



Medicago sativa

LUCERNE / ALFALFA: **SA STANDARD**

PRODUCTION POTENTIAL:

- 8 - 15t/ha/annum

TYPE

- Subtropical Legume
- Semi-winter dormant, dormancy 6

PRODUCTION PERIOD

- Perennial, Spring, summer & autumn

STRENGTHS:

- Reliable cultivar, can withstand severe heat and cold conditions
- Moderately tolerant to soil salinity
- Responds quickly to spring and summer rainfall/irrigation

FEEDING VALUE:

- Crude protein: 15 -25%
- Digestibility: 60 - 75% DMD

USES:

- Pasture & hay

SOIL REQUIREMENTS:

- Grows across a wide range of soil types
- Prefers deep, well drained soils
- Prefers a neutral to high pH and no acid saturation

ESTABLISHMENT:

- Plant during February - May / August - September
- Broadcast at 8 - 12.5 kg/ha dryland and 20 - 25 kg/ha irrigated

MORPHOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

- Crown position on soil surface with deep penetrating taproot
- Stem coarse to medium
- Seeds green to yellow to light brown; kidney shaped to avoid; 1 - 2.5 mm x 1 - 1.5 mm; 440 000 - 500 000 seeds/kg