

Sunmaster[®]



- Very high yield potential
- APH quality classification
- Similar maturity & planting window as Suntop[Ⓛ]
- Shorter plant type than Suntop[Ⓛ], with good lodging tolerance
- Good tolerance to RLN (*P. thornei*)
- Maintains high yield in the presence of crown rot

Breeder's comments

For many years, Suntop[®] was one of the most popular APH varieties in the main planting window across NSW and Queensland. Since the release of Suntop[®], we have been focussing much of our efforts into breeding a Suntop[®] replacement that delivers even more benefits to growers. These efforts are now making their way into the paddocks of Australian farmers, as we apply new breeding methods to combine elite grain yield with APH quality and the disease resistance needed in the north.

Since Sunmaster[®] was released in 2020 it has consistently been one of the highest yielding varieties across the northern region main season National Variety Trials. With proven performance across Queensland and New South Wales, Sunmaster[®] has become the variety of choice for growers when it comes to a main season planting option.

Sunmaster[®] also has a very sound disease resistance package, particularly being able to tolerate some level of crown rot and root lesion nematode (*P. thornei*) pressure.

Sunmaster[®] shares many similarities with its primary parent Suntop[®], with an APH quality classification, wide adaptation and mid season maturity. Growers that are familiar with the maturity of Suntop[®] should feel comfortable in planting Sunmaster[®] in the same window.

We expect Sunmaster[®] to continue to benefit growers for many more years as the clear choice for main season planting. It is a genuine Suntop[®] replacement that has been higher yielding than most other main season varieties across the northern region.

Table 1. Specifications

Background

Tested as	SUN972P
Released	2020
EPR rate	\$3.60/tonne + GST

Disease

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

Plant Characteristics

Maturity speed [^]	Mid
Maturity habit [^]	Spring
Sowing window [^]	Main
Novel herbicide tolerance [^]	None (conventional tolerance)
Head type [^]	Awned
Plant height [^]	Moderate
Coleoptile length [^]	Moderate
Lodging tolerance [^]	MTMI

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 [^]	Low
Test weight [^]	Very high
Sprouting tolerance [^] ^o	I
Black Point resistance*	MR

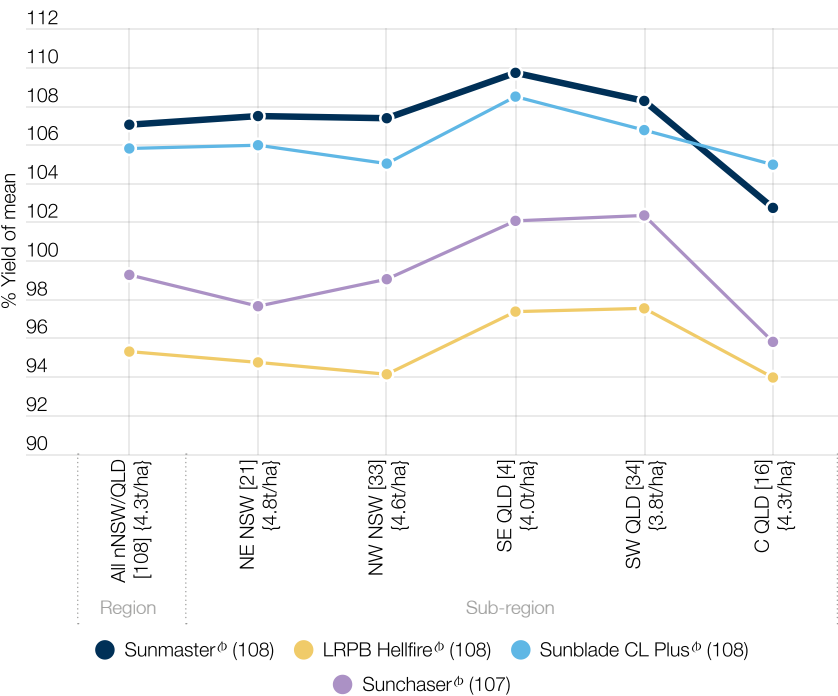
Legend

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

Grain yield

Compared with other mid and quick-mid maturing varieties, Sunmaster[®] has yielded exceptionally well across the northern region in NVT trials (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Grain yield of Sunmaster[®] versus comparators across northern NSW/QLD - NVT main season trials



Source: Best linear unbiased predictions from NVT long term MET analysis, main season trial series 2021-2025

[] : Total number of trials per region

() : Number of trials that each variety was present in across the dataset

{ } : Region mean

Variety comparisons

Sunmaster[®] has an excellent disease resistance profile, including strong resistance to stripe and leaf rust and good tolerance to crown rot and *Pratylenchus thornei*.

Table 2. Variety comparisons

	Sunmaster [®]	LRPB Hellfire [®]	Sunblade CL Plus [®]	Sunchaser [®]
Disease	Stem Rust resistance*	MS	MR	MS
	Stripe Rust resistance*	MRMS	MRMS	MRMS
	Leaf Rust resistance*	RMR	MSS	MSS
	Yellow Leaf Spot resistance*	MSS	MSS	MS
	Septoria Tritici Blotch resistance*	S	S	S
	Pratylenchus Thornei resistance*	MS	MSS	MRMS
	Pratylenchus Thornei tolerance*	TMT	MI	MT
	Crown Rot resistance*	MSS	MSS	S
Plant Characteristics	Maturity speed^	Mid	Quick	Mid
	Maturity habit^	Spring	Spring	Spring
	Sowing window^	Main	Main & Late	Main
	Novel herbicide tolerance^	None (conventional tolerance)	None (conventional tolerance)	Clearfield® Plus (Intervix® herbicide)
	Head type^	Awned	Awned	Awned
	Plant height^	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
	Coleoptile length^	Moderate	Moderate	Long
	Lodging tolerance^	MTMI	MI	MTMI
Abiotic Stress	Boron tolerance^	Does not carry tolerance gene	Does not carry tolerance gene	Carries tolerance gene
	Acid/aluminium tolerance^	Does not carry tolerance gene	Carries tolerance gene	Does not carry tolerance gene
Grain Quality	Quality classification	APH	APH	APH
	Grain colour	White	White	White
	Screenings level^	Low	Low	High
	Test weight^	Very high	Very high	High
	Sprouting tolerance^	I	I	MII
	Black Point resistance*	MR	S	MRMS



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

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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 absence of NVT data, AGT data has been provided.