

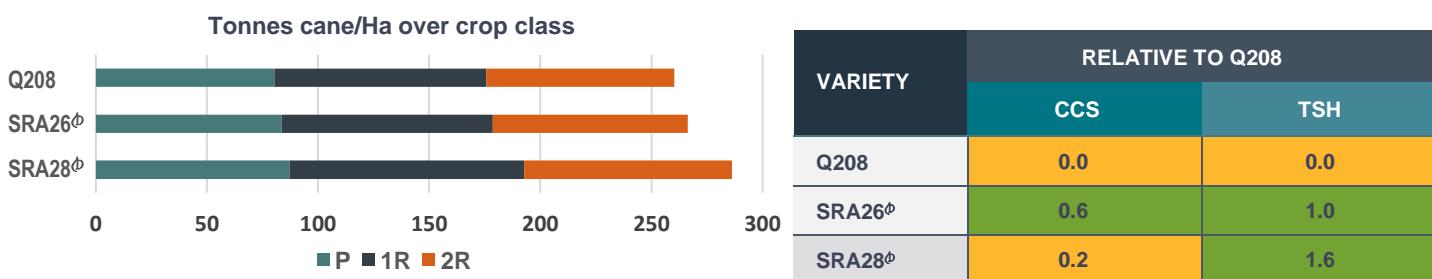
SRA28[®]

(QS08-8776, Q233[®] x Q135)

NORTHERN COASTAL AND TABLELAND variety summary factsheet – more information, including detailed herbicide toxicity data, can be found in your latest regional Variety Guide and on the Sugar Research Australia website.

VARIETY ATTRIBUTES

SRA28[®] has shown broad adaptability across diverse growing environments across the Northern coastal, Tablelands and Herbert regions. Like Q253[®], it is quick to respond in growth to moisture availability after rain. Selecting planting material that is younger than 12 months old is important for successful crop establishment. Germination in **SRA28[®]** is slower than other commercial varieties; yet, it has proven its ability to compete with other recently released commercial varieties in SRA field trials, achieving a 3% sugar yield advantage over **SRA26[®]** and 11% over **Q208**. This variety provides a profitable option for growers concerned about elevated Pachymetra and smut risk.



Productivity data presented is from 22 x Plant, 19 x 1R and 16 x 2R harvest results from Northern FATS planted in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

| VARIETY | DISEASE RATINGS | | | | | | APPEARANCE AT HARVEST | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------|-----------|
| | Smut | Pachymetra | Leaf scald | Orange rust | Brown rust | Yellow spot | Arrow | Lodging | Suckering |
| Q208 | I-R | I | R | R | R | R | Mod-heavy | Average | Light-mod |
| SRA26 [®] | R | R | R | R | P* | R | V. sparse | Av-Good | Light |
| SRA28 [®] | I-R | R | R | R | P* | R | Moderate | Good | Moderate |

■ RESISTANT (R) ■ RESISTANT-INTERMEDIATE (I-R) ■ INTERMEDIATE (I) ■ INTERMEDIATE-SUSCEPTIBLE (I-S) ■ SUSCEPTIBLE (S) * PROVISIONAL RATING (P)

AGRONOMIC FEATURES

Although **SRA28[®]** is a reliable germinator, issues have been observed with mature or older planting material. Therefore, it is essential to prioritise using younger material less than 12 months old. This variety may also be sensitive to hot water treatment. While its initial growth and tillering can be slower compared to other commercial varieties, it does not reflect **SRA28[®]**'s yield potential. **SRA28[®]** has similar ratooning ability to **Q200** and **Q208**. To maximise CCS, maturity testing or avoiding harvest soon after heavy rain is recommended as **SRA28[®]** rapidly responds to rainfall.

SRA28[®] has a moderate stalk population with good diameter, and its distinct purple leaf sheath and moderate trashing make it easily distinguishable. Its clean green canopy with good closure provides excellent weed competition, and the compact stool with an erect habit allows for good harvester presentation. Suckers in **SRA28[®]** are visibly noticeable due to their purple colour and number. However, trial data suggests that suckering levels are variable but typically similar to **Q240[®]**, **Q250[®]**, and **Q253[®]**. Arrowing is similar to **Q200** in an average year, though it can be profuse under favourable conditions.

SRA28[®] is protected by Plant Breeders Rights (PBR) as denoted by the [®] symbol. **SRA28[®]** growers are subject to the terms of the SRA License Agreement which can be viewed on the Sugar Research Australia web page. This license is currently royalty free.

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For more information on *variety field trials* contact: **Northern Variety Development Manager, Felicity Atkin, E** fatkin@sugarresearch.com.au, **M** 0408 062 085

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