

Sekedo

- Sekedo is brown seeded
- Maturity 90 days
- Seed rate is 10 kg per hectare
- Expected yield 2 tones
- Attributes
- Tolerant to drought stress
- Used for food and brewing the local drink called Ekutkut

Seredo

- Seredo is brown seeded
- Matures in 90 days
- Yield 2.2 to 2.5 tones
- Seed rate 9kgs per hectare
- Spacing 60cmX10cm
- Used for food and brewing
- The plant is short even at the physiological maturity stage.
- Tolerant to drought stress.



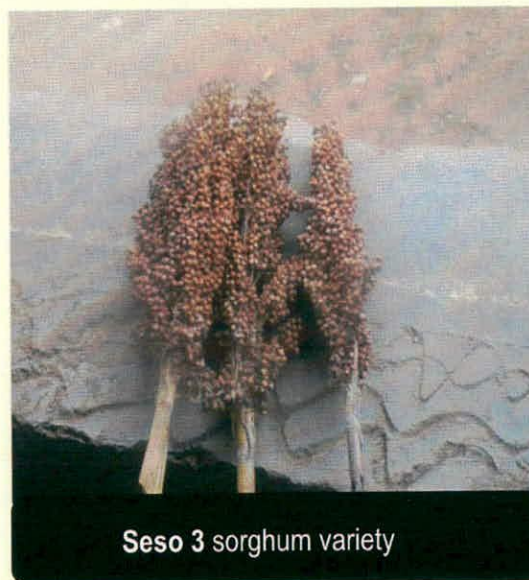
Photograph below shows head of seredo variety of sorghum

Seso 3

- Brown seeded
- Yield
- Seed rate 8kgs per hectare
- Spacing 60cmX10cm

Attributes

- Matures in 85 days
- Very tolerant to drought stress
- Used for food and brewing
- Susceptible to smut



Seso 3 sorghum variety



**National Agricultural
Research Organization**



How to grow sorghum



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How to grow sorghum

(Practices to be followed by the farmer)

Sorghum is propagated by seed.

Sorghum needs a well prepared seed bed because it has slightly smaller seeds. The land preparations have to start early before the onset of the rains to ensure timely planting.

Seed selection

Seed for planting should be selected from healthy and vigorous plants. It is important for the seed to be treated with fungicides since the prevalence of the smut disease is so common in Karamoja. After the seed bed has been prepared.

Planting

Planting is done in two methods sowing and row planting. Row planting is recommended because it does not waste seed and makes application of agronomic process easy, for instance, weeding. 2 to 4 seeds are put in the hole at the spacing of 10cm by 60cm and later is thinned to two plants after germination. Meanwhile, sowing is tidier, labor intensive and wastes seeds.

Weed control

Different ways of controlling weeds include;

Biological methods
Mechanical
Chemical
Cultural methods

The method of weed control is dependent on cost effectiveness. Weed control is important because it reduces competition of crops for nutrients and water. The yield depends on the variety and its adaptability to the area and if the environmental conditions are favorable.

Fertilizer application according to the soil test

Fertilizer application for sorghum can only be done if the soils are tested and nutrients deficiency is found. In sorghum the most commonly required nutrients are nitrogen, potassium and phosphorous, and this is dependent on the soils.

Plant at proper time

Timely planting is very vital for the plant growth. A number of studies have been carried out and some reveal that timely planting may help control some pests since this will trap the pest before they reach destructive life cycle stage and gives plant time to get enough water to sustain plant growth off season. This includes Spacing to determine a plant population.

Disease in sorghum

Smut disease is so susceptible to some sorghum variety compared to others. However, seed dressing with the fungicide and clean seeds is used as a control measure. Rust (clean planting seed).

Pests in sorghum and recommended control measures

Borers (crop rotation).
Shoot fly (control can be by chemicals rocket).
Sorghum midge (use of resistant varieties).

Provide optimum moisture for the crop

There should be adequate soil moisture for the crop to germinate and for growth during vegetative stages and productive stages.

Other agronomic practices for the proper growth of the crop

- Gap filling in case the crop germination is poor.
- Thinning (remove some plant) so that you have 2 plants per hole.
- Roughing is the removal of diseased plants.

There are seven varieties that have been tried on station at Nabuin ZARDI. The main objective was to determine the performance based on the yield and their ability to withstand drought stress. The four listed varieties of sorghum have been tried in Nabuin ZARDI and are very tolerant to drought stress to the extent that at least farmer cannot fail to get a harvest from an acre compared to the other varieties which are susceptible to drought and are relatively late maturing.

Serena

- Serena is brown seeded
- Spacing 60cm X10cm
- Seed rate 9kgs per hectare
- Takes 90 days to mature
- Expected yield 1.5 tons per acre
- Very tolerant to drought stress
- Susceptible to stalk borers
- Used for food and brewing



Seso three sorghum variety being dried.