

VILLOMIX

Aeschynomene villosa

Villomix is a commercially available mixture of Reid and Kretschmer villosa jointvetch that is registered under Plant Breeders Rights to Southedge Seeds. Originally from South America, Villomix has found a role in both Australia and overseas in pastures and as ground cover in orchards.

Checklist

- ✓ **Perennial Legume**
- ✓ **Suited to heavier textured soils**
- ✓ **Displays tolerance to water logging**
- ✓ **Grows in tropical and sub tropical regions**
- ✓ **Suitable ground for orchards and plantations**
- ✓ **Tolerates heavy grazing pressure**
- ✓ **Fixes reasonable levels of soil nitrogen**
- ✓ **Sowing Rate - 10-30 ENVIROGRO™ pellets per square metre or depending on pure live seed count 1-3kg/ha**

Environment

Villomix has shown itself to be able to grow and persist over a wide range of conditions. Apart from persisting under tropical conditions, Villomix grows surprisingly well in elevated subtropical environments that receive greater than 1000mm of annual average rainfall. To quantify suitable growing environments the annual average temperatures need to range between 17-25°C. Villomix will withstand extended dry periods if the plants have been heavily grazed and adopted a rosette growth habit.

Soil Type

Villomix will grow on a wide range of soils, tending to prefer poorly drained soils of clay (including cracking clay), clay loam, loam and sandy loam texture with soil pH from 4.5-8. Available moisture appears to be critical for Villomix as plants have been seen to grow in areas of well distributed, high rainfall on sandy acid soils. Soil fertility is not critical, although with low fertility production can be somewhat reduced, and benefits are evident when there are applications of

phosphorus fertilizer. Whilst not critical, the presence of Molybdenum will increase rates of nodulation.

Establishment

Traditionally Villomix seed contains high levels of seed hardness. However, due to the harvesting methods and seed scarification processes involved in processing ENVIROGRO™ seed, a considerable percentage of this hardness is reduced. Ideally, like all seed, planting should be carried out as close as possible to the wet season. Because of its small seed, sowing depth should be no more than 1.5cm, preferably into moisture. The seed is inoculated within the ENVIROGRO™ to aid in early nitrogen fixation.

Villomix can be planted in combination with a wide range of grass species. However, depending on the competitiveness of the grass species, seedling regeneration in following years may be variable. Regeneration will occur with species such as Bluegrass, Setaria and other tufted grass species, whilst species such as Signal Grass will out-compete regenerating seedlings.



Southedge Seeds Pty Ltd

24 Tinaroo Creek Road, Mareeba, Queensland, 4880, Australia

Telephone:- +61 7 4086 2400 Facsimile:- +61 7 4092 2345

Email:- ross@southedgeseeds.com.au

