

FACT SHEET NO: 14

# **Cane Variety**

| Variety name                               | Viwa (LF04-448)   |                         |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| Parentage                                  | LF97-29 x LF70-6101   |                         |
| Seedling number                            | LF04-448  |                         |
| Year released                              | 2014  |                         |
| Appearance                                 | Internodes are of uniform length, thin -<br>medium thickness, and yellowish green in<br>colour when unexposed and becomes<br>yellowish when exposed. The stalks of<br>LF04-448 generally are very tall. |                         |
| Germination                                | Germinates in 10 <sup>+</sup> days  | N. P. M. R. M. C. M. B. |
| Tillering                                  | Moderate and produces 6-7 stalks per stool under normal growing conditions  |                         |
| Growth                                     | Rapid elongation after tillering stage  |                         |
| Trashing                                   | Loosely clinging and can be easily detrashed  |                         |
| Flowering                                  | Does not flower   |                         |
| Soil type suitability                      | Poor/ medium  |                         |
| Seasonal sugar                             | Mid to late maturing  |                         |
| Cane yield                                 | Capable of producing 70 <sup>+</sup> tc/ha on poor-<br>medium soils under rain fed conditions   |                         |
| Sugar yield                                | High  |                         |
| Resistance to extreme<br>events<br>Lodging | Water logging - moderate<br>Tolerant to drought<br>Does not lodge easily  |                         |
| Fiji Leaf Gall Disease                     | Highly resistant  |                         |
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| Downy mildew                               | Not screened  |                         |
| Pest infestation                           | Mild to rodent attack   |                         |
| Borer damage                               | Moderately resistant  |                         |

....varieties are essence of cane farming....

| Recommended harvesting period based on maturity |     |     |     |     |     |     |  |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|
| Jun   | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |  |
|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |  |
|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |  |

# **Buds:**

Generally small and round, embedded within the growth ring, Exposed bud is yellowish and unexposed- greenish – light yellow.

#### Growth

Vigorous growing type after tillering – rapid elongation of stalks.

#### Internodes:

Generally thin – medium thickness with long internodes. Conoidal shaped

#### Trashing

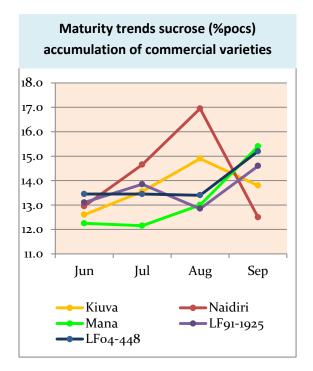
Matured leaves tend to leave stalks and can be easily de-trashed.

#### Sugar content (%POCS)

The sugar content of LF04-448 is comparable to other varieties at the beginning of the crushing season, remains fairly consistent from June-August and is rises from August onwards.

## **Maturity trend**

The sugarcane starts maturing with the onset of the dry season and in cooler months from mid-May Understanding the maturity of sugarcane is important in planning the harvesting schedule. Varieties that have relatively high sucrose content at the beginning of the season are often said to mature early in the season, although their peak sucrose content occurs at the same time as other varieties. The crushing season should start with more early maturing cane for 6-8 weeks up till the end of July before the mid to late maturing cane can be harvested and crushed. LF04-448 is an early maturing variety that retains its sugar content throughout the harvesting season and can be harvested from beginning of crushing season in June.



## **Distinguishing Features**

LF04-448 has tall stalks of medium thickness and erect stand. It is a high fibre variety that does not lodge easily and is suited for mechanical harvesting. This variety is also tolerant to drought conditions.