

Mega Green

Mega Green Hybrid Sorghum Sudangrass is the first Photo Period Hybrid Sorghum Sudangrass to be introduced to the American farmers, and to this day continues to be top in its class. The initial purpose of this hybrid was to widen the window of harvest for the hay producers of the country.

Conventional sorghums sudangrass when stressed will change from the vegetative stage of growth to the reproductive stage and will produce a flag leaf and attempt to produce a panicle. Under severe drought stress conditions this can occur at heights of two to three feet which results in a hay crop with low yields and poor quality. Under the same conditions Mega Green will slow down its growth, roll its leaves, and wait for a rain. When rain occurs or the plant is irrigated the response is prompt. The plant continues its growth producing 20 plus large dark green leaves. This prompt response to moisture is due to Mega Green's root system (similar to corn).

Traditional sorghum sudangrass will produce a plant with 7 leaves that are 2 inches wide and 2 feet long. Approximately 45 to 65 days after this hybrid is planted it will "boot" and change from the vegetative stage of growth to the reproductive stage of growth. When this occurs the protein that is present in the leaves and stem begins to move into the panicle and form seeds. Each day of delay in harvesting after this change occurs results in the lowering of protein content and general quality of the hay being produced.

Mega Green in comparison with traditional 3 Way Cross Sorghum Sudangrass will remain in the vegetative stage of growth for up to 180 days or as long as the day length is more than 12 hours and 20 minutes. This six-month growth without forming a panicle enables the grower to make multiple hay cutting or if grazing it stretches his grazing period without having to worry about loss of quality in his forages. This will allow the hay producer to harvest at his convenience and not have to be limited to such a short window of harvest.

Mega Green has fast re-growth capabilities and is adaptable to many different growing conditions and soil types. Dairy farmers in the Eastern US are grazing their cattle or harvesting "bailage" when the plants reach 36 to 42 inches. They are reporting protein content of 20% or more.

Mega Green when left to grow can produce plants up to 12 feet in height with leaves 3 inches wide and 4 feet long. For hay production the ideal time to harvest Mega Green is 6 feet in height or 60 days whichever comes first.

Unlike conventional three-way cross sorghum sudangrass that requires you to leave a 6 to 8-inch stubble, with Mega Green we recommend that you cut as low as possible. This allows multiple tillers from the crown roots as opposed to the single plant re-growth from the growing tip.