

Bronco

FORAGE OATS
: *Avena sativa*



Quick Seed Facts



Sowing rate

- Dryland: 25–60kg/ha
- High rainfall/irrigation: 60–100kg/ha

Maturity

- Late

Suitability

- Grazing
- Hay
- Silage
- Multi-species blends

Seed treatment

- None/XLR8® optional

Bronco is a highly palatable, semi-erect, late-maturing forage oat with moderate leaf/crown rust resistance. It has excellent warm soil emergence traits making it suitable for early sowing situations. Bronco has strong seedling vigour in the establishment period and is quick to first grazing. Bronco is an elite option for Northern producers seeking high production from forage oats in grazing, silage and hay.

FEATURES & BENEFITS

- **Suited to wide range of soil types**
Proven performance throughout many regions in Australia
- **Moderately resistant to leaf/crown rust**
Helps maintain yield and feed quality throughout the growing season
- **Excellent warm soil emergence**
Suitable for early sowing opportunities, providing quality feed earlier in winter
- **Long season production**
Extended late seasonal growth providing high-quality feed source

STRENGTHS

- Good leaf/crown rust resistance
- Excellent warm soil emergence
- Proven performing in Northern Australia
- Long season production
- Suitable for grazing, hay and silage

LIMITATIONS

- ▶ Lower levels of rust tolerance than Jackaroo forage oats
- ▶ Thicker tillers than Overland forage oats

WHERE IT GROWS

Rainfall: Bronco forage oats thrive in regions with annual rainfall of 250mm+, higher yields and production can be achieved on greater rainfall. Distribution of rainfall is more important than total rainfall.

Soils: Bronco is quite versatile and will grow on a wide range of soils. Avoid waterlogged soils, saline soils and highly acidic soils (below pH 5.0).

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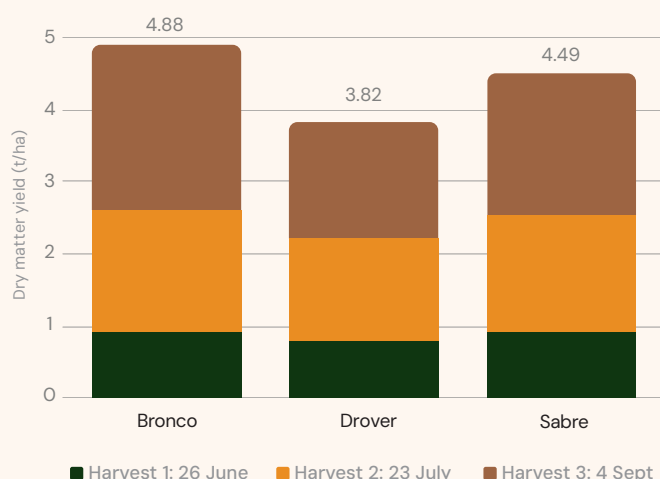
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DATA

2024 Warwick forage oats cutting trial 2



Forage oats total dry matter yield across 4 cuts,
Warwick, QLD. Sown 16 April 2024

Trial data provided by Palafor Partners

ESTABLISHMENT

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

Sowing time: Bronco has warm soil emergence traits so can be planted earlier than many other forage oats. Ideal sowing time is late summer/early autumn. Can be sown later in early winter if targeting hay production. Bronco forage oats may be slow to establish if soil temperatures drop below 12°C.

Sowing depth: Bronco has a versatile sowing depth due to seed size, 25–50mm is ideal. Depths beyond this may reduce vigour and effect emergence percentage. Good seed to soil contact is required.

COMPANION SPECIES

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

MANAGEMENT

Maintenance fertiliser: Maintenance fertiliser needs to be applied, as a rule of thumb 35–70kg/ha of nitrogen is required to maximise yield and quality in forage oats. Based on a soil test, nitrogen, potassium, phosphorus, calcium and sulphur levels need to be maintained for optimum dry matter production. Performance optimisation or limitations for your soil type can be discussed with your local agronomist.

Grazing/cutting: Bronco forage oats has a high carrying capacity potential through winter and spring. For most livestock enterprises, the best balance of feed quality and yield is obtained when oats are grazed from about 20–30cm plant height for first grazing. Subsequent grazing should occur at a similar height, and grazing pressure should be kept on early planted crops to ensure stems do not become reproductive.

If targeting hay production, booting to early head emergence stage is generally the best compromise between quality and yield. Earlier cutting gives higher protein and digestibility but lower hay yield. Later cutting increases yield but reduces feed quality as fibre rises and protein falls.

Major pests: Cereal cyst nematode, stem nematode, redlegged earth mite, snails, cereal aphids (BYDV transmission), cutworms, webworm, lucerne flea, armyworm, Bryobia mite, wingless grasshoppers and Australian plague locust.

Major diseases: While Bronco is moderately resistant to crown/leaf rust, it may be susceptible to stem rust, Septoria blotch, bacterial blight, Barley yellow dwarf virus (BYDV), halo blight, stripe blight and powdery mildew.

Herbicide susceptibility: Herbicides for post emergence and pre-emergence of broadleaf and grass control are available. Consult your local agronomist for herbicide options. Always check label before herbicide use. Best sown into weed-free paddocks.

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ANIMAL PRODUCTION

Feeding value: During vegetative growth before stem elongation forage oats is readily digestible (65–85%), with a crude protein ranging between 12–18% and a metabolisable energy of 9–12/kg of dry matter. With maturity, fibre increases and protein and digestibility decline.

Palatability: Highly palatable.

Livestock disorders/toxicity: Nitrate poisoning is a risk in oats, especially after drought, frost, cloudy weather, heavy nitrogen fertiliser use, or rapid growth following rain. Lush fast-growing oats can also be high in potassium and low in magnesium, this can cause grass tetany. Less common in pure oats than in legume-heavy pastures, but cattle on lush, highly digestible oat feed can still experience bloat, especially when introduced hungry. Make sure all vaccinations are up to date as oats can also increase risk of pulpy kidney.

Always consult an animals health professional if you have any symptoms or concerns.



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