

YELLOW SERRADELLA

s a n t o r i n i



Santorini Yellow Serradella (*Ornithopus compressus*) is a hard-seeded, Annual Legume with an erect to semi-erect growth habit selected as a superior replacement to Madeira.

Santorini is deep-rooted which will enable it to produce herbage long after traditional pastures have dried off. This will also allow the plants to recover quickly after a long dry period compared to other shallow-rooted legume species such as Sub-Clover. Santorini is well-suited to a wide range of light to medium acid soils. It demonstrates higher tolerance of free aluminium levels, commonly found in acid environments, compared to many other legume species.

Santorini is well suited to low to medium rainfall environments and demonstrates good aphid tolerance and lower susceptibility to Red Legged Earth Mite compared to Lucerne and Sub-Clover. It is well suited to rotational grazing or set stocking whilst providing the benefits of a disease break and nitrogen inputs into the soil profile.

Santorini is very hard-seeded and therefore well suited to long-term pasture or cereal rotations. Pasture stands can be sown with either pure seed or in a pod form. It is suggested that when sowing Santorini as a pasture for the first time, pure seed should be used, as germination from pods can be poor.

CHECKLIST

- ✓ **Early maturing – 100 days to flower**
- ✓ **High hard-seed levels**
- ✓ **Good tolerance to Red Legged Earth Mite**
- ✓ **Superior alternative to Madeira**

RAINFALL

Santorini is suited to temperate areas receiving 350mm+ annual rainfall.

SOIL TYPE

Santorini is best suited to deep, fertile, well-drained light to medium soils. Hard-setting soils should be avoided (eg Sodic soils). It can tolerate high levels of soil aluminium and prefers soils ranging from pH 4.0–7.0 (CaCl_2).

INOCULANT

Apply Group S Rhizobium to the seed prior to planting. Plant nodulation is extremely important for soils below pH 7.0 (CaCl_2). Inoculation is essential to ensure sufficient nodulation occurs and to maximise nitrogen fixation.

MATURITY

Santorini demonstrates early season maturity, flowering approximately 100 days after sowing.

REGENERATION

Santorini is very hard-seeded which protects against false breaks and makes it suited to long term cropping rotations. It is suggested that a cereal crop follows a first year stand of Santorini, as plant regeneration will be low in the second year due to its high hard-seeded nature. It is important to graze down summer material by early autumn to encourage germination for the following season. This, along with appropriate grazing management, will ensure long term persistence.

GRAZING

Santorini is well-suited to moderate set stocking or rotational grazing practices once established. However, if over-grazed during the establishment period a significant reduction in plant density can occur, resulting in significant plant thinning or failure.

In the first year of establishment stock should be removed during the early stages of flowering to maximise levels of seed set for regeneration in the following year.



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DISEASE RESISTANCE

Few disease problems have been observed in dry land pasture environments. However, if sown in high rainfall areas or under irrigation, diseases caused by Rhizoctonia (*Rhizoctonia spp.*) and Colletotrichum (*Colletotrichum spp.*) can occur.

PEST RESISTANCE

Once Santorini has developed its first true leaf it is generally not attacked by aphids. It can suffer damage from Blue Oat Mite (*Penthaleus major*) and Red Legged Earth Mite (*Halotydes destructor*) in newly sown stands and heavy infestations will require control. However, once established, Santorini tolerates these pests better than Lucerne or Sub-Clover.

Santorini can suffer attack from Native Budworm (*Heliothis punctigera*), Lucerne Flea (*Sminthurus viridis*), Vegetable Weevil (*Listroderes obliquus*), and Jassids (*Cicadellidae spp.*), and control measures may be required.

SOWING RATE

When sowing alone to produce a dense sward, sow at a minimum of 5–10kg/ha. In pasture mixtures Santorini should be sown at 3–5kg/ha.

If sowing Santorini for seed production it is suggested that a rate of 7–10kg/ha be used.

Optimum time for sowing is early to late autumn after rainfall. Sow at a depth of 0.5–1.5cm into a moist seedbed free of broadleaf and grass weeds.

PLANT BREEDERS RIGHTS (PBR)

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Frontier
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Kyambro
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Lightning
Morbulk
Nitro Plus
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Antas

Campeda

Denmark
Gosse
Losa
Napier
Rosedale
York
White
Quest
Waverley

FORAGE

Woolly Pod Vetch
Capello
Haymaker

LUCERNE

Aquarius
Genesis
Sirosal
Venus

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Barrel
Caliph
Jester
Burr
Scimitar
Hybrid
Toreador

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Cocksfoot
Kasbah
Phalaris
Atlas PG
Australian II
Holdfast
Landmaster
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Nemkat
Tall Fescue
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SERRADELLA

French
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