

For What Matters Most to Growers

Alta Seeds delivers grain and forage sorghum with traits and genetics growers expect at costs to help improve profitability. Our complete line-up of hybrids provides elite performance for higher yields and maximum crop quality. From superior standability to exceptional drought and pest tolerance, Alta Seeds sorghum offers adaptable performance to the variable conditions growers face from year to year.

Order your Aphix™ sugarcane aphid tolerant hybrids from your authorized dealer or call 877-806-7333.



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Hybrids with the Highest Sugarcane Aphid Tolerance



Trials near Gypsum, Kansas show Alta Seeds AG1203 continuing to grow and produce under heavy sugarcane aphid pressure in a field that was not sprayed. Sooty mold and lodging plagued the susceptible hybrids.

Impact of Sugarcane Aphids

Sugarcane aphid (SCA) is a relatively new pest for grain and forage sorghum growers, but its presence has made an impact. While aphid infestations may result in more than 30 percent crop loss, growers who plan ahead and manage fields proactively can lessen their loss and avoid sticky residue at harvest.

SCA feeding on sorghum during grain development can cause significant crop losses, reducing yields and stunting plant growth.

As the SCA feeds, it produces large amounts of honeydew, making leaves shiny and sticky. This can gum up equipment, leading to reduced harvest efficiency and increased equipment cleaning and repair.

As aphids continue to feed on the plant, the sorghum leaves turn yellow, purple, and then brown. Black sooty mold may grow in the honeydew, which can reduce photosynthesis.





Management Starts Before Planting

The first step in preventing crop losses from SCA infestations is to select a sorghum hybrid with tolerance to the pest. Dr. Zach Eder, Alta Seeds Technology Development Manager, explains that tolerant hybrids can withstand or recover from insect damage compared to more susceptible hybrids without the extra costs and time of an insecticide application*.

“Selecting a grain sorghum hybrid with sugarcane aphid tolerance provides growers with another tool to combat this pest and help avoid sooty mold and lodging. These hybrids aid the producers by significantly reducing the reliance on insecticides in an IPM program.”

Introducing New Aphix™ Lineup with Elite Sugarcane Aphid Tolerance

A tolerant hybrid helps manage sugarcane aphids before they damage your crop. New Aphix™ brand from Alta Seeds designates hybrids with the highest level of tolerance** to sugarcane aphid pressure. These four hybrids offer outstanding performance with the added confidence of tolerance to sugarcane aphid pressure. The Aphix lineup is comprehensive so growers in any region affected by aphids have options. Additional pest management practices may be required to help prevent yield loss.

AG1201 Early Bronze widely adaptable hybrid with Aphix for excellent sugarcane aphid tolerance

- Excellent yield for maturity
- Strong drought tolerance
- Adaptable as double crop option

AG1203 Medium-Early Bronze trial-topping performer with Aphix for excellent sugarcane aphid tolerance

- Outstanding Yields across High Plains. See yield trial results at AltaSeeds.com
- Excellent standability, uniformity and drought tolerance for dryland or irrigated fields

AG1301 Medium-Early Cream for dryland or irrigated with Aphix for excellent sugarcane aphid tolerance

- Excellent staygreen and standability
- Widely adaptable with plant uniformity

ADV G3247 Medium-Late Bronze with high top end yields and Aphix for excellent sugarcane aphid tolerance

- Excellent yield for maturity, high test weights
- Good head exertion

Our experimental product pipeline reveals additional hybrids with strong tolerance to aphid pressure compared to existing commercial and competitor’s products, reports our sorghum breeder, Dr. Ben Beyer. Leveraging a superior and diverse germplasm, our R&D team is breeding varieties for aphid tolerance paired with high yield potential and a strong disease package for a wide range of conditions.

Scout for Population Control

Throughout the season, scouting fields can prevent aphids from overwhelming your crop. Sample multiple locations per field to determine the severity of the population. To effectively control infestations you must be able to identify the pest, says Dr. Robert Bowling, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension.

“Aphids are typically found on the underside of sorghum leaves. If honeydew is observed on the top of a leaf, look at the underside of the leaf above the leaf with honeydew for the aphid. If they are found on Johnson grass or volunteer sorghum, start scouting sorghum shortly after plants have emerged.”

SCA populations can increase rapidly in the summer under hot, dry conditions favorable to pest reproduction. Bowling notes a slight change in environmental conditions may have a profound effect on their populations. When aphids are present in a sorghum field, act quickly to prevent aphid populations from reaching higher levels that may be economically damaging and more difficult to control.

For more resources for scouting SCA and controlling infestations, visit AltaSeeds.com/SCA

*Under extreme pressure, solid integrated pest management strategies should be utilized even with the most tolerant SCA hybrids.

**Sugarcane aphid tolerance rating conducted by the Agricultural Research Division of the USDA. Testing conducted in field trials by the Agricultural Research Division of the USDA, Louisiana State University and Texas AgriLife.