

TROPICAL & SUB TROPICAL GRASSES

COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	CULTIVAR	TIME TO SOW	SOWING RATE	SITE PREFERENCE	UTILIZATION
Weeping love grass	Eragrostis Curvula	Ermelo	January	4 - 6	Upland well-drained warm aspect.	Hay and early spring grazing. Set mower high and graze carefully in year of establishment.
Teff	Eragrostis Tef (annual)	S.A. Brown / Emmerson	Oct - Nov	10 - 15	Upland well-drained warm aspect.	Hay. Mow before it lodges. A second cut can be taken at half the yield of the first cut.
Bermuda grass Kweek	Cynodon dactylon	Giant Nk37 / Bermuda	January	4 - 6	Sandy soils, warm aspect.	Grazing and hay. Suitable for playing fields in hotter areas.
Bahia grass	Paspalum notatum	Paraguay / Pensacola	January	20 - 25	Very adaptable.	Tough grass once it has established. Useful grazing for horses and for playing fields.
Dallis grass	Paspalum dilatatum	Australian Imp.	January	30 - 40	Moist bottomland heavy soils.	High quality summer grazing. Reduce seed production by topping once or twice during growing season.
Kikuyu	Pennisetum	Whittet	January	1 - 2	All soils, good fertility and humus content.	Grazing for all qualities of livestock, reduce seed production by topping once or twice during the growing season.
Rhodes grass	Chloris gayana	Katambora	Nov - Jan	4 - 6	Soils with pH (KCI)>5.0	Hay. Tends to die out if heavily grazed, makes good quality foggage.
Smuts finger grass	Digitaria Eriantha	Irene	January	5	Upland warm aspect	Slow to germinate. Used for hay and grazing. Sometimes sown with Rhodes grass as a cover crop. Makes good quality foggage.
Bloubuffelgras	Cenchrus ciliaris	Molopo	Nov - Jan	3 - 5	Sandy, hot, low rainfall areas.	Hay and grazing.
Carpet grass	Axonopus Affinus		Nov - Jan	10	Low fertility demanding grass	Grazing and lawns
White Buffalo grass/ Guinea grass	Panicum maximum	Gatton	Dec - Feb	6 - 10	Very adaptable / Bushveld	Very palatable. Ideal foggage.

TROPICAL & SUB TROPICAL LEGUMES

Greenleaf Desmodium	Desmodium Intortum		Jan - Feb	1 - 2	Hot humid areas.	Combines well with tall growing grasses. Requires at least eight weeks of recovery after grazing.
Silverleaf Desmodium	Desmodium Uncinatum		Jan - Feb	2 - 3	Hot humid areas.	Combines well with well tufted growing grass. Requires at least an eight week recovery period after grazing and more persistent under harder conditions.
Sirato	Macroptilium Atropurpureum	Clarence / Tinaroo	Nov - Jan	2 - 4	Hot, frost free areas, well drained soils.	Grazing on its own or combined with grass. A prolific grower, has good drought tolerance.
Glycine	Neonotonia Wightii	Safari	Nov - Jan	2 - 4	Hot, frost free areas, well drained soils.	As for Sirato but does better at higher altitude.
Kenya white clover	Trifolium semi pilosum		Jan - March	2 - 4	Most foil forms, in areas of >900 mm annual rainfall.	Recovers well after frost, bloat not a problem when it is grazed.
Townsville lucern	Stylosanthes humilis	Oxley	Nov - Jan	3 - 6	Hot frost free areas. Well drained light soils, tolerates low fertility.	Drought tolerant. Best used as foggage for autumn and winter and as hay.
Fine stem stylo	Stylosanthes Guianensis		Nov - Jan	2 - 5	Hot frost free areas. Well drained light soils, tolerates low fertility.	Will thrive on a heavy grazing pressure. Requires a 6-8 week recovery period. Will tolerate drought or fire.

TEMPERATE GRASSES

Westerwolds ryegrass	Lolium multiflorum	Tetraploid: Diploid: Agri Hilton	Mid Feb - April	20 - 25	High fertility soils. Well drained and irrigated.	Withstands heavy grazing pressure. A must for dairy and fat lamb farmers. Makes excellent silage and hay.
Italian ryegrass	Lolium multiflorum	Tetraploid: Diploid:	Mid Feb - April Aug - Sep (Spring Planting)	20 - 25	High fertility soils. Well drained and irrigated.	Withstands heavy grazing pressure. A must for dairy and fat lamb farmers. Makes excellent silage and hay.
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne	Tetraploid: Diploid: Nui	Mid Feb - April	20 - 25	As above and also moist soils if dryland. Must have 25mm water per week throughout the year.	As above. Grows well with clover. For dairy, beef fattening and fat lamb production. Graze frequently for best results to help it tiller.
Meadow fescue	Festuca perenne		Feb - March	15 - 20	Moist bottomland.	Short growing. Mixes well with clovers. Suitable for sheep and horses.
Tall fescue	Festuca arundinacea	Festal / Demeter	Feb - March	20 - 25	Moist bottomland and heavy soils.	When mixed with clover it becomes palatable and a hardy perennial pasture. Excellent foggage.
Cocksfoot	Dactylis glomerata		Feb - March	15 - 20	Very adaptable, prefers southern aspect and altitude >1200m	Relatively long lived perennial. Grazing and hay types available.
Kentucky bluegrass	Poa pratensis		Jan - April	10 - 15	Bottomland and cool shady areas.	A good sheep grass and that can withstand drought better than most. Also a lawn grass.
Rescue Grass	Bromus catharticus		Jan - March	30 - 40	Fertile well drained soils.	A heat and frost tolerant temperate grass suitable for dairy and beef farms. Excellent foggage.

TEMPERATE LEGUMES

White clover	Trifolium repens	G Huia / Ladino	Mid Feb - April	2 - 3	Fertile in moist bottomland or irrigated soils.	Combines well with the ryegrass, fescue and cocksfoot. Withstands heavy grazing pressure.
Arrow leaf	Trifolium Vesiculosum	Yuchi (annual)	Mid Feb - April	10	All soils preferably irrigated.	Combines well with annual ryegrass. Grown on it's own as a green manure or green chop.
Red clover	Trifolium pratense	Kenland / G. Hamua. G. Turoa	Mid Feb - April	5 - 6	As above and heavy soils.	Better summer grazing than White clover.
Subterranean clover	Trifolium Subterraneum	Mount Barker	Feb - April	10 - 15	Very adaptable.	Early grazing in spring but out of phase with summer grazing.
Lucerne	Medicago sativa	S.A. Standard	Feb - April	15 - 20	Fertile well drained soils.	Mainly used for hay and silage. Requires good management when grazed.
Snail medic	Medicago scutellata		Feb - April	2 - 4	Neutral to alkaline soils.	Grows well in a temperate climate. For cool season utilization.
Lotus major Birdsfoot trefoil	Lotus pedunculatus Lotus corniculatus	G. Maku	Feb - April	6 - 8	Adapted to most soil forms.	Drought resistant, tolerates acidity and wetness. Lower yield than the Trifoliums.
Crown vetch	Coronilla varia		Feb - March	5 - 10	Most soil forms.	Used for ground protection and as a pasture legume in low fertility areas.

FORAGE CROPS (ANNUAL)

SUMMER

Babala or Pearl Millet	Pennisetum americanum		Mid Oct - Dec	15 - 25	Very adaptable.	Emergency summer grazing. Good silage at heading late maturing, compared to jup millet and forage sorghum.
Japanese Millet	Echinochloa crus-galli		Mid Oct - Dec	15 - 25	Very adaptable.	Suitable for double cropping with annual temperates. Good grazing and fair silage.
Forage sorghum	Sorghum spp. Hybrids	Sweetgrazer	Mid Oct - Dec	15 - 25	Very adaptable.	Emergency summer grazing and good silage if enlisted after heading. Does not yield as much and is not as disease resistant as Babala.
Velvet bean	Macuna deeringianum	Mount Barker	Nov - Dec	20 - 30 (50 if sown alone)	Adaptable, frost free areas.	Grown with maize in row for silage
Soyabean (silage or hay)	Glycine max		Oct - Nov	50 - 60	Deep fertile soil rich humus.	Makes very good silage with molasses or mixed 1 to 2 with maize.
Cowpeas	Vigna unguiculata	Dr. Saunders / Iron grey Mixed	Oct - Nov	20 - 30 (50 if sown alone)	Adaptable.	As for soya beans but does better in dryer areas. Sometimes used for hay and green manure.
Dolichous Lablab	Lablab purpureus	Rongai	Oct - Nov	20 - 30	Adaptable.	As for velvet bean but does better in drier areas.

WINTER

Oats	Avena sativa	Heros / Saia Overberg	Jan - April	40 - 60	All soils, preferably irrigated	Good grazing hay and silage. Cover crop for early ryegrass. Better winter production than ryegrass if sown in late autumn.
Triticale	Triticosecale		March - May	50	All soils, preferably irrigated	Tall growing cereal suitable for grazing and silage.
Barley	Hordeum vulgare		Jan - April	30 - 50	All soils, preferably irrigated	As for oats.
Rye / Stooling Rye	Secale cereale	SSR.1 Trojan	Jan - April	50	All soils, preferably irrigated	Better than oats for sheep grazing, otherwise the same.
Vetch	Viola sp.	Hairy / Woolly pod / Grazing Hifa	Feb - March	25 - 30	Most soil forms	Usually sown with annual grass or cereal to improve the quality of the grazing. Unpalatable on its own.
Lupins	Lupinus luteus / yellow Lutinus albus / white	Aurga Baer / Juno / Kiev Hantie / Buttercup	Feb - April	40 - 60	Most soil forms	Mainly sown in winter rainfall areas for grazing conserved feed & inclusion in animal concentrates. May be used to improve poor soils
Serradella	Ornithopus sativus	Common pink	Feb - April	10 - 20	Sandy soils tolerates low fertility	Mainly sown in winter rainfall areas and may be used to improve poor soils, grazing or conserved feed.

WINTER ROOTS AND BRASSICAS

Fodder Kale	Bassica oleracea Convar acephala	Chou Moellier (Marrow Stem) Galega / Thousand head	Jan - March	3 - 4	Fertile soil rich in humus.	A tall growing Brassica usually harvested in winter by picking off the leaves. May be sown later than fodder raddish.
Fodder Turnip	Brassica rapa	Green globe / Early purple top Mammoth purple top	Jan - April	3 - 4	Fertile soil rich in humus.	Supplementary to ryegrass grazing. Usually pulled sometimes grazed by sheep. May be sown later than raddish.
Swede	Brassica Napus var napobrassica	Champion purple top American purple top	Jan - April	3 - 4	Fertile soil rich in humus.	Supplementary to ryegrass grazing. Usually pulled sometimes grazed by sheep. May be sown later than raddish.
Forage Rape	Brassica napus	Dwarf essex / Giant english	Jan - March	3 - 4	Fertile soil rich in humus.	Companion crop for annual ryegrass, also cover crop.
Forage Radish	Raphanus sativus	Nooitgedacht / Sterling	Jan - March	2 - 5	Fertile soil rich in humus.	A very heavy yielder. Utilized the same way as brassicas.