

Forage Crops

CROP/SPECIE	CULTIVARS *PBR # EXCL	SEEDING KG/HA	RAINFALL MM/YEAR	SUITED REGIONS	PLANTING MONTHS	SOIL REQUIRED	REMARKS
Japanese Radish <i>Raphanus sativus</i>	Nooitgedacht	5-6 Sown in rows 600mm apart and 300mm in a row	350 from January	E Cape E Free State NW Province Mphumalanga KZN	Mid Jan to mid Feb in cooler areas Mid Feb to mid March in hot areas	Well-drained clay soils which retain moisture are best. Bring soil nutrient status to required levels as per analysis	Gives good production during winter, roots and leaves can be fed. A succulent feed for animals for the dry months if pasture under irrigation is insufficient or non-existent.
Fodder Rape <i>Brassica napus</i>	Giant English Dwarf Essex Barcoli	4-5 Sown in rows 500mm apart and 15-20mm in the row	350 from Jan to March or irrigation	E Cape E Free State NW Province Mphumalanga KZN	Mid Jan to mid Feb in cooler areas Mid Feb to mid March in hot areas	Well-drained clay soils which retain moisture are best. Bring soil nutrient status to required levels as per analysis	This is an inexpensive source of roughage, which has been the saving grace of many farmers with livestock in dry years. It is especially good as roughage for sheep and can be grown with cereal crops like oats and stooling rye. It needs good autumn rains to get established, to bulk up for winter feeding.
Fodder Turnips <i>Brassica rapa</i>	Mammoth Purple-Top Green Globe	4-5 Sown in rows 500mm apart and 15-20mm in the row	350 from Jan to March or irrigation	E Cape E Free State NW Province Mphumalanga KZN	Mid Jan to mid Feb in cooler areas Mid Feb to mid March in hot areas	Well-drained clay soils which retain moisture are best. Bring soil nutrient status to required levels as per analysis	This is an inexpensive source of roughage, which has been the saving grace of many farmers with livestock in dry years. It is especially good as roughage for sheep and can be grown with cereal crops like oats and stooling rye. It needs good autumn rains to get it established, to bulk up for winter feeding.
Fodder Beet <i>Beta vulgaris</i>	Brigadier	5-6	350 from Jan to March or irrigation	E Cape E Free State NW Province Mphumalanga KZN	Mid Jan to mid Feb in cooler areas Mid Feb to mid March in hot areas	Well-drained clay soils which retain moisture are best. Bring soil nutrient status to required levels as per analysis	This is an inexpensive source of roughage, which has been the saving grace of many farmers with livestock in dry years. It is especially good as roughage for sheep and can be grown with cereal crops like oats and stooling rye. It needs good autumn rains to get established, to bulk up for winter feeding.
Saltbush <i>Atriplex</i> <i>numularia</i> <i>Atriplex</i> <i>halimus</i> <i>Atriplex</i> <i>semibaccata</i>	Oldman Jewish Creeping	3-15	150+	The whole of South Africa	June -Aug	Widely adaptable to most soil types	Saltbush is an important strategic drought resistant crop. Grows vegetatively during the summer with most available dry matter being available in late summer and autumn. It has a problem with palatability and animals must be forced to eat it. Do not allow the plant to grow too tall. Graze or cut back regularly so as plant can be utilised optimally for better quality.