soil temperature rising.

Management Keys

80-85 days from emergence to harvest. Direct chop forage sorghum at soft dough to optimize quality and starch availability, and to maintain proper moisture levels (65-70%). FS 1085 can also be cut and wilted while in the vegetative growth stage.

Forage sorghum is meant to be a compliment to corn silage and managed as such. FS 1085 should be planted in a timely fashion to have the ability to be harvested while standing.

Do not apply more than 60 lbs of nitrogen pre-plant to reduce the risk of lodging and excessive nitrates. Forage sorghums require 5 lbs of nitrogen per ton of biomass produced per acre at 35% DM. Credit all sources of nitrogen available. Nitrates do not dissipate from harvested forages as prussic acid will.

After times of stress or frost injury forage sorghum will produce prussic acid which will be harmful to livestock. Do not harvest for forage and feed directly to livestock. Either allow the leaves to dry before chopping or cut and wilt the forage before harvest to allow the prussic acid to dissipate.

Characteristics

Drought Tolerance	5
Wet Soil	3
Seeding Vigor	5
Baleage	1
Silage	5
Grazing	3

Scale 1-5 (1 = Poor, 5 = Excellent)

Seeding Rate

5-9 lbs per acre

100,000 seeds per acre on 30" rows
120,000 seeds per acre on 15" rows

1" to 1½" Deep into firm seedbed

