



WYNN CASSIA

Chamaecrista rotundifolia

Wynn Cassia is one tropical legume that tends to receive much bad press about its dominance of pastures and its unpalatability to grazing stock at different stages during the year. However, there is no legume that can match Wynn Cassia's performance under semi-arid growing conditions on light textured soils. For this reason, management of pastures with Wynn Cassia is critical to the overall success of pasture dynamics.

Checklist

- ✓ **Suited to light sandy soils**
- ✓ **Tolerates low fertility**
- ✓ **Fast establishing**
- ✓ **Tolerant of heavy stocking**
- ✓ **Augments protein shortage in the dry season**
- ✓ **Proves excellent ground cover during the wet season**
- ✓ **Best planted with competitive grass species**
- ✓ **Sowing Rate:- 4 - 16 ENVIROGRO™ pellets per square metre or 0.5-2kg/ha depending on pure live seed count.**

Environment

Wynn Cassia is a well adapted pasture legume for tropical and subtropical growing regions. Plant behaviour is greatly dependent upon the rainfall zone where it is planted. Plants tend to be perennial under conditions of 700mm+ rainfall, where in drier regions of 600mm+ plants will only act as an annual. Maximum plant growth occurs in the summer growing season, with the combination of cold weather and dry soil moisture levels slowing growth. Frost will kill plant tops, and in regions where regular frosts occur, plants will behave as annuals.

Soil Type

Wynn Cassia performs best on free draining light clay and sandy soil types, where soil fertility is low. If planted on soils with higher fertility, instances have occurred where Wynn Cassia has out competed grasses during the growing season. Wynn Cassia can tolerate moderately acid soils with high levels of exchangeable Aluminium. Wynn Cassia will die if it is exposed to any period of water logging.

Establishment

Wynn Cassia is very easy to establish either in new or existing pastures. Seed readily establishes when surface sown with adequate ground cover (>40%). However, on harder setting soils some soil disturbance may be necessary.

Once established, subsoil moisture will maintain plant growth until moisture stress or cold weather occurs. Cattle continue to eat the plant after it dries off, as evidence by trial data and dung samples. They actually prefer its dried matter to the green plant.

Animal supplementation will improve the acceptability as well as its utilisation. For instance, if stock water is low in sodium, salt supplementation can be of benefit. Alternatively, phosphorus and sulphur supplements will improve quality and animal intake.

If Wynn Cassia is planted into native pastures, heavy grazing should be avoided during the growing season.

Not Recommended For Horses



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