Sunchaser[Ⓑ]

- A lower risk alternative to Suntop$^{\Phi}$, LRPB Reliant$^{\Phi}$ and LRPB Hellfire$^{\Phi}$
- Excellent grain size, with reduced levels of screenings
- APH quality classification
- Suited to the main season planting window
- Slightly quicker maturity than Suntop$^{\Phi}$ and LRPB Reliant$^{\Phi}$
- Longest coleoptile available in APH main season varieties

Breeder's comments

Since its release, Suntop[Φ] has become one of the most dominant wheat varieties for main season planting in the northern region due to a combination of high and consistent yield, wide adaptation, and tolerance to sodic soils. However, in drier/sharper finishes to the season, Suntop[Φ], along with LRPB Reliant[Φ], can express higher than acceptable levels of screenings.

One of our major breeding objectives has been to improve Suntop's[Φ] grain size and disease resistance package, whilst retaining its very wide adaptation, yield and agronomic suitability for the northern growing region. We believe that we have realised that goal with Sunchaser[Φ].

Sunchaser[Φ] may be viewed as a 'safer Suntop[Φ]', offering similar yields and most importantly a much lower risk of screenings. Elevated levels of screenings is a major factor contributing to downgrades at point of sale. This feature of Sunchaser[Φ] has the potential to improve growers' profitability over Suntop[Φ], among other varieties.

As a LRPB Reliant[Φ] alternative, Sunchaser[Φ] has produced slightly higher yields, improved grain size and a much longer coleoptile. Compared to LRPB Spitfire[Φ], Sunchaser[Φ] has demonstrated much higher grain yield, and with lower risk of screenings and a longer coleoptile. Compared to LRPB Hellfire[Φ], Sunchaser[Φ] is more tolerant to RLN (P. thornei) and has better resistance to stripe rust and leaf rust.

Sunchaser fits the main season planting window in northern growing regions, with a slightly quicker maturity than Suntop[Φ] and LRPB Reliant[Φ], and a little slower than LRPB Spitfire[Φ] and LRPB Hellfire[Φ].

Sunchaser

Table 1. Specifications

Background

Tested as	SUN843E
Released	2019
EPR rate	$3.50/tonne + GST

Performance

Grain yield	Please consult the NVT website for current data: https://nvt.grdc.com.au/

Disease

Stem Rust resistance*	MR
Stripe Rust resistance*	RMR
Leaf Rust resistance*	RMR
Yellow Leaf Spot resistance*	MS
Septoria Tritici Blotch resistance*	S
Pratylenchus Thornei resistance*	MSS
Pratylenchus Thornei tolerance*	MT
Crown Rot resistance*	MSS

Plant Characteristics

Maturity speed^	Quick-mid
Maturity habit^	Spring
Sowing window^	Main & Late
Novel herbicide tolerance^	None (conventional tolerance)
Head type^	Awned
Plant height^	Moderately tall
Coleoptile length^	Long
Lodging tolerance^	MI

Abiotic Stress

Boron tolerance^	Does not carry tolerance gene
Acid/aluminium tolerance^	Does not carry tolerance gene

Grain Quality

Quality classification	APH
Grain colour	White
Screenings level^	Very low
Test weight^	Very high
Sprouting tolerance^o	MII
Black Point resistance*	MRMS

Legend

R	Resistant
MR	Moderately Resistant
MS	Moderately Susceptible
S	Susceptible
VS	Very Susceptible
T	Tolerant
MT	Moderatly Tolerant
MI	Moderately Intolerant
I	Intolerant
VI	Very Intolerant
(P)	Provisional rating
NA	Not Available
/	Pathotype differences
-	Range
,	Mixed phenotype
#	May be more susceptible to alternate pathotypes
*	NVT consensus ratings 2026
o	Rating based on Germination Index Values
^	AGT ratings/data interpretation. Comprehensive AGT agronomic trait ratings and data can be found at: https://bit.ly/Traits_2026

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Seed Availability

Please contact an AGT Affiliate or your local retailer for seed. Consult the AGT website for AGT Affiliate contact details (www.agtbreeding.com.au/affiliates). AGT varieties can be traded between growers upon the completion of a License Agreement as part of AGT's Seed Sharing™ initiative (www.agtbreeding.com.au/seedsharing)

PBR and EPR

Varieties denoted by the ⍟ symbol are protected by Plant Breeders Rights (PBR) and all production (except seed saved for planting) is liable to an End Point Royalty (EPR), which funds future plant breeding. Growers of PBR protected varieties will be subject to a Grower License Agreement that acknowledges that an EPR must be paid on all production other than seed saved for planting.

Contact

Douglas Lush, Variety Support Manager, northern NSW/QLD: 0407 177 029

AGT End Point Royalty team: (08) 7111 0201

agtbreeding.com.au

The information contained in this brochure is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. Growers should be aware of the need to regularly consult with their advisors on local conditions and currency of information. Wherever possible, independent NVT data has been used in this publication. In the absense of NVT data, AGT data has been provided.