Sugar Research Australia

VARIETY GUIDE
2026/2027

New South Wales Region







HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide is designed to help growers in the New South Wales cane growing region with their agronomic considerations when selecting new varieties to plant and trial on their farms. The information comes from the best available data of regional variety performance and disease ratings. ***The information in the tables on the following pages will help you understand:***

- New and recent varieties available in the NSW region 4
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WANT TO KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE OTHER REGIONS?

You can find all the regional variety guides on the SRA website.
Visit sugarresearch.com.au or scan the QR code.

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NEW AND RECENT VARIETIES AVAILABLE IN THE NSW REGION

Variety Recommendation and Release Process

Regional Variety Committees (RVCs) are responsible for variety release decisions. Sugar Research Australia (SRA) supports these groups by organising RVC meetings and giving the committees the practical information they need to decide which varieties should be released.

The NSW RVC Membership is drawn from the NSW Agricultural Advisory Committee, Sunshine Sugar Agricultural Services staff and SRA. The RVC review and approve the release of new varieties in NSW and requires committee consensus for variety progression, through to eventual release.

If you would like more information on new variety releases and regional variety committees, please visit the SRA website: ***sugarresearch.com.au/growers-and-millers/varieties/regional-variety-committees/***

Presented below are the results of trials conducted in the NSW region. Yield (TCH) and CCS for each new variety are compared with the trial results of various standard varieties.

Variety: SRA45Φ QS06-8080			***Parentage:*** *QN85-2770 x QN83-657* / ***Summary:*** *1 yr Crop high tonnes cane, low CCS 2 yr Crop high tonnes cane, low CCS*										
TRIAL CYCLE	**TRIAL HARVEST YEAR**	**CROP CLASS**	**YIELD (TCH)**					**CCS**					**# OF HARVESTS**
			SRA45Φ	**KQ228Φ**	**Q183**	**Q208**	**Q240Φ**	**SRA45Φ**	**KQ228Φ**	**Q183**	**Q208**	**Q240Φ**	
1 Year Crop	(2015 series FATs): 2016	Plant	112	101	98	97	100	11.5	13.2	13.2	12.9	13.5	2
	2017	1R	126	117	119	116	128	13.4	15.5	15.1	15.3	15.1	2
	2018	2R	109	105	108	101	112	11.8	13.4	13.2	13.0	13.2	2
	Overall performance 1yr crop		**116**	**107**	**108**	**105**	**113**	**12.2**	**14.0**	**13.8**	**13.7**	**13.9**	**6**
2 Year Crop	**TRIAL HARVEST YEAR**	**CROP CLASS**	**SRA45Φ**	**Q244**	**Q232**	**Q208**	**Q240Φ**	**SRA45Φ**	**Q244**	**Q232**	**Q208**	**Q240Φ**	**# OF HARVESTS**
	(2015 series AATs): 2017	P 2yr	166		147	148		12.9		13.5	13.3		4
	2019	1R 2yr	162		143	140		12.0		12.5	12.3		3
	(2021 series AAT): 2023	Plant	136	111	118	119	116	13.1	15.0	13.6	14.2	15.6	1
	2025	1R	167	142	154	154	137	13.0	14.5	12.7	13.7	14.4	1
	(2022 series AATs): 2024	Plant	163	156	130	184	204	13.1	13.0	13.1	13.4	13.2	2
	Overall performance 2yr crop		**161**	**136**	**142**	**147**	**153**	**12.7**	**13.9**	**13.1**	**13.2**	**14.1**	**11**

Key SRA45Φ facts

- **SRA45Φ was released in NSW in 2024**
- **Resistant to Fiji leaf gall, smut, leaf scald, Pachymetra and red rot, making it a good option for rotations into soils with high Pachymetra spore counts**

Variety: SRA41Φ Q509-205			*Parentage:* Q170 x QC90-289 / *Summary:* 1 yr Crop moderate tonnes cane, moderate-high CCS 2 yr Crop moderate tonnes cane, moderate-high CCS											
TRIAL CYCLE	TRIAL HARVEST YEAR	CROP CLASS	YIELD (TCH)					CCS					# OF HARVESTS
			SRA41Φ	KQ228Φ	Q183	Q208	Q240Φ	SRA41Φ	KQ228Φ	Q183	Q208	Q240Φ	
1 Year Crop	(2016 series FATs): 2017	Plant	99	98	98	98	99	13.8	13.9	13.1	13.4	13.9	2
	2018	1R	91	86	88	90	86	14.1	14.4	13.9	13.9	14.0	2
	2019	2R	104	106	95	102	92	15.0	15.0	14.7	14.8	14.9	1
	(2019 series FAT): 2020	Plant	64	74	74	68	67	13.1	12.8	11.9	12.0	13.3	2
	2021	1R	96	96	94	95	107	14.9	15.6	14.0	14.2	14.7	2
	2022	2R	66	77	69	72	83	15.6	15.6	14.4	14.8	15.6	1
	(2023 series FAT): 2024	Plant	58	63	73	67	73	12.6	12.7	11.5	11.7	13.2	1
	2025	1R	23	31	27	34	43	14.0	14.5	13.4	13.7	14.2	1
	Overall performance 1yr crop		**79**	**82**	**81**	**81**	**84**	**14.1**	**14.3**	**13.3**	**13.5**	**14.1**	**12**
2 Year Crop	TRIAL HARVEST YEAR	CROP CLASS	SRA41Φ	Q208	Q232	Q240Φ	Q244	SRA41Φ	Q208	Q232	Q240Φ	Q244	# OF HARVESTS
	(2016 2yr series FATs): 2018	P 2yr	148	171	166	153		14.2	14.2	13.6	15.1		1
	(2018 2yr series AAT): 2020	P 2yr	137	151	155	135	137	14.3	13.8	13.4	13.6	13.9	4
	2022	1R 2yr	98	103	112	88	95	15.9	15.6	14.7	15.6	15.4	4
	(2019 2yr series FAT): 2021	P 2yr	101	102	133	122	92	12.9	13.5	12.9	13.5	13.7	1
	Overall performance 2yr crop		**119**	**129**	**137**	**117**	**113**	**14.7**	**14.4**	**13.8**	**14.4**	**14.4**	**10**

Key SRA41Φ facts

- SRA41Φ was released in NSW in 2023
- Resistant to Fiji leaf gall and smut
- Intermediate-Resistant to Pachymetra and red rot. Intermediate for leaf scald

Variety: SRA40Φ Q507-7049			*Parentage:* CP70-1547 x QA96-1492 / *Summary:* Moderate-high TCH in 1 & 2 yr crops, with low CCS in 1 yr and moderate CCS in 2 yr crops.											
TRIAL CYCLE	TRIAL HARVEST YEAR	CROP CLASS	YIELD (TCH)					CCS					# OF HARVESTS
			SRA40Φ	KQ228Φ	Q183	Q208	Q240Φ	SRA40Φ	KQ228Φ	Q183	Q208	Q240Φ	
1 Year Crop	(2015 series FATs): 2016	Plant	105	101	98	97	100	11.7	13.2	13.2	12.9	13.5	2
	2017	1R	118	117	119	116	128	13.3	15.5	15.1	15.3	15.1	2
	2018	2R	109	105	108	101	112	12.0	13.4	13.2	13.0	13.2	2
	Overall performance 1yr crop		**111**	**107**	**108**	**105**	**113**	**12.3**	**14.0**	**13.8**	**13.7**	**13.9**	**6**
2 Year Crop	TRIAL HARVEST YEAR	CROP CLASS	SRA40Φ	BN83-3120	KQ228Φ	Q208	Q232	SRA40Φ	BN83-3120	KQ228Φ	Q208	Q232	# OF HARVESTS
	(2015 2yr series FATs): 2017	P 2yr	153	148	140	148	147	13.5	11.1	13.8	13.3	13.5	4
	2019	1R 2yr	146	137	128	140	143	12.5	10.6	12.6	12.3	12.5	3
	Overall performance 2yr crop		**150**	**143**	**135**	**145**	**146**	**13.0**	**10.9**	**13.3**	**12.9**	**13.1**	**7**

Key SRA40Φ facts

- SRA40Φ was released in the Herbert and Central regions in 2023 and in NSW in 2024, due to its reasonable results in NSW trials
- An excellent disease profile with resistance to smut, Pachymetra, leaf scald, red rot, orange rust and mosaic
- Intermediate resistance to Fiji leaf gall
- Similar reaction to brown rust as Q253Φ (intermediate to susceptible), but can recover later in the season
- Low arrowing, light suckering, reliable germination with an average stalk count and a medium barrel
- Medium tight trash and a clean erect canopy. An erect compact stool with an erect growth habit providing good harvesting presentation
- Distinctive reddish to light green stalks

SRA40Φ



SRA41Φ



SRA45Φ



For more information on *variety field trials* contact: NSW Variety Officer Anthony Cattle
E acattle@sugarresearch.com.au **M** 0418 694 656

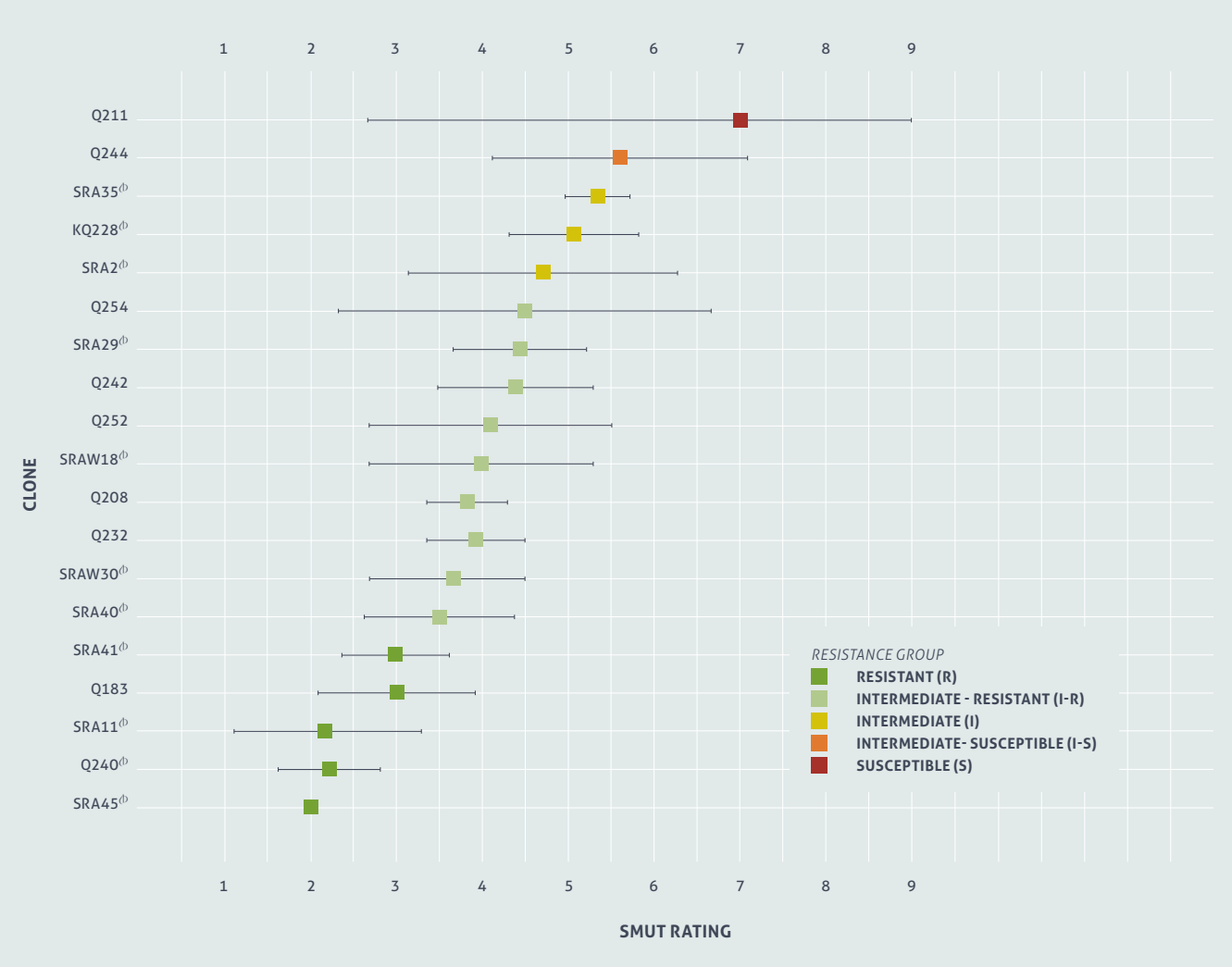
SMUT RATINGS

Smut resistance ratings are calculated from the incidence and severity of infection in a test clone compared to standard varieties in inoculated bench trials.

The graphic includes the rating and the 95% confidence interval for each variety.

The confidence interval is influenced by factors such as the number of times a variety has been tested and variability of smut infection within each trial.

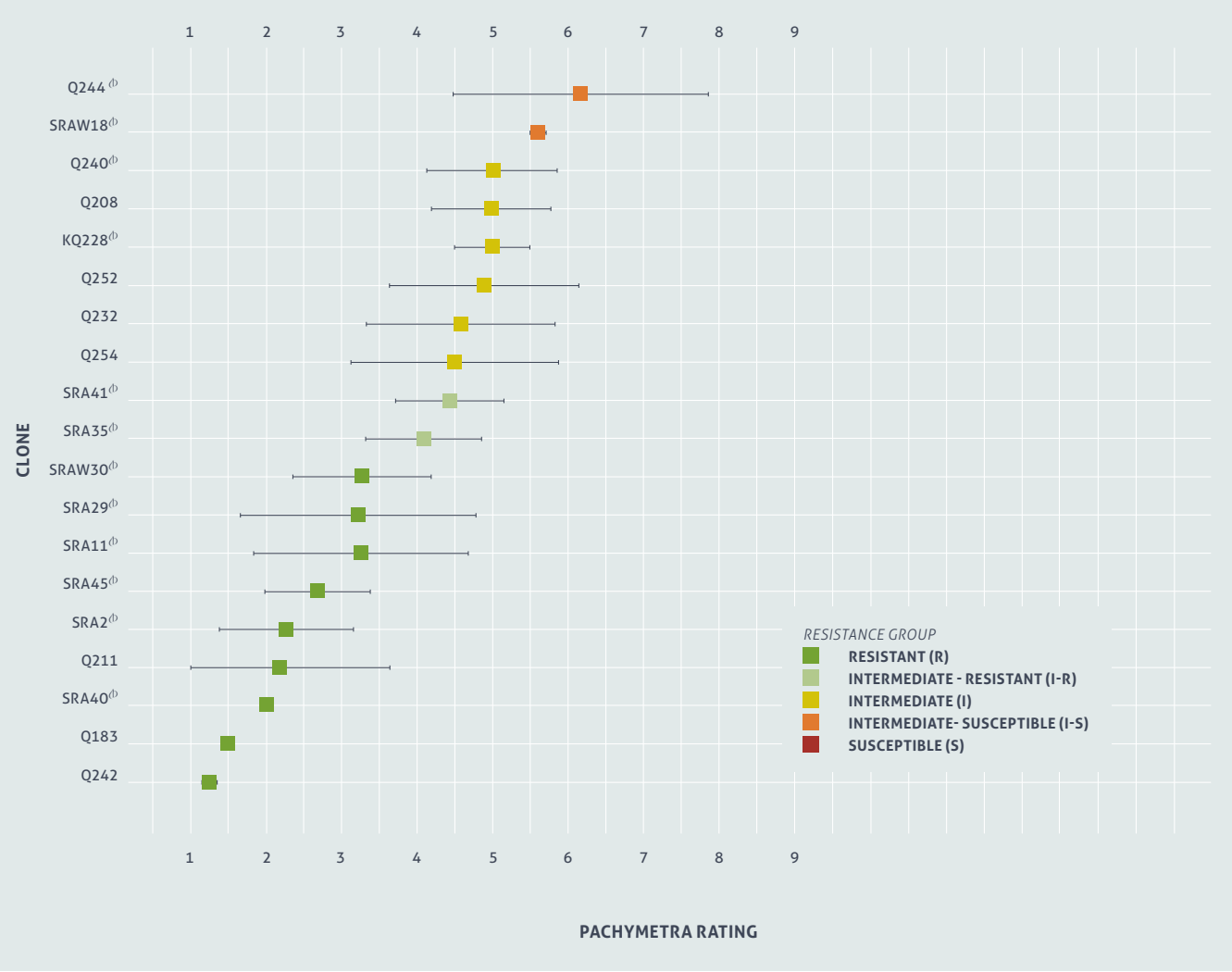
Rating confidence will improve as more data is collected.



PACHYMETRA RATINGS

Pachymetra resistance ratings are calculated from the severity of infection in a test clone compared to standard varieties in inoculated bench trials. The graphic includes the rating and the 95% confidence interval for each variety.

The confidence interval is influenced by factors such as the number of times a variety has been tested and variability of Pachymetra infection within each trial. Rating confidence will improve as more data is collected.



DISEASE RESISTANCE

Disease has the potential to lower the performance of varieties on your farm. This table will help you select varieties given the diseases that may be present on your farm.

NSW Disease Ratings										
VARIETY	SMUT	PACHYMETRA	LEAF SCALD	CHLOROTIC STREAK	ORANGE RUST	BROWN RUST	RED ROT	YELLOW SPOT	FIJI LEAF GALL	MOSAIC
KQ228ф	I	I	R	S	R	R	R	I	I	R
Q183	R	R	I	S	R	R	I	I-S	R	R
Q208	I-R	I	R	R	R	R	R	R	I-S	R
Q211	S	R	R		R	R	R		S	R
Q232	I-R	I	R	R	R		I-R	R	I	R
Q240ф	R	I	R	I-R	R		R	I	I-S	R
Q242	I-R	R	R	I	R		I-R	R	R	R
Q244	I-S	I-S	R	S	R		I		R	I-R
Q252	I-R	I	R		R		R	I	I	R
Q254	I-R	I	R		R		I	I	R	R
SRA11ф	R	R	R		R		I		R	R
SRA2ф	I	R	R		I		R	I-R	R	I
SRA29ф	I-R	R	R				I		R	R
SRA35ф	I	I-R	R			R	R		I-R	R
SRA40ф	I-R	R	R				R		I	I-R
SRA41ф	R	I-R	I				R		R	R
SRA45ф	R	R	R				R		R	R
SRAW18ф	I-R	I-S	R				R		R	R
SRAW30ф	I-R	R	R				I		R	R

Chlorotic streak has been observed to occur in SRA29ф. It is recommended that growers avoid planting SRA29ф in areas prone to waterlogging or wet conditions. An observation trial for chlorotic streak will be established in 2026 to continue to assess resistance screening methods for recently released varieties.

Rotation of Varieties

Rotation of varieties for each crop cycle is important in the management of diseases. Arrange for your local productivity services officer to inspect your farm for disease. The *Diseases of Australian Sugarcane Field Guide* provides information on diseases including how to identify and manage them. The guide is available on the SRA website **sugarresearch.com.au.**

You will note that RSD resistance ratings are not included in this variety guide. Varietal resistance is not one of the three pillars of RSD disease management; growers should continue to ensure that disease-free seed cane is used to establish crops, that crops are planted into volunteer-free land and the equipment is decontaminated regularly.

No sugarcane varieties are resistant to RSD: they can all become infected, suffer yield losses and further spread the disease.

Some varieties are more sensitive to RSD and carry significantly higher levels of the bacteria. In situations where RSD is a high risk and hygiene measures are not guaranteed, it may be appropriate to avoid varieties such as Q211ф, KQ228ф, Q242, and SRA2ф.

- RESISTANT (R)
- RESISTANT-INTERMEDIATE (I-R)
- INTERMEDIATE (I)
- INTERMEDIATE-SUSCEPTIBLE (I-S)
- SUSCEPTIBLE (S)
- UNKNOWN

HARVEST MANAGEMENT

Select varieties for a harvest plan that can be followed to maintain maximum CCS throughout the year. The charts below indicate early, mid or late sugar varieties.

NSW Harvest Management				
VARIETY	TRASHING	EARLY SUGAR	MID SUGAR	LATE SUGAR
KQ228ϕ	A-T	G	G	G
Q183	F-AV	P	A	A
Q208	F	A	G	G
Q211	F-AV	P	P	A
Q232	T	P	P	P
Q240ϕ	F-AV	G	G	A
Q242	A-T	P	P	P
Q244	F-AV	A	A	G
Q252	F	A	G	G
Q254	A-T	A	A	G
SRA11ϕ	F-AV	P	A	A
SRA29ϕ	F	G	G	G
SRA2ϕ	F-AV	G	G	G
SRAW18ϕ	F-AV	A	A	G
SRAW30ϕ	A-T	G	G	G
SRA35ϕ	A	A	G	A
SRA40ϕ	F-AV	A	A	A
SRA41ϕ	F	G	G	G
SRA45ϕ	A	P	P	P

Maximise your profit at harvest:
Selecting varieties for specific sugar maturity profiles, planting and harvesting them for optimal CCS maturity at time of harvest can make a significant difference in the profit your crop can make for you. Making harvest decisions based on in-field maturity helps maximise profitability.

TRASHING
- FREE (F)
- FREE-AVERAGE (F-AV)
- AVERAGE (A)
- AVERAGE-TIGHT (A-T)
- TIGHT (T)
- UNKNOWN

- GOOD
- AVERAGE
- POOR
- UNKNOWN

VARIETY ADOPTION IN EACH MILL AREA

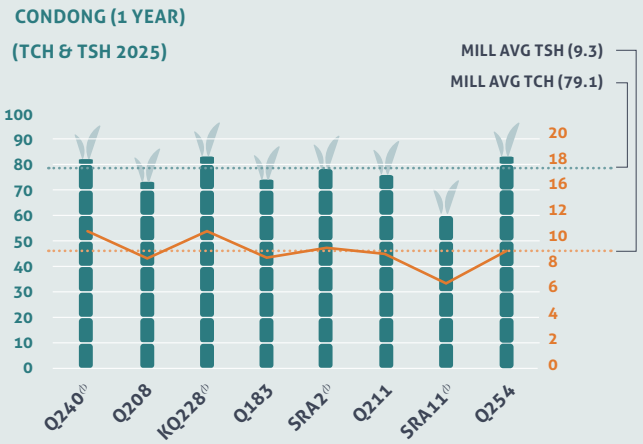
Use this information to assess yield performance of varieties over a number of years. Caution should be taken when comparing commercial performance of newer varieties (from plant and young ratoons) to older/established varieties (which include older ratoons).

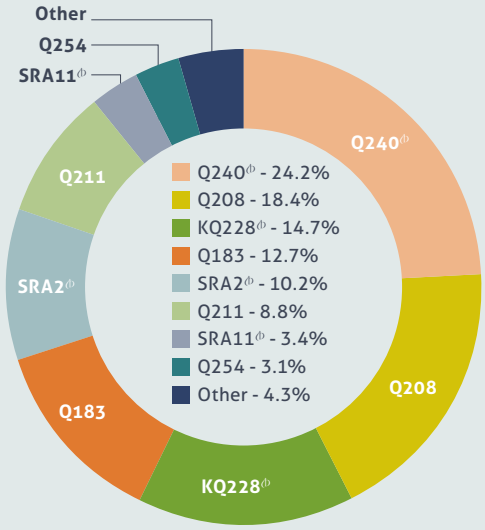
Condong*

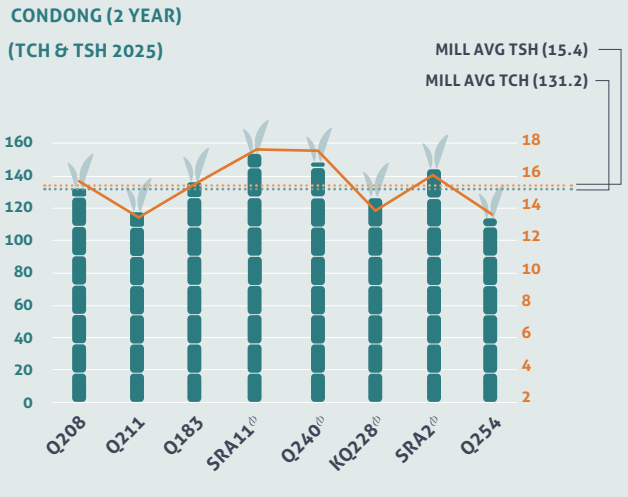
In 2025, the Condong mill crushed 358,927 tonnes of cane harvested from 3,511 hectares, with 43% of the crop being 1-year-old and 57% of the crop being 2-year-old cane.

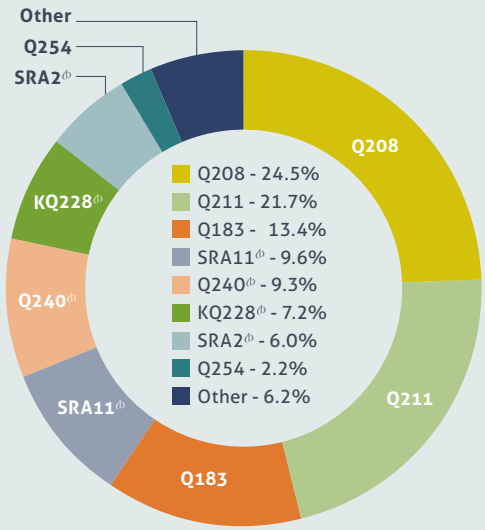
Varieties Q240Φ, Q208, KQ228Φ and Q183 represented 70% of the 1-year-old crop, while Q208, Q211, Q183 and SRA11Φ represented 69% of the 2-year-old crop.

The average yield for 1-year-old cane was 79 tonnes cane per hectare (TCH), with an average CCS of 11.8. The average yield for 2-year-old cane was 131 TCH, with an average CCS of 11.7. Cane varieties that performed above mill average tonnes sugar per hectare (TSH) and represented more than 1% of production (by tonnes) in 1-year-old crops were Q240Φ, KQ228Φ and SRA2Φ, and in 2-year-old crops SRA11Φ, Q240Φ, SRA2Φ, Q208 and Q183.









TONNES OF CANE PER HECTARE (TCH) TONNES OF SUGAR PER HECTARE (TSH)

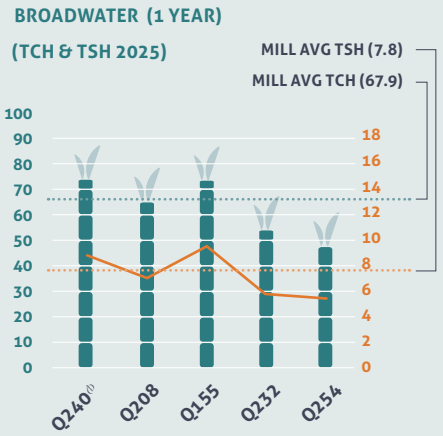
Note: Varieties with low tonnes for each crop type are not shown in the graphs.

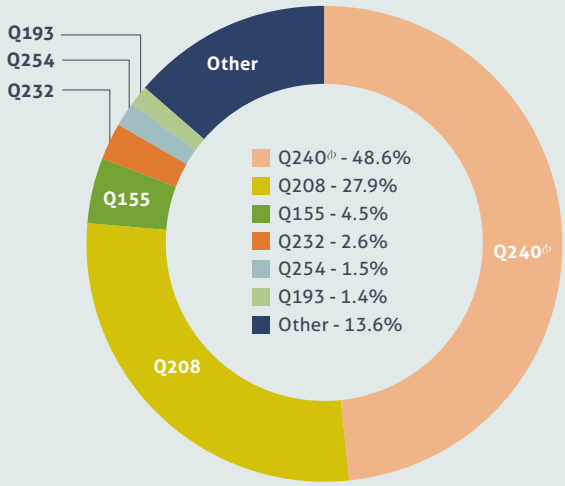
Broadwater*

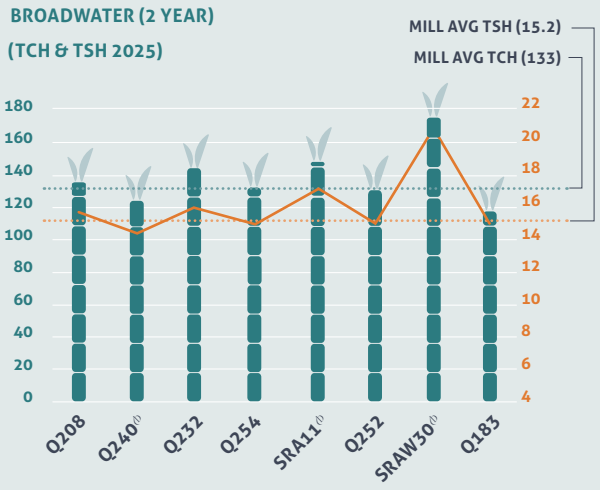
During the 2025 season, 543,451 tonnes of cane was harvested from 4,555 hectares and crushed at Broadwater mill. Two-year old crops represented 88% of crop production, with 12% of production being 1-year old. The average yield for 2-year-old cane was 133 tonnes cane per hectare (TCH), while 1-year old cane averaged 68 TCH. An average CCS of 11.5 was achieved in both crop ages.

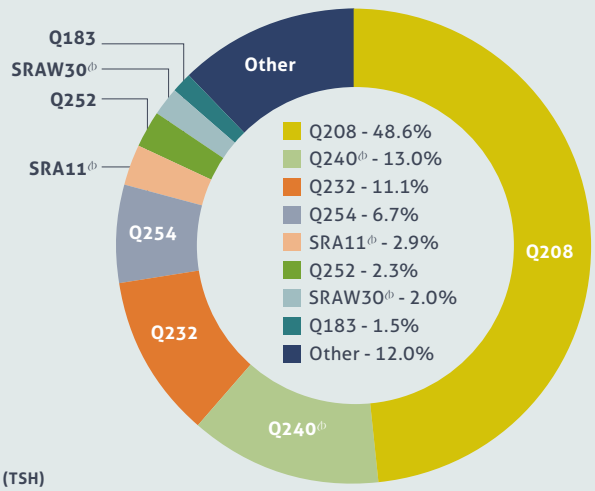
Overall, Q208 continues as the major variety grown at Broadwater, making up 46% of the crop. Q208, Q240Φ, Q232 and Q254 represented 79% of the 2-year-old crop. Q240Φ continues as the major variety grown as 1-year old, representing 49% of production, followed by Q208 at 28%. SRAW30Φ has had good adoption following promising performance in 2024, reaching 2% of the 2-year-old crop grown at Broadwater.

Cane varieties that performed above mill average TSH and represented more than 1% of production (by tonnes) in 2-year-old crops were SRAW30Φ, SRA11Φ, Q232 and Q208. Q240Φ achieved TSH above the mill average in 1-year-old crops (as well as Q155 and Q183, based on <3,000 tonnes).









TONNES OF CANE PER HECTARE (TCH) TONNES OF SUGAR PER HECTARE (TSH)

Note: Varieties with low tonnes for each crop type are not shown in the graphs.

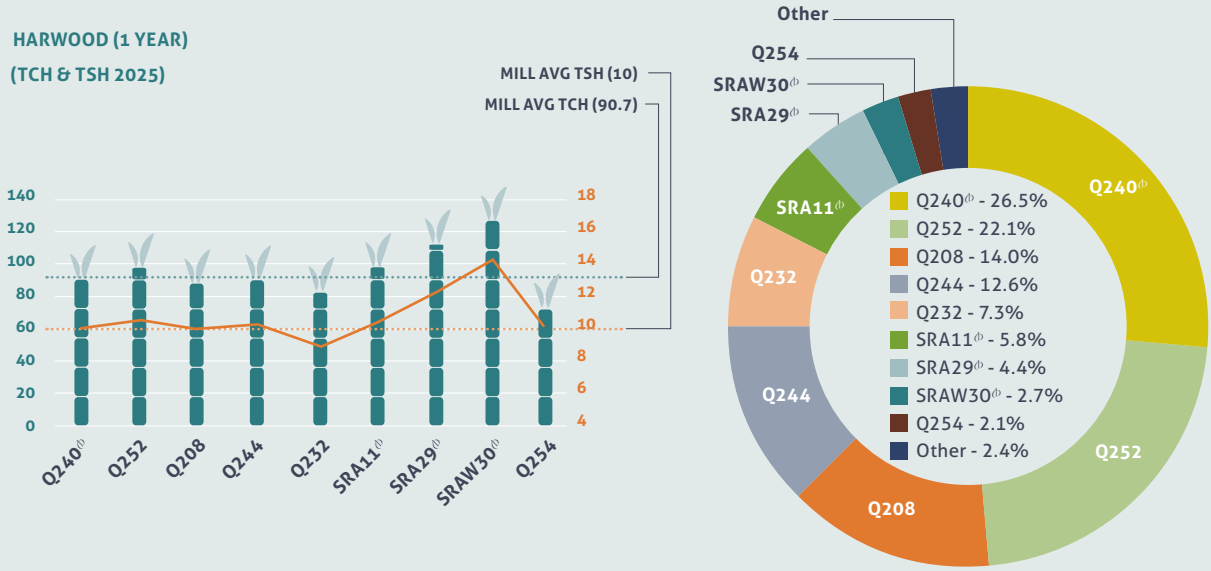
Harwood*

Harwood crushed a total of 626,841 tonnes of cane from 4,254 hectares, with an average yield of 147 tonnes cane per hectare (TCH) and average CCS of 11.5.

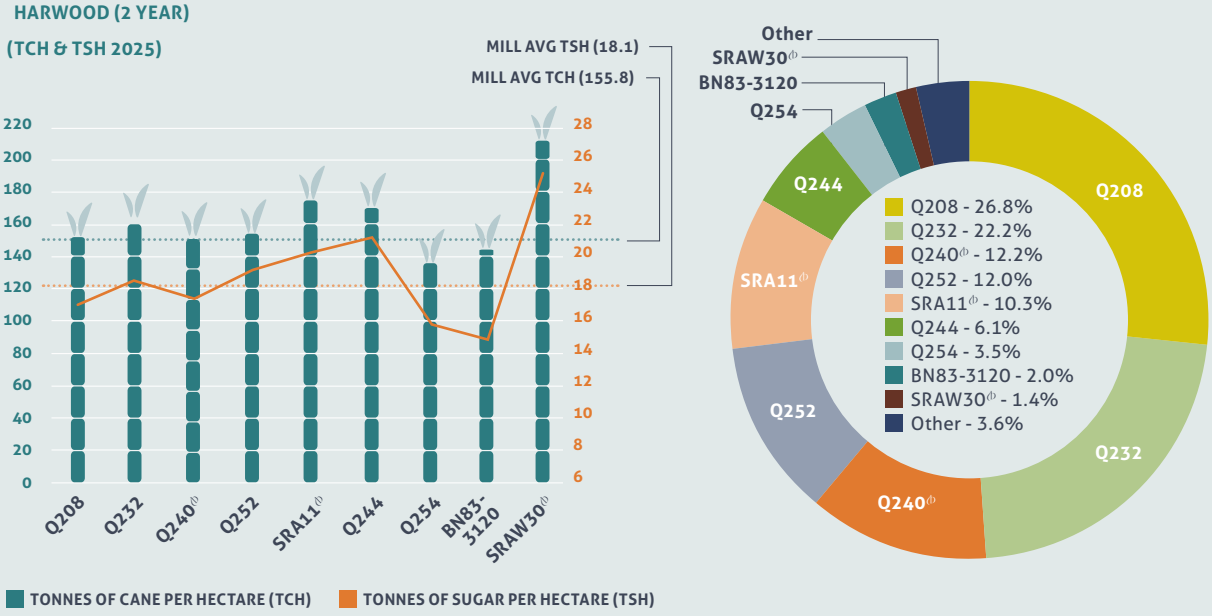
The major varieties grown at Harwood were Q208, Q232, Q240Φ and Q252, representing 73% of the 2-year-old crop. Q240Φ, Q252, Q208 and Q244 were the were the main 1-year-old varieties, making up 75% of 1-year-old crops. Recently released varieties that increased in production included SRA29 which reached 4.4% in 1-year-old production. SRAW30Φ reached 1.4% and 2.7% in 1-year-old and 2-year-old production, respectively.

SRAW30Φ was the top ranking variety in both 1-year-old and 2-year-old cane, based on a total of 9,280 tonnes crushed. Varieties that produced TSH above mill average and represented greater than 1% of 2-year old production (by tonnes) also included Q244, SRA11Φ, Q252 and Q232. In 1-year old cane, the top performing varieties also included SRA29Φ, Q252, Q244 and SRA11Φ.

HARWOOD (1 YEAR)
(TCH & TSH 2025)



HARWOOD (2 YEAR)
(TCH & TSH 2025)



Note: Varieties with low tonnes for each crop type are not shown in the graphs.

For more information please visit:
www.sugarresearch.com.au



Sugar Research Australia Limited
ABN 16 163 670 068

Brisbane Office 50 Meiers Road, Indooroopilly QLD 4068 Australia
Postal Address PO Box 86 Indooroopilly QLD 4068 Australia

T 07 3331 3333
E sra@sugarresearch.com.au
sugarresearch.com.au

