



MAXImiser™ Equine Mixes

Specifically suited to the equine industry





AusWest Seeds have been evaluating pasture species which are suited to the equine industry for a number of years. From these results, user feedback and our extensive pasture knowledge, we were able to develop a range of blends to suit the equine industry's needs. One of the most important factors with any new pasture is

following correct establishment procedures (refer overleaf for correct procedures). For successful results we strongly recommend that these guidelines be adhered to.

For further information contact AusWest Seeds or your nearest stockist.

Queensland Winter Horse Mix

Contents: Atom prairie grass, Mach 1® annual ryegrass, Mainstay white clover, Haifa white clover, Cheetah medic, Titan 7 lucerne

Quick establishment in the autumn in preparation for winter growth is a hallmark of the varieties in this mix. Mach 1® annual ryegrass and Atom prairie grass also provide quality feed throughout the winter and into the spring. Combine this with the quality of the medic and lucerne and you can be assured of a quality pasture blend.



Soil type	Clay loams/heavy clays
Annual rainfall	650 mm+ or irrigation
Sowing rate	20-30 kg/ha
Fertility	High
Persistence [#]	5 years+
Sowing time	Early autumn/spring
Establishment	Medium

[#] Persistence will be influenced by a number of facts and is not guaranteed

Queensland Summer Horse Mix

Contents: Callide rhodes grass, Floren bluegrass, Atom prairie grass, Mach 1® annual ryegrass, Mainstay white clover, Haifa white clover, Titan 7 lucerne, Aztec Siratro

A careful selection with a tetraploid rhodes grass for quality and quantity of summer growth, plus a bluegrass species ensures this quality but also adds drought tolerance in case of unfavourable conditions. Combine this with prairie grass for winter, spring activity, then add lucerne and a vigorous white clover and there is potential for hay production as well.



Soil type	Wide range
Annual rainfall	550 mm+
Sowing rate	20-30 kg/ha
Fertility	Medium-high
Persistence	4 years+
Sowing time	Autumn
Establishment	Fast

[#] Persistence will be influenced by a number of facts and is not guaranteed

Eastern Horse Mix

Contents: Atom prairie grass, Gala grazing brome, AusVic LE perennial ryegrass, Icon lucerne, Haifa white clover, Tribute white clover, Coolamon sub clover

The Eastern Horse Mix is perfectly suited to the equine industry due to the grass species in this blend having exceptional tolerance to hard grazing. The combination of prairie grass, a grazing brome and an early flowering perennial ryegrass offer a strong grass based pasture with quality feed spread through autumn, winter, spring and early summer. Lucerne, sub and white clover are also included in this blend to increase the overall quality. This blend is suited to free draining soils and will not tolerate low lying areas that are wet during winter. Care must be taken during the establishment phase of this pasture, particularly with the grazing brome.



Soil type	Loams/sandy loam
Annual rainfall	550 mm+
Sowing rate	20-30 kg/ha
Fertility	Medium
Persistence [#]	5 years+
Sowing time	Early autumn
Establishment	Medium

[#] Persistence will be influenced by a number of facts and is not guaranteed

Winter Horse Mix

Contents: AusVic LE perennial ryegrass, Uplands Hispanica cocksfoot, Holdfast phalaris, Icon lucerne, Haifa white clover, Coolamon sub clover

Tougher conditions demand tougher varieties and in this blend the combination of a hardy perennial ryegrass, a Hispanica cocksfoot and a winter active phalaris offers the opportunity to capture production in autumn, winter and early summer. The inclusion of clovers and lucerne highlights this pasture combination with a nutritional balance of legumes and grasses, plus persistence.



Soil type	Wide range
Annual rainfall	550 mm+
Sowing rate	20-30 kg/ha
Fertility	Medium-high
Persistence [#]	4 years+
Sowing time	Autumn
Establishment	Fast

[#] Persistence will be influenced by a number of facts and is not guaranteed



Establishment and Management Guidelines For Horse Pastures

Establishing Pastures

Successful pasture establishment starts with planning. Consideration needs to be given to the long and short term goals of the farm, when feed is in shortest supply and the ability of the farm to cope with surplus pasture, feed quality issues and the management requirements of different pasture species.

Use the following simple checklist to help ensure that your pasture renewal program is successful.

Paddock Selection

- » A paddock by paddock approach is best as no two paddocks are the same
- » Begin with the paddocks with the greatest potential for improvement, as the marginal return on dollars invested is usually higher
- » Select paddocks early, one to two years can be required to fully prepare some paddocks for a successful new perennial pasture
- » Get a comprehensive soil test so that fertility levels can be improved if needed. Often soil pH, phosphorus and potassium levels need attention

Paddock Preparation

- » Control weeds and weed seed production in the one to two years prior to sowing a new pasture
- » Techniques available include spray grazing, spray topping, spray fallow and summer fodder crops
- » With horses, the summer fodder crop options are limited to principally millet but if cattle or sheep exist on the farm then sorghum and brassica crops are good options

Sowing

- » Wait for autumn rain and then use a knockdown spray in order to control germinating weeds. Provided that there is not too much trash in the paddock, sowing can commence the following day
- » Ensure that cultivated paddocks are even, have good soil tilth and that the seedbed is firm
- » Paddocks that are being direct drilled should also be level and clear of excessive trash
- » Sow seed into a fine, firm moist seed bed at a depth of 10 mm. Press wheels or a roller is often useful for improving the seed-soil contact and allows the pasture to establish quickly and evenly
- » Use the right fertiliser and correct rate at sowing. Ready access to nitrogen and phosphorus (N and P) will promote rapid and vigorous early growth
- » If access to sowing equipment is limited, local contractors are often the best option

Monitoring The Paddock After Sowing

- » Frequently monitor newly sown pastures for weed and insect pests
- » Controlling weeds early requires less chemical, is more effective and often has less impact on the sown pasture
- » Insect pests can decimate an emerging pasture; prompt action prevents significant plant losses and loss of production
- » If insect pests such as red legged earthmites are a common problem in your area then it is worth considering a strategy which will improve the chances of success
- » AusWest EquineWise® blends legume content is treated with KickStart™ which includes Poncho® Plus to protect the plant at the establishment stage against red legged earthmites

First Grazing

- » First grazing should occur only once the plant has begun to tiller out and is at least 10 cm high. Ensure plants are firmly anchored in the ground before grazing and avoid over grazing or pugging damage. Often, if the pasture is ready, a quick light grazing is the best approach.
- » Consider an application of N based fertiliser after the first grazing to promote quick recovery and encourage further tillering of the plants.
- » **All equine pastures MUST be rested throughout the year and should never be over grazed during the summer period.**

The above suggestions are a guide only, for further information contact your local agronomist or AusWest Seeds.

Limited Warranty

Pasture improvement may be associated with increased incidence of certain equine health disorders with possible livestock and production losses. You should consult your veterinarian or other qualified adviser when planning pasture improvement to minimise risk.

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For more information contact AusWest Seeds or speak to your local seed retailer



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New South Wales & Queensland
P: 1800 224 987 F: 1800 221 827
W: ausweststphenseeds.com.au