



sowing the seeds of prosperity

# Alto Pan<sup>TM</sup>icum

*Panicum maximum*

*Alto Pan<sup>TM</sup>icum is in a league of its own when it comes to comparing the giant Panics of the grazing world. Originally from South America, Southedge Seeds has spent the last few years increasing "pre basic seed" to make Alto Pan<sup>TM</sup>icum a commercial reality within the Australian*

## Checklist

- ✓ **True tropical grass species**
- ✓ **Up to 28% higher dry matter yield over other Guinea grass cultivars**
- ✓ **Accepted by all grazing animals**
- ✓ **Excellent leaf (80%) to stem (20%) ratio**
- ✓ **Suitable for hay & silage production**
- ✓ **Moderate drought and cold tolerance**
- ✓ **Responds to periodic fertiliser applications**
- ✓ **Suitable for intensive grazing systems**
- ✓ **Sowing Rate : 25 - 100 ENVIROGRO<sup>®</sup> pellets per square metre or 2 - 10kg/ha depending on pure live seed count**

## Environment

Alto Pan<sup>TM</sup>icum is a true tropical grass species requiring 1000 -1500mm of summer dominant annual rainfall. There is potential for production under irrigation where annual rainfall is less than this. It is best suited to regions between 0-1000m above sea level with average daily temperature greater than 20°C. Although leaves are sensitive to frost, plants will typically recover from light frosts.

## Soil Type

Alto Panicum will grow on most free draining soil types as long as there is fertility to sustain the production of high levels of dry matter (up to 85 000kg DM/ha/yr). Like most *Panicum maximum* cultivars, Alto Panicum is not tolerant of salinity and extended periods of water logging. Soil pH should be near 6.0 - 7.5 with no Aluminium toxicities to achieve maximum performance from Alto Pan<sup>TM</sup>icum.

## Establishment

Establishing Alto Pan<sup>TM</sup>icum can cause many of the headaches that are usually experienced with most other tropical pasture species. Seed can often contain high levels of dormant seed, resulting in delayed germination after planting. ENVIROGRO<sup>®</sup> pelleted seed does overcome this issue somewhat as much of the seed glume is removed during processing.

Like most grass species, the best establishment results for Alto Pan<sup>TM</sup>icum will be achieved by shallow planting (no greater than 10mm) into a fully prepared seed bed, with some degree of compaction to ensure excellent seed/soil contact.

While Alto Pan<sup>TM</sup>icum can be planted into mixed pastures, it would be recommended to be sown by itself to make grazing management easier and to best maximize the production capabilities.

Once established, Alto Pan<sup>TM</sup>icum should be regularly grazed not allowing plant height to exceed 1 metre, with grazing continuing down to a minimum height of 0.3 metre before grazing animals are removed.



agronomically modified pasture seeds

24 Tinaroo Creek Road | P.O Box 1502  
Mareeba QLD Australia 4880

Ph: +61 7 40862400 | Fax: +61 7 40922345 | Web: [www.southedgeseeds.com.au](http://www.southedgeseeds.com.au) | Email: [sales@southedgeseeds.com.au](mailto:sales@southedgeseeds.com.au)