

# COWVITTLES II

## FORAGE SORGHUM

(*Sorghum bicolor*)

- Dense lush leaf with a large grain head
- Resistant to Downy Mildew
- High yield potential which is excellent for silage

Cowvittles II is a conventional hybrid forage sorghum with high yield potential. A dense lush leaf type with a large grain head, Cowvittles II sets the standard for forage sorghums.

### Disease/Insect/Nematode Ratings:

Downy Mildew: ..... R

### Agronomic Traits:

Early Seedling Vigor: ..... Excellent  
 Growth Habit: ..... Upright with Large Head  
 Recovery After Cutting: ..... Fair  
 Maturity: ..... 100 days to Soft Dough  
 Uniformity: ..... Excellent  
 Plant Color: ..... Red  
 Midrib Type: ..... Juicy

### Planting Rates:

Bushel Weight: ..... 56 lbs.  
 Seeds Per Pound: ..... 17,000  
**Rate (Lbs.)**                      **Dryland**                      **Irrigated**  
 Rows: ..... 4-7 ..... 7-12  
 Broadcast: ..... 4-10 ..... 8-20  
 Seeds/Sq. Ft.: ..... 2-4 ..... 3-8

### Adaptation Ratings:

Photosynthetic Type: ..... C4 - Warm Season  
 Soil Temperature: ..... Warm (55 F)  
 Water Requirement: ..... Very Low

### Seeding:

- Soil temperature should be at least 55 F.
- Cowvittles II is usually planted between June 10 and July 10 in the northern states.
- Can be no-tilled into the stubble of winter and spring crops.
- Planting depth should be 1".
- Do not plant in soils with pH greater than 7.5 to 8.0. Chlorosis will be a severe problem.
- Cowvittles II is an excellent companion with Forage Soybeans or Black Autry Cowpeas.

### Harvest:

- Cowvittles II is usually harvested 100 days after seeding.
- Protein will decline as harvest is delayed, but energy will increase upon heading due to continued sugar formation in the sorghum stalks and leaves, and carbohydrate deposition in the developing grains.

### Crop Use Information:

Life Cycle: ..... Annual  
 Ease of Establishment: ..... Good  
 Shade Tolerance: ..... Poor - Fair  
 Drought Stress: ..... Fair  
 Wet Soil: ..... Fair  
 Low pH Tolerance: ..... Moderate  
 Minimum pH: ..... 6.0  
 Saline Soils (White Alkali): ..... Fair  
 Saline - Sodic Soils (Black Alkali): ..... Poor - Fair  
 Hay: ..... Fair  
 Silage: ..... Excellent  
 Continuous Grazing: ..... Not Intended for Grazing  
 Rotational Grazing: ..... Not Intended for Grazing  
 Palatability: ..... Excellent  
 Anti-Quality: ..... Prussic Acid and Nitrates

### Strengths

- Standard for forage sorghums.
- High yield potential.
- A dense lush leaf type.
- Resistant to Downy Mildew.
- Excellent for ensilage.
- Juicy midrib type.

### Weaknesses

- Medium grain to fodder ratio.

### Avoid Nitrate and Prussic Acid Poisoning from sorghum:

Avoid large nitrogen applications prior to expected drought periods.

2,4-D can increase Prussic Acid concentration for several weeks after application.

Do not harvest drought-damaged plants within 4 days following a good rain.

Do not green chop within 7 days of a killing frost.

Cut at a higher stubble height, nitrates tend to accumulate in the lower stalk.

Wait 1 month before feeding silage to give Prussic Acid enough time to escape.



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