A Commitment to Value through Innovation

Cal/West operates United States research facilities in California, Wisconsin, and at test locations throughout the world in order to breed the most desirable characteristics into every seed product. As the new generation of hybrid sudangrass develops, growers can be assured that Cal/West will be on the forefront of technology and customer satisfaction.

See your local seed distributor for more information regarding hybrids adapted to your growing area.

CAL/WEST Seeds

P.O. Box 1428, Woodland, California 95776 USA
Phone: 530-666-3331 FAX: 530-666-5317
www.calwestseeds.com

Value Through Innovation

HYBRID SUDANGRASS INFORMATION GUIDE

Hybrid Sudangrass for more yield, improved nutrition and better multiple harvest recovery

Improved nutrition

Proven in-field results for superior value and performance

Hybrid sudangrass combines multiple cutting capabilities with improved yield potential.

Traditional open-pollinated sudangrass varieties have offered cattle and dairy producers a warm season forage source that competes favorably with sorghum and other summer grasses. Cal/West Seeds, a recognized leader in forage research and innovation, operates an aggressive breeding program with the goal of creating new value-added hybrid sudangrasses. Cal/West hybrids are the result of years of careful plant breeding and research aimed at maximizing the nutritive and yield potentials of sudangrass.

Sudangrass varieties such as Piper which are open-pollinated, or non-hybrid, often provide less yield potential. Sorghum x sudangrass hybrids often provide fewer harvests and generally have thicker stems that can have an impact on hay quality and dry down.

Multiple Harvests

Cal/West hybrid sudangrass varieties are bred to function under a strong multiple cut schedule with 25 to 32 days between harvests. These hybrid varieties can tolerate an aggressive cutting cycle and demonstrate quicker recovery than non-hybrids or sorghum x sudan hybrids under proper field management. Field studies have shown that sorghum x sudan hybrids generally have slower regrowth resulting in fewer cuttings and/or reduced adaptation to grazing.

Nutritional Improvement

Hybrid sudangrass features improved leafiness and finer stems that contribute to overall improved digestibility for bigger beef gains or more milk per acre. Sudangrass hybrids are low in prussic acid, similar to Piper, and are typically lower than sorghum x sudangrass hybrids. Forage quality analysis shows that hybrid sudangrass hay will "TEST" with the best.

Yield

Hybrid sudangrass exhibits extensive tillering per plant that substantially increases yield potential. Yield tests comparing selected hybrids to non-hybrid Piper consistently demonstrate a substantial gain in green weight yield and digestible dry matter. This advantage is even more notable when multiple cuttings are taken.

Sudangrass Forage Yield Trials

Woodland, California - 15 year average

Variety	Category	Tons/Acre 18% Dry Matter	Average % Piper
Deligrass	Hybrid Sudangrass	13.36	130.4%
Imperial	Hybrid Sudangrass	12.71	124.8%
Piper	Sudangrass	10.25	100.0%

Value Comparison

14 Years of Head-to-Head Yield Data - Woodland, California

	Imperial Hybrid Sudangrass	Piper
Yield (Tons/Acre)	12.71	10.25
% Yield Advantage of Hybrid	24%	
Hay Price ($/Ton)	$100.00	$100.00
Revenue/Acre	$1,271.00	$1,025.00
Seeding Rate/Acre	130	130
Seed Cost ($/lb)	$ .50	$ .28
Seed Cost/Acre	$65.00	$36.40
Revenue Increase	$246.00	
Increased Seed Cost ($/Acre)	$28.60	
Hybrid Advantage ($/Acre)	$217.40	

Finer stemmed hybrid sudangrass (l) provides better digestibility than the woodier forage sorghum (r).