

**SUB-TROPICAL GRASSES**

# Whittet Kikuyu Grass

Highly persistent, survives long dry periods

*Pennisetum clandestinum*

Whittet Kikuyu provides high quality forage if moisture is available in the summer but poor winter growth. Long growing season. Responds well to fertilisation, especially nitrogen in the warm season. Reasonable frost tolerance. Very competitive and reduces soil erosion. Persistence and competitiveness reduce compatibility with other pastures including legumes. Coated and treated with Gaucho.



## ABOUT THIS VARIETY

Whittet Kikuyu is a deep rooted, self-repairing perennial grass. It is very popular in coastal areas of the south-west of Western Australia for sheep and cattle pastures. Palatability is high when the sward is kept grazed short and has significant legume content; older growth is not readily eaten.

Whittet Kikuyu forms a dense pasture and spreads by stolons. The stolons will creep above and below the soil surface. It is a taller variety of kikuyu, with broader leaves, thicker stems and larger internodes on the stolons. Kikuyu is generally later spring, summer and early autumn active while the weather is warm, and will provide very little winter growth. Kikuyu is a very suitable drought tolerant warm season grass.

### QUICK FACTS

-  **TYPE & PERSISTENCY**  
Perennial
-  **MIN RAINFALL**  
650 mm+
-  **SOWING RATE**  
2–5 kg/ha General
-  **TOLERANCES**  
Waterlogging, Mild Salinity, Drought, Mild Frost
-  **END USE**  
Grazing
-  **LIVESTOCK**  
Beef, Dairy, Sheep
-  **GROWTH SEASON**  
Warm-season

### KEY ATTRIBUTES

- ✓ High quality summer forage when moisture is available
- ✓ Very competitive and reduces soil erosion
- ✓ Persists better under lower fertility than other kikuyu
- ✓ Vigorous grower, producing quick cover
- ✓ Responds well to nitrogen in the warm season
- ✓ Deep rooted and self-repairing

### PLANTING & GRAZING NOTES

The best time to sow Whittet Kikuyu is when the soil temperature is above 20°C and there is a high probability of several days of good soil moisture. Newly sown Whittet Kikuyu should not be grazed until the runners are about 20-25cm long and have taken significant roots. It is important to make sure when grazing begins on recently sown seed that the runners are not being pulled out of the soil. Palatability is high when the sward is kept grazed short and has significant legume content; older growth is not readily eaten.

### STAND LIFE

Persists better under lower fertility than other kikuyu varieties.

### HOW IT'S SOLD

| FORM   | PACK  |
|--------|-------|
| Coated | 2 kg  |
| Coated | 5 kg  |
| Coated | 25 kg |