

Ranger®

PLANTAIN
: *Plantago lanceolata*



Quick Seed Facts



Lifespan

- 2-4 years

Time to first grazing

- 8 weeks

Minimum rainfall

- 600mm annual rainfall

Sowing rate

- Dryland 1-3kg/ha
- High rainfall/irrigation 4-8kg/ha

Seed/kg

- Approx 500,000

Suitability

- Grazing

Seed treatment

- Goldstrike®

Ranger® plantain is a perennial grazing herb suited to a variety of soil types. It delivers essential minerals to support animal health and live weight gain.

FEATURES & BENEFITS

- ⊕ **Excellent cool-season production**
Improved livestock weight gains in cooler months
- ⊕ **Accumulates nutrients and minerals in forage**
Providing an excellent source of trace elements and may provide some anthelmintic properties
- ⊕ **High forage quality and palatability**
With rapid rumen degradation leading to high daily dry matter intake

STRENGTHS

- ⊕ Fast establishing with high levels of winter and early summer production
- ⊕ Moderately tolerant of drought and low fertility
- ⊕ Excellent forage feed value making it an ideal companion to grasses and legumes

LIMITATIONS

- ▶ Susceptible to many broadleaf herbicides
- ▶ Does not tolerate waterlogged soils

WHERE IT GROWS

Rainfall: Greater than 600mm average annual rainfall.

Soils: Ranger® plantain tolerates a broad range of soil types, fertility and pH.

Temperature: Ideal sowing conditions are when the soil temperature is 10°C and rising. Wide climate adaptation, tolerant to frost, relatively heat tolerant.

- ⊕ 08 8445 1111
- ⊕ info@alfagenseeds.com.au
- ⊕ alfagenseeds.com.au



ESTABLISHMENT

Performance optimisation or limitations for your soil type can be discussed with your local agronomist.

Sowing time: Sow in autumn or spring.

Inoculation: Not required.

COMPANION SPECIES

- ⊕ Forage cereals
- ⊕ Winter legumes
- ⊕ Pasture grasses
- ⊕ Clover & pasture legumes
- ⊕ Lucerne
- ⊕ Forage herbs & brassica
- ⊕ Tropical grasses

MANAGEMENT

Maintenance fertiliser: 10–15kg P/ha. Additional N as required.

Grazing/cutting: Ranger® plantain can tolerate continuous and close grazing. However, graze rotationally to gain maximum production. A 3–4 week rotation in late spring will maintain seed head palatability. Can use for silage/hay.

Ability to spread: Yes. Regenerates from self-sown seed. Is a widely naturalised species.

Weed potential: Very low; as it is highly palatable and readily grazed.

Major pests: Red legged earth mite, slugs, snails.

Herbicide susceptibility: Will not tolerate Glyphosate and phenoxy based chemicals (2,4-D, MCPA). Consult your local agronomist for herbicide options. Susceptible to many broadleaf herbicides. Always check label before herbicide use. Best sown into weed-free pastures.

ANIMAL PRODUCTION

Feed value: Good quality feed. High mineral concentrations including copper, zinc, selenium, cobalt. This widely used medicinal herb contains various secondary metabolites with recognised tonic and antibiotic properties; these may benefit stock/rumen flora. Plantains can provide excellent feed quality (35–50% NDF, 10–12 MJ ME, and greater than 16% CP).

Palatability: Highly palatable, even when in reproductive stage.

Production potential: Total yields of up to 10t/ha DM production are possible.

Livestock disorders/toxicity: No livestock disorders have been encountered to date. [Information via NSW DPI](https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pastures-and-rangelands/species-varieties/pf/factsheets/narrow-leaf-plantain-396)

<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pastures-and-rangelands/species-varieties/pf/factsheets/narrow-leaf-plantain-396>