

LUCERNE

Alpha 1 Lucerne

Highly winter active lucerne with a high leaf to stem ratio

Medicago sativa

Alpha 1 Lucerne was bred from Australian, USA and Argentinian germplasm and was selected for increased winter activity, fast establishment, and finer stems with high leaf to stem ratio and improved disease and pest resistance. The increased leaf to stem ratio will also give higher protein and digestibility.

ABOUT THIS VARIETY

Alpha 1 Lucerne displays strong autumn and winter/spring growth with vigorous recovery from cutting or grazing, this is an advantage in close grazed pastures and intensive forage cutting programs.

Alpha 1 is suited to dryland or irrigated lucerne growing areas. Being highly winter active, Alpha 1 can be sown through the early winter to early spring period and is suitable for under sowing cereals or as a rotation crop.

A replicated independent dryland lucerne trial conducted at Ballarat in Victoria showed Alpha 1 Lucerne as one of the best yielding varieties during a period of extreme dry conditions.



QUICK FACTS

-  **TYPE & PERSISTENCY**
Perennial
-  **MIN RAINFALL**
400 mm+
-  **SOWING RATE**
4–15 kg/ha Dryland, 15–25 kg/ha Irrigation
-  **END USE**
Grazing, Hay, Silage, Break crop
-  **WINTER ACTIVITY**
9

KEY ATTRIBUTES

- ✓ Increased winter growth (rating 9)
- ✓ Improved disease and insect resistance
- ✓ Can be sown as a longer-term break crop to reduce disease risk
- ✓ Finer stems and higher leaf to stem ratio
- ✓ High nitrogen fixation for following crops
- ✓ Vigorous recovery from cutting or grazing

PLANTING & GRAZING NOTES

Choose a free draining paddock 12 months prior to sowing lucerne and complete a soil test; apply lime if the pH is low. Plan for weed and pest control in the year prior to sowing, e.g. crop the paddock prior to sowing lucerne. The area sown should be sprayed for insects, e.g. bare earth like canola. Sow at a depth of between 1-2cm, inoculate the seed with group AL at the time of sowing, and light roll after sowing to preserve moisture. Being highly winter active, Alpha 1 can be sown through the early winter to early spring period.

DISEASE & PEST RESISTANCE

Spotted alfalfa aphid: resistant. Blue aphid: highly resistant. Pea aphid: highly resistant. Anthracnose: moderately resistant. Fusarium: highly resistant. Phytophthora root rot: resistant.

HOW IT'S SOLD

FORM	PACK
Bare	25 kg