

THE IDEAL VETCH FOR
AUTUMN AND SPRING SOWING



NEW COMMON VETCH
WITH SEEDLING FROST
TOLERANCE



PLANTING GUIDE
NSW, VIC, SA & WA

S&W Seed Company Studenica Vetch has the best early vigour of all existing common vetch varieties in Australia. In early growth stages, Studenica has medium to large leaves without anthocyanin, the plant is green (RHS group 139B) with narrow to medium leaves, it is early flowering (85-95 days from seeding) with white flowers, medium pod size, medium seed size, greyish seed colour and greyish/brown cotyledons.

Studenica is an earlier maturing variety than S&W Timok Vetch, making it a great option for grazing, as it provides bulk when other vetches haven't quite kicked off in winter, and can also provide an early hay option in late sowing years. With seedling frost tolerance, Studenica can push through tough conditions and provide reliable winter bulk.

- ✓ Fantastic early vigour
- ✓ Seedling frost tolerance
- ✓ White flowers from 'Blanchefleur' parentage
- ✓ Higher yield - limited moisture
- ✓ High dry matter and grain yields in short season areas
- ✓ Late sowing allows for better weed control post season break

STUDENICA *Vetch*

Vicia sativa

Seeding rate	kg/ha
Dryland	30-45

Seed treatment	
<u>XLR8™ optional</u>	

Usage	
Grazing, hay and grain	

WHY STUDENICA?

Main advantages

Studenica was bred for very low rainfall areas, and can be used similarly to other common vetch varieties for grain/seed, grazing, hay/silage or green manure. Studenica is particularly suited to shorter season areas where the growing season finishes sharply. It has superior winter growth when compared to existing common vetch varieties. Studenica is classified as a very early flowering and maturing variety, which results in earlier nodule development and nitrogen fixation for crops in rotations.

Grazing

Studenica can be grazed at any time, from very early stages to maturity/ harvesting and post-harvest. Grain from this variety can be used for ruminants without limit, like other common vetch varieties.

Sowing time and rates

Studenica is an early flowering/maturity variety that provides increased flexibility in relation to sowing time. Optimal sowing rates are dependent on the end use target and rainfall. Higher rates are required for hay/silage, grazing and green manure and lower rates are used for grain/seed production. Seed size is on average comparable to Volga and seeding rates for different end uses should be similar to those used for Volga, see details in the 2018 Sowing Guide for South Australia. <https://grdc.com.au/2018SowingGuideSA>



Above
Rehn Freebairn S&W Territory Manager, inspecting the growth of Studenica Vetch, Eyre Peninsula, SA

Kickstart your wheat crop with Studenica

Incorporating vetch into the cropping rotation has been a trifecta for Colin Fawcett, providing hay and grazing opportunities as well as its stubble being the ideal kickstart for a successful wheat crop.

Colin's farm at Nullawil in the Southern Mallee region in Victoria, often grows a large area of vetch, mainly for hay. His usual variety is Timok, but he decided to sow a small area with Studenica this year to see where the new variety could fit in his operation.

Colin often grows barley, canola, lentils and field peas, with opportunistic wheat crops also included in his cropping rotation. Vetch is a great addition to this, as it's ideal for hay and grazing, plus the vetch stubbles provides an ideal base for a successful wheat crop thanks to the added nitrogen and organic matter left behind. The Studenica was sown in early June at 33 kilograms per hectare. "We sowed it over 30 hectares, sowing it light to see how it went and maximise the area sown," Colin said. The light sowing rate paid off, with the Studenica taking off despite the very dry start across the Mallee region.

July brought some rain and "saved the season", with 25 millimeters one week, followed up the next week by another 25 millimeters. This rainfall combined with a milder winter meant the crops took advantage of the moisture and kept growing. The lack of rain meant disease pressure was quite low so only one fungicide was applied. Studenica is also tolerant to powdery mildew, powering on even in seasons with increased risk. With seedling frost tolerance, the Studenica pushed through tough conditions with Colin noting "some really great winter bulk".

Studenica is an earlier maturing variety than Timok, and was in full flower by early September, despite the later sowing time. This makes it a great option for grazing, as it provides bulk when other vetches haven't quite kicked off in winter, and can also provide an early hay option in late sowing years.

Colin aims to cut his Timok for hay and harvest his Studenica paddock for seed. Impressed with the results, he will be increasing his Studenica sowing. "I would be happy to include Studenica for probably half of our total vetch operation."