



sowing the seeds of prosperity

Jarra Grass

Digitaria milijiana

Southedge Seeds Jarra Grass seed is one of the few "certified" pure Jarra stands in Australia. The seed used to plant these stands originally came from the evaluation trials conducted at Jarra Creek by Queensland Department of Primary Industries. It has been managed in such a way that other annual Digitaria species are all but nonexistent.

Checklist

- ✓ **Strict tropical grass species**
- ✓ **Suitable for grazing and hay production**
- ✓ **Grows on most well drained soil types**
- ✓ **Suitable for all grazing animals**
- ✓ **Slow in establishing**
- ✓ **Tolerant to Atrazine**
- ✓ **Provides excellent nematode control**
- ✓ **Responds quickly after dry periods**
- ✓ **Best sown in pure stands**
- ✓ **Sowing Rate - 80-320 ENVIROGRO® pellets per square metre or dependent on pure seed count 2-8kg/ha**



Environment

Jarra Grass is a strict tropical pasture grass species. Plant growth is restricted to warmer months of the year, with moderate production occurring either side of summer. It is not recommended to be planted any further south than latitude 23.5°C (Rockhampton). In order to achieve maximum productivity annual summer dominant rainfall needs to be greater than 1000mm, however, it will persist in 800mm zones with reduced productivity. Jarra Grass is tolerant to extended dry periods and will respond quickly to the first rains of the season.

Soil Type

Jarra Grass will successfully grow on a wide range of well drained soil types, such as coarse granitic sandy loams, alluvial loams and sodosol soils. Jarra Grass cannot withstand periods of water logging, with extended exposure resulting in plant death. Soil fertility is a consideration when you are looking to optimise dry matter production from a Jarra Grass stand, available plant nitrogen possibly being one of the driving forces behind yield.

Establishment

When you are looking at establishing a Jarra Grass stand,

some thought has to be put into its intended use and your initial expectations. Sowing grass seed is purely a numbers game, the more seed you put on the thicker the stand, resulting in quicker productivity. Seed soil contact and seed bed preparation are critical factors that need careful consideration when calculating the necessary sowing rate, the finer the seed bed, the better the seed soil contact, the better the field establishment, the better the stand. To reduce weed competition during the establishment period, Atrazine can be used as a post emergent application to provide both knockdown and residual control. Unlike other grasses, it is not recommended that Brush Off herbicide be used on Jarra Grass. Generally, in the second year after establishment, plants will start to smother out weeds and other species.

It is recommended that it be planted by itself, mainly due to the ease of management especially under grazing situations. Selective grazing will take place in combination plantings, with animals grazing on the Jarra Grass first. This will eventually lead to the other grasses becoming dominant.



agronomically modified pasture seeds

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