



Subtropical Grass & Legume Sowing Guide



188 King Road, Virginia SA 5120
 T +61 (0) 8 8445 1111
 info@swseedco.com.au
 swseedco.com.au

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.
Bracharia 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.
Bracharia 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.
Sirat	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	Poor	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									
	Siberian									
Sorghum	Calibre	6 - 25	400mm+	Wide range	Good	Poor	Spring, Summer, Autumn	Annual	High; Varies with fertility and height	Very strong early vigour with strong regrowth from cutting and grazing. Good leaf to stem ratio. High quality feed.
	Chomper									Photoperiod sensitive, ultra late flowering.
	Fine As									
	FlexiGraz									
	Sweet As									Follow guidelines to avoid potential prussic acid issues.

SUBTROPICAL BLENDS

Tropical Beef LS	Tropical Beef HS	Slopes and Plains
<p>SOWsmart® BLEND</p> <p>Min Rainfall (mm) 650 Soil Type Light</p> <p>Seeding Rate 6-12 kg/ha</p> <p>Market Segment/Target Subtropical pasture production</p> <p>Capricorn® Rhodes Grass 30% Gatton Panic Grass 25% L70 Lucerne 15% Premier Digitaria Grass 30%</p> <p>Well suited to light textured soils. Given favourable seasonal conditions, this blend can produce quality feed over a greater portion of the growing season.</p>	<p>SOWsmart® BLEND</p> <p>Min Rainfall (mm) 650 Soil Type Light & Heavy</p> <p>Seeding Rate 6-12 kg/ha</p> <p>Market Segment/Target Subtropical pasture production</p> <p>Bambatsi Panic Grass 20% Bisset Creeping Bluegrass 10% Capricorn® Rhodes Grass 30% Cavalier Spineless Burr Medic 10% Gatton Panic Grass 20% GTL60® Lucerne 10%</p> <p>Well suited to heavy soils, this blend combines robust grasses, perennial legumes and hard seeded annual medic, ensuring longevity and quality for your production system.</p>	<p>SOWsmart® BLEND</p> <p>Min Rainfall (mm) 650 Soil Type Light & Heavy</p> <p>Seeding Rate 3-8 kg/ha</p> <p>Market Segment/Target Subtropical pasture production</p> <p>Bambatsi Panic Grass 25% Gatton Panic Grass 25% Premier Digitaria Grass 50%</p> <p>A grass blend that is well adapted to a wide range of soil types. Establishing a grass only pasture allows hassle-free implementation of critical management techniques such as broadleaf weed control in the establishment year, and the introduction of legumes in subsequent years once the grasses have established satisfactorily.</p>

SUBTROPICAL GRASSES

Capricorn® Rhodes Grass	Callide Rhodes Grass	Bambatsi Panic Grass
<p><i>Chloris gayana</i></p> <p>Seeding Rate kg/ha High Rainfall/Irrigation 6-12 Dryland 5-6</p> <p>Seed Treatment Goldstrike XLR8™</p> <p>Description Later maturing subtropical forage rhodes grass</p> <p>Market Segment/Target Beef, dairy and hay production</p> <p>Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Later maturing than Katambora Finer stems Vigorous regrowth from grazing and hay <p>Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly palatable for grazing Quicker drying for hay cutting due to finer stems Good salt tolerance 	<p><i>Chloris gayana</i></p> <p>Seeding Rate kg/ha High Rainfall/Irrigation 6-12</p> <p>Seed Treatment Goldstrike XLR8™</p> <p>Description Improved subtropical rhodes grass variety</p> <p>Market Segment/Target Beef, dairy and hay production</p> <p>Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drought tolerant Later flowering than Katambora Improved palatability <p>Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More productivity than Katambora Greater palatability gives better feed conversion Persistence and quality 	<p><i>Panicum maximum</i></p> <p>Seeding Rate kg/ha High Rainfall/Irrigation 6-12</p> <p>Seed Treatment Goldstrike XLR8™</p> <p>Description Subtropical grass well suited to heavy soils</p> <p>Market Segment/Target Beef, dairy and hay production</p> <p>Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cold tolerant and drought tolerant High forage quality Suited to heavier soil types <p>Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High levels of animal performance Reliable grass for heavy soils Tolerant to short periods of waterlogging
Premier Digitaria	Bisset Creeping Bluegrass	Gatton Panic Grass
<p><i>Digitaria eriantha</i></p> <p>Seeding Rate kg/ha High Rainfall/Irrigation 6-12</p> <p>Seed Treatment Goldstrike XLR8™</p> <p>Description Subtropical grass with high palatability and intake potential</p> <p>Market Segment/Target Beef, dairy and hay production</p> <p>Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persists well on light soils Good acid tolerance Highly palatable <p>Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fine stems result in high animal intake Clumping type, allows for companion species to thrive Excellent feed conversion rates 	<p><i>Bothriochloa insculpta</i></p> <p>Seeding Rate kg/ha High Rainfall/Irrigation 6-12</p> <p>Seed Treatment Goldstrike XLR8™</p> <p>Description High quality subtropical grass with excellent ground cover</p> <p>Market Segment/Target Beef, dairy and hay production</p> <p>Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly palatable Excellent drought tolerance Grazing tolerant <p>Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long term perennial grass base for a pasture Grows in a range of conditions Later maturity provides longer window of production 	<p><i>Panicum maximum</i></p> <p>Seeding Rate kg/ha High Rainfall/Irrigation 6-12</p> <p>Seed Treatment Goldstrike XLR8™</p> <p>Description Subtropical grass adaptable to a wide variety of soil types</p> <p>Market Segment/Target Beef, dairy and hay production</p> <p>Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable to a variety of soil types Moderately tolerant to drought Suited for grazing or cutting for hay <p>Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptable, clumping type Long term pasture option Highly 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.

For technical advice contact your local Territory Manager

Jack Edwards
Northern Regional Manager
Territory Manager - Central NSW
jackedwards@swseedco.com.au
0419 995 418

Michael Christensen
Territory Manager - Wide Bay Burnett, South East, Central, Far North Old & NT
michaelchristensen@swseedco.com.au
0430 821 029

Shane Kable
Technical Services Territory Manager - Upper Hunter & North West NSW & WA
shane@swseedco.com.au
0427 551 395

Dan Sweeney
Territory Manager - North Coast NSW & Hunter Valley
dansweeney@swseedco.com.au
0429 146 817

Chris Hoad
Territory Manager - Southern & Central Qld
chrishoad@swseedco.com.au
0407 549 354