



# Lee Jointvetch

*Aeschynomene americana*

Lee Jointvetch is exclusively licensed to Southedge Seeds Pty. Ltd. under Plants Breeder's Rights. It was originally selected for commercial release for its later maturity and perennial nature, something that other Jointvetches available in Australia could not offer.

## Checklist

- ✓ **Ideal pioneer legume**
- ✓ **Short lived perennial**
- ✓ **Tolerates low fertility soils**
- ✓ **Grows on a wide range of soil types**
- ✓ **Fixes up to 100kg nitrogen per hectare**
- ✓ **Can tolerate periods of water -logging**
- ✓ **Suited to combination plantings**
- ✓ **Tolerant of 2,4-D**
- ✓ **High in crude protein and digestibility**
- ✓ **Requires grazing management for persistence**
- ✓ **Sowing Rate - 40-60 ENVIROGRO™ pellets per square metre or 4-6kg/ha depending on pure live seed count**

## Environment

Lee Jointvetch is a warm season tropical legume for regions that have an average annual temperature of 20-27°C, with the bulk of the plant growth occurring during the hot, wet summer months. While plants will persist in 600mm+ rainfall zones, it is more comfortable when the average annual summer rainfall is greater than 1000mm. While Lee Jointvetch does display some tolerance to frost, heavy frosts will kill both plant tops and perennating plants.

## Soil Type

Lee Jointvetch is comfortable on a wide range of soil types, from gravels and sands through to heavy textured clays. Lee Jointvetch prefers a soil pH of 6-7, but will tolerate a range as low as 4 and as high as 8. While it does tolerate infertile soils, best production is achieved where soil phosphorus is not limiting. Applications of Molybdenum have shown to increase nodulation.

## Establishment

Lee Jointvetch seed tends to have a high level of hard seediness. However, this is reduced when the seed is dehulled during the ENVIROGRO™ pelleted seed process. This means that all seed planted will germinate in the first year. Best establishment results occur on a well prepared seed bed where there is good seed to soil contact. While seedling growth is slow, established plants will grow relatively quickly.

Because of the nature of the pastures that Lee Jointvetch is traditionally planted into, some grazing management is required to ensure that some seed is set, and that crash grazing is undertaken in the first part of the wet season to allow seedlings to effectively compete with the grass species.

As with any tropical pasture species in high rainfall zones, annual applications of phosphorus are required to maximise production of Lee Jointvetch.



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