

Subtropical Grass & Legume Sowing Guide



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SUBTROPICAL GRASS & LEGUME SOWING GUIDE

GRASSES	VARIETY	SOWING RATE KG/HA COATED SEED	MIN RAINFALL	SOIL TYPE	CLIMATIC TOLERANCE		GROWING ACTIVITY	PERSISTENCE	PALATABILITY	FEATURES
					DROUGHT	COLD				
Blue Grass (Angleton)	Floren	4 - 12	700mm+	Light to heavy clay	Good	Good	Summer, Autumn	Very Good	Very Good	Very vigorous growth habit, very tolerant of waterlogging, suits alkaline soils, and displays moderate salt tolerance. Tolerant of drought and heavy grazing.
Brachiaria Humidicola	Humidicola	4 - 12	1000mm+	Free draining loams to clay	Good	Low	Spring, Summer, Autumn	Good	Moderate	Stoloniferous, vigorous growth habit, tolerates waterlogging, acid tolerant, and fair salt tolerance.
Brachiaria Signal	Signal	4 - 12	1000mm+	Free draining loams to clay	Fair	Fair	Summer	Good	Fair	Highly vigorous grass that sets roots at the nodes. Very persistent.
Buffel	USA, Gayndah, Biloela	4 - 12	400mm - 800mm	Light textured to heavy soils	Excellent	Poor	Summer	Good	Good	Deep rooted, erect tussocky plant, recovers quickly after light rain. Very persistent.
Creeping Blue Grass	Bisset	6 - 12	550mm+	Clay loam to sandy loam	Good	Good	Summer, Autumn	Very Good	Good	High-quality, persistent grass that is tufted, and very stoloniferous.
Digit	Premier	6 - 12	600mm+	Low fertility	Good	Good	Summer	Good	Good	Highly palatable, suited to a wide range of soils.
Kikuyu	Whittet	4 - 12	800mm+	Moderately drained loams and clay	Good	Good	Spring, Summer, Autumn	Good	Good	Deep rooted with stolons and rhizomes, can dominate sward, suitable for acid and aluminium soils. Very competitive. Productive under heavy grazing.
Panic	Gatton, Green, Bambatsi	6 - 12	600mm+	Wide range	Moderate Good	Good	Summer, Autumn	Good, better in shade	Very Good	Very palatable, can be preferentially grazed. Can withstand heavy grazing once established. Green Panic and Gatton Panic grasses display moderate shade tolerance.
Paspalum	Dilatatum	4 - 12	1000mm+	Coastal loams, wetlands	Good	Good	Spring, Summer, Autumn	Good	Very Good	Tolerant of poor soils, suits central and north coast NSW. Competes well with weeds. Tolerates waterlogging.
Purple Pigeon Grass	Purple	4 - 12	600mm+	Heavy clays with good fertility	Good	Fair	Summer	Good	Very Good	High quality, drought tolerant grass that re-grows rapidly.
Rhodes Grass	Callide	6 - 12	600mm+	Wide range	Good	Good	Spring, Summer, Autumn	Good	Good	Later flowering, higher productivity and palatability than Katambora with high fertility conditions.
	Capricorn									Finer leaves, suited to dual-purpose grazing and hay production.
	Fine Cut									Finer leaves, displays high salt tolerance, uniform maturity, and is ideal for hay production.
Setaria	Narok, Splenda	4 - 12	600mm+	Well drained coastal soils with good moisture holding capacity	Poor	Fair	Spring, Summer, Autumn	Good	Fair	Narok has improved frost tolerance and winter growth. Splenda is a hardy, highly palatable, late maturing variety. Both tolerate waterlogging.

LEGUME SPECIES	VARIETY	SOWING RATE KG/HA COATED SEED	MIN RAINFALL	SOIL TYPE	CLIMATIC TOLERANCE		GROWING ACTIVITY	PERSISTENCE	PALATABILITY	FEATURES
					DROUGHT	COLD				
Burgundy Bean	Burgundy Bean	3 - 8	400mm+	Heavy textured alkaline	Excellent	Moderate	Summer	Good	Very Good	Tolerates cold better than other subtropical legumes. Highly palatable and can be preferentially grazed when in a mix with subtropical grasses.
Cassia	Wynn	1 - 4	400mm+	Sandy free draining	Poor if ungrazed	Good	Summer, Autumn	Good	Very Good	High animal production in autumn. Adapted to acid soils. Highly vigorous growth habit.
Creeping Vigna	Shaw	1 - 2	1200mm+	Sandy to medium clays	Poor	Fair	Spring, Autumn	Good	Good	Superior cold tolerance and moderate drought tolerance. High-quality, suitable for pastures and hay production. Tolerates seasonal flooding.
Desmanthus	Marc	2 - 6	500mm+	Medium to heavy clay	Good	Good	Summer	Good	Very Good	High-quality, productive, and palatable plant that does not cause bloat.
Glycine	Tinaroo, Cooper	2 - 6	750mm+	Deep friable clays	Good	Good	Spring, Summer, Autumn	Very Good	High	Slow to establish, and can tolerate short periods of flooding. Highly palatable and can be preferentially grazed.
Siratro	Aztec Atro	2 - 6	700mm+	Sandy to friable heavy clays	Good	Good	Spring, Summer, Autumn	Good	High	Tolerant of salinity, and moderately tolerant of soil aluminium and magnesium. Well adapted to drought. Highly palatable.
Stylo	Seca	1 - 5	400mm+	Fertile soils	Good	Fair	Summer	Good	Good	Easy to manage hardy perennial shrubby legume that tolerates hard conditions. Very persistent.
	Verano		400mm+							
	Fine Stem		700mm+							


SUMMER FORAGE SOWING GUIDE

SUMMER FORAGE SPECIES	VARIETY	SOWING RATE KG/HA COATED SEED	MIN RAINFALL	SOIL TYPE	CLIMATIC TOLERANCE		GROWING ACTIVITY	PERSISTENCE	PALATABILITY	FEATURES
					DROUGHT	COLD				
Butterfly Pea	Milgarra	2 - 4	600mm+	Sandy loam to heavy clay	Good	Good	Spring, Summer, Autumn	Perennial	High	Moderate tolerance to salinity and sodicity. High palatability and nutritional value.
Cow Pea	Red caloona	10 - 25	500mm+	Wide range	High	Poor	Summer, Autumn	Annual	High	Improves soil fertility. High nutritive value. Very palatable.
	Ebony	10 - 25	500mm+	Wide range	Good		Summer, Autumn		High	Vigorous growth habit, provides high quality feed, and multiple grazings.
Dolichos (Lab Lab)	Rongai, Highworth	15 - 20	600mm+	Sandy to heavy clay	Good	Good	Summer, Autumn	Annual	High	High quality forage, suits a wide range of soil types and is tolerant to cool temperatures. Drought tolerant once established.
Millet	Shirohie	10 - 25	500mm+	Well structured fertile soils	Good	Poor	Spring, Summer	Annual	Good	Suited to early plantings and cooler soil temperatures, no prussic acid issues, will tolerate some waterlogging, and provides high-quality quick feed.
	Japanese									Semi-prostrate, high tillering, slower but longer growth than Japanese and Shirohie millet.
	Rebound									
Sorghum	Siberian	6 - 25	400mm+	Deep, very fertile soils	Good	Poor	Spring, Summer, Autumn	Annual	Varies with fertility	Very strong early vigour with strong regrowth from cutting and grazing. Good leaf to stem ratio. High quality feed.
	Calibre									Follow guidelines to avoid potential prussic acid issues.
	Chomper									
	Sweet As							Annual		

SUBTROPICAL BLENDS

Tropical Beef LS	Tropical Coastal	Tropical Beef HS
SOWsmart® BLEND Min Rainfall (mm) 650 Soil Type Light Seeding Rate 6-12 kg/ha Market Segment/Target Subtropical pasture production Capricorn Rhodes Grass® 40% Gatton Panic Grass 25% L70 Lucerne 15% Premier Digit Grass 30% Well suited to light textured soils. Given favourable seasonal conditions, this blend can produce quality feed over a greater portion of the growing season.	SOWsmart® BLEND Min Rainfall (mm) 650 Soil Type Light & Heavy Seeding Rate 6-12 kg/ha Market Segment/Target Subtropical pasture production Capricorn Rhodes Grass® 40% Setaria Coated 20% Signal Grass 15% Gatton Panic Grass 10% Aztec Atro/Cooper Glycine 10% Jumbo White Clover 5% Well rounded blend of tropical grass and legumes that has been designed especially for subtropical coastal areas. The addition of perennial grass will ensure persistence over a prolonged period.	SOWsmart® BLEND Min Rainfall (mm) 650 Soil Type Light & Heavy Seeding Rate 6-12 kg/ha Market Segment/Target Subtropical pasture production Bambatsi Panic Grass 20% Bisset Creeping Bluegrass 10% Capricorn Rhodes Grass® 30% Cavalier Spineless Burr Medic 10% Gatton Panic Grass 20% GTL®60 Lucerne 10% Well suited to heavy soils, this blend combines robust grasses, perennial legumes and hard seeded annual medics. This blend will provide longevity while maintaining quality to meet the needs of your production system.

SUBTROPICAL GRASSES

Capricorn Rhodes Grass®	Callide Rhodes Grass	Bambatsi Panic Grass
<i>Chloris gayana</i> 	<i>Chloris gayana</i> 	<i>Panicum maximum</i> 
Seeding Rate kg/ha High Rainfall/Irrigation 6-12 Dryland 5-6	Seeding Rate kg/ha High Rainfall/Irrigation 6-12	Seeding Rate kg/ha High Rainfall/Irrigation 6-12
Seed Treatment Goldstrike XLR8™	Seed Treatment Goldstrike XLR8™	Seed Treatment Goldstrike XLR8™
Description Later maturing subtropical forage rhodes grass	Description Improved subtropical rhodes grass variety	Description Subtropical grass well suited to heavy soils
Market Segment/Target Beef, dairy and hay production	Market Segment/Target Beef, dairy and hay production	Market Segment/Target Beef, dairy and hay production
Features <ul style="list-style-type: none">Later maturing than KatamboraFiner stemsVigorous regrowth from grazing and hay	Features <ul style="list-style-type: none">Drought tolerantLater flowering than KatamboraImproved palatability	Features <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cold tolerant and drought tolerantHigh forage qualitySuited to heavier soil types
Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">Highly palatable for grazingQuicker drying for hay cutting due to finer stemsGood salt tolerance	Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">More productivity than KatamboraGreater palatability gives better feed conversionPersistence and quality	Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">High levels of animal performanceReliable grass for heavy soilsTolerant to short periods of waterlogging
		
Premier Digitaria	Bisset Creeping Bluegrass	Gatton Panic Grass
<i>Digitaria eriantha</i> 	<i>Bothriochloa insculpta</i> 	<i>Panicum maximum</i> 
Seeding Rate kg/ha High Rainfall/Irrigation 6-12	Seeding Rate kg/ha High Rainfall/Irrigation 6-12	Seeding Rate kg/ha High Rainfall/Irrigation 6-12
Seed Treatment Goldstrike XLR8™	Seed Treatment Goldstrike XLR8™	Seed Treatment Goldstrike XLR8™
Description Subtropical grass with high palatability and intake potential	Description High quality subtropical grass with excellent ground cover	Description Subtropical grass adaptable to a wide variety of soil types
Market Segment/Target Beef, dairy and hay production	Market Segment/Target Beef, dairy and hay production	Market Segment/Target Beef, dairy and hay production
Features <ul style="list-style-type: none">Highly palatablePersists well on light soilsGood acid toleranceHighly palatable	Features <ul style="list-style-type: none">Highly palatableExcellent drought toleranceGrazing tolerant	Features <ul style="list-style-type: none">Suitable to a variety of soil typesModerately tolerant to droughtSuited for grazing or cutting for hay
Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fine stems result in high animal intakeClumping type, allows for companion species to thriveExcellent feed conversion rates	Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">Long term perennial grass base for a pastureGrows in a range of conditionsLater maturity provides longer window of production	Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">Adaptable, clumping typeLong term pasture optionHighly productive in good fertility

Goldstrike® S&W Seed Company Goldstrike® includes rhizobia inoculation, micronutrient package and Apron® XL fungicide (where available on label). Goldstrike® is comprised of the highest quality seed and coating technology and is the best establishment package for pasture legumes.

XLR8™ treatment is a film coat application of Poncho® Plus insecticide. Poncho® Plus is a significant advancement in the seed treatment market. It is an innovative insecticidal seed treatment that has registration across a range of pasture species and forage crops.

CUSTOM BLENDS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
Your specific choice of cultivar is determined by your climate and soil type. Please consult your local agronomist or S&W Seed Company Territory Manager to identify the most suitable variety or blend for your requirements.

Note: These are guidelines only, for specific recommendations suited to your region and local agronomist or S&W Seed Company Territory Manager.