



GOULDING CHEMICALS LIMITED

CENTRE PARK ROAD, MARINA, CORK. TELEPHONE: (021) 4911611. FAX: (021) 4911660

Sweetgrass Technical Note

SWEETGRASS: **23% Nitrogen**
+ 2% Sulphur
+ 5% Sodium
+ 1.2% Magnesium

- Sweetgrass is formulated for use instead of CAN or CAN + Sulphur and is priced accordingly.
- Sulphur increases nitrogen uptake and leads to a **lusher more digestible** pasture.
- With 5% Sodium, it is ideal for increasing the palatability of grass resulting in **tighter grazed swards** and **better re-growth grass** in the following rotations.
- Sweetgrass is an ideal product for use where **slurry** is being spread as it sweetens the grass after the slurry naturally sours it.
- Similarly as grazing swards become **stemmy** and less palatable during the main grazing period, Sweetgrass swards maintain a high level of palatability.
- Trials have shown that where Sodium has been spread on grass, there has been an **increase in dry matter intake** of the animal.
- Research shows that where Sodium fertiliser was applied, cows had **increased milk yields, milk fat and lactose concentration** compared to cows grazing pasture that did not receive Na fertiliser.
- Every extra tonne of dry matter utilised per hectare per year is **worth €160** (Finneran et al 2011)
- Sweetgrass should be spread throughout the season to gain maximum benefit.
- Apply 3 – 5 bags/ac/year of Sweetgrass for maximum desired effect.



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Below are the results of various trials carried out on the benefits of using Sweetgrass instead of C.A.N.

	STRAIGHT N	SWEETGRASS	DIFFERENCE
Digestibility (%)	71.6	72.9	1.80%
Sugar Content (%)	29.4	32.3	9.80%
Intake (kgDMI/day)	14	16.6	18.50%
Milk yield	22.6	24.7	9.30%
Butterfat Yield (g/day)	833	963	12%
Somatic cell count		Significantly Reduced	

Use Sweetgrass for Better Grass