

Annual Summer Grasses

CROP/SPECIE	CULTIVARS *PBR # EXCL	SEEDING KG/HA	RAINFALL MM/YEAR	SUITED REGIONS	PLANTING MONTHS	SOIL REQUIRED	REMARKS
Babala <i>Pennisetum glaucum</i>	Common Satapija Agrigreen NEW (Hybrid)	Drilled 10 Broadcast 15-25 Irrigated 25-30	400+	Whole of South Africa	Oct-Dec	Wide adaptability to most soils	A very quick grass which, grown tall, makes good silage and can be grazed between 400 and 600mm in height. Can produce 20 tons DM of silages per ha in 100 days in favourable conditions. Cut before it gets too stalky especially if you are going to wrap silage.
Jap Millet <i>Echinochloa crusgalli</i>	Common	Drilled 10 Broadcast 15-25 Irrigated 25-30	400+	Summer rainfall areas	Oct-Dec	Wide adaptability to most soils	A very quick grass which grows in a cooler temperature than Babala. Can be sown at lower soil temperatures than that of forage sorghum. Makes good grazing and silage. Not as stalky as Babala.
Forage Sorghum <i>Sorghumx Sundan grass hybrid</i>	#Superdan Superdan 401 Hunnigreen NEW Agrisweet NEW	Drilled 10 Broadcast 15-25 Irrigated 25-30	700+ or irrigation	Whole of South Africa	Oct-Dec	Wide adaptability to most soils	Annual forage sorghum is a common summer grazing/silage crop. The first cut or grazing can be 42 days after sowing under ideal conditions. Three cuttings or grazings can be produced during the season. Graze at 900 1000mm in height leaving 100mm stubble over. Beware of prussic acid poisoning with wilted grass. FORAGE SORGHUM IS NOT SUITABLE FOR HORSES.
Teff <i>Eragrostis teff</i>	SA Brown	Broadcast 10-15	500+	Whole of South Africa	Mid Nov to Mid Jan	Widely adapted from sandy to heavy clay soils	An annual hay grass sometimes used for grazing. The first cut can be as soon as 65-75 days after establishment. Cut at the correct time on first cut, you can expect another cut. Do not allow Teff to get too tall, as if it falls over it is very hard to cut for hay. Cut as soon as you see the first flowers forming. Yields of 3-4 tons per ha can be achieved.