



# Progardes<sup>®</sup> Desmanthus

## Establishment guide



Clay-rich soils



450 - 2000 mm



Neutral to alkaline



Perennial



High protein  
12-20% CP

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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## Driving pasture productivity

Progardes<sup>®</sup> Desmanthus is a pasture legume scientifically developed to improve and sustain your pastures. It is persistent, productive in clay-rich soils and naturally adapted to a broad range of harsh conditions.

Progardes<sup>®</sup> Desmanthus is a highly palatable source of protein, with excellent digestibility that converts to higher weight gains. Independent trial results indicate that tropical legumes such as Desmanthus help maintain pasture productivity resulting in more dry matter production and higher protein levels compared to grass-only pasture.

## Keys to successful establishment

### Prepare the best seed bed possible

- The better the soil seed contact and reduction in competition, the better the likelihood of good establishment
- Progardes<sup>®</sup> Desmanthus is a very fine seed (ranging from 180,000-240,000 seeds/kg) and should be planted on the surface of the soil and no deeper than 3-5mm

### Sow when conditions are best for germination and establishment

- Sow with a good moisture profile and/or when there is a high chance of effective rainfall and follow-up rain. Soil moisture should be tested down to 40cm to ensure adequate moisture profile
- Take care not to plant in hottest summer weather unless you have sufficient moisture and/or you are receiving rain events more frequently

### Provide the right soil conditions and nutrition for optimum growth

- Progardes<sup>®</sup> Desmanthus prefers clay-rich soils with a neutral to alkaline pH. Ensure soil pH is tested down to 90cm
- Specific inoculants are available and should be used wherever establishment conditions are likely to maintain inoculant viability, such as sowing into moist soil

### Minimise competition from weeds and dominant grasses

- Identify appropriate strategies to minimise competition, e.g., cultivation, fire, and/or registered herbicides. Consult your Agronomist and check product labels for up-to-date herbicide registrations and application methods
- Minimising competition will help conserve soil moisture

### Control Pests

- Minimise damage of young seedlings from pests

### Let Progardes<sup>®</sup> Desmanthus fully flower and seed in the first season of growth

- As with any establishing pasture species, it is important to let Progardes<sup>®</sup> Desmanthus fully flower and set seed in the first season. This will ensure a seed bank has been established for future recruitment. Light grazing after seed has set can create more foliage and seed set for next season



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### When to Plant Progardes?

#### Monsoonal Regions

##### September- mid-January

###### Key indicators:

- Soil temperature >15° C
- Soil moisture greater than 40cm by mid-January

#### Central & Southern QLD Northern NSW

##### September-November

##### January-February

###### Key indicators

- Soil temperature >15° C
- Soil moisture greater than 40cm by mid-January
- Note: December is typically too hot to plant

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To avoid preferential grazing and improve the overall sustainability of your pasture, aim to establish Progardes® Desmanthus across the whole paddock and not in selective areas.

Planting rate will depend on the level of seed bed preparation, scarification, and planting method. Agrimix Pastures can provide assistance for solutions to your planting requirements. We also recommend that you consult with your Agronomist when planning your pasture mix and preparing your seed bed.

| Seedbed Preparation                    | Application                        | KG / HA |
|--|------------------------------------|---------|
| Prepared seedbed<br>(tillage/spraying) | Seeder                             | 1.5-2   |
|  | Aerial                             | 3       |
| Limited preparation                    | Faecal Seeding<br>(hard seed only) | 2       |

Progardes® Desmanthus seed is uncoated, delivering more Pure Live Seed for every dollar you spend and more seed in every kilogram.

Progardes® Desmanthus seed is available as a blend of hard and scarified seed:

**Scarified** - for rapid germination; and

**Hard seed** - allowing for delayed germination and addressing the risk of false starts. Hard seed is ideal for faecal seeding via horses and cattle. Ask us for our Faecal Seeding Guidelines.





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## What are the risks to establishment?

### Risks

### Management options

#### FOLLOW UP RAIN

*Follow up rain is essential for establishment of seedlings*

Calculate the probability that follow up rain will arrive. In addition to 40cm stored moisture, Progardes<sup>®</sup> needs 30mm of rain to strike and a further 40mm of follow up (gentle) rains over 3 falls in the following 3 weeks

#### MONSOONAL RAIN WEATHER PATTERNS

*Managing highly variable monsoonal cycles*

If rain is received and soil moisture profile exceeds 40cm by mid-January:

1. Conserve soil moisture: control /suppress competitor grasses using appropriate, registered herbicides. *(Seek advice from your Agronomist and check product labels for up-to-date information)*
2. Broadcast seeding: seed scarified Progardes<sup>®</sup> by air or broadcast at 3 kg/ha
3. Alternatively, if not using herbicide to prepare seedbed, bare soil presentation can be optimised by burning then seeding into ash. Note: If not using herbicide, this seeding needs to take place immediately upon soil moisture profile reaching 40cm

#### LOW RAINFALL AREA

*Managing low average rainfall (less than 550mm per annum)*

Faecal Seeding is the preferred method in low rainfall areas.

Please read our Faecal Seeding with Progardes<sup>®</sup> information sheet for more on using livestock to disperse seed

#### HEAT WAVE CONDITIONS

Take care not to plant in the height of summer

#### PLANTING TOO CLOSE TO A FROST

Complete planting 2-3 months before first frost to ensure plant has time to establish a good root system and set seed

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*It is essential that Progardes<sup>®</sup> Desmanthus is planted in accordance with this Progardes<sup>®</sup> Desmanthus Establishment Guide which can also be accessed at <http://progardes.com.au/establishment>. All sales of Progardes<sup>®</sup> Desmanthus are subject to Terms of Supply, which are printed on page 4 of this Establishment Guide and can be accessed via <http://progardes.com.au/terms/>.*

*Disclaimer: All information, including any trial results, provided by Agrimix Pastures is considered accurate at the time of publication. The performance and results achieved using Progardes<sup>®</sup> Desmanthus may vary depending on factors including climatic conditions, soil composition, application methods and farming practices.*



*Progardes<sup>®</sup> is a composite of Desmanthus varieties and includes materials covered by Plant Breeder's Rights (refer to the packing label on seed bag for details). Plant Breeder's Rights provide exclusive commercial rights and control over the materials, which they cover. Unauthorised commercial propagation or any sale, conditioning, export, import or stocking of propagating material is an infringement under the Plant Breeder's Rights Act 1994 (Cth). PROGARDES is a Registered Trademark owned by Agrimix Pastures Pty Ltd.*

# Terms of supply - Progardes

## Disclaimer

The following terms and conditions (Terms) govern the supply of Progardes by Agrimix Pastures Pty Ltd ACN 159 796 399 or its authorised reseller (Agrimix) to you as the purchaser / user (you). It is important that you read and accept these Terms prior to purchasing Progardes. By purchasing Progardes, you are deemed to have accepted and agreed to be bound by these Terms.

## Terms

1. Agrimix grants you the right to plant Progardes in accordance with these Terms.
2. You acknowledge that it is a condition of supply that you must adhere to the planting requirements detailed in the Progardes Seeding Establishment Guide (Guide). A copy of the Guide is attached to these terms and can also be accessed at <http://progardes.com.au/establishment/>.
3. You acknowledge that the performance of Progardes may be impacted by a number of factors, which are outside the control of Agrimix, including but not limited to:
  - (a) climatic conditions;
  - (b) soil composition;
  - (c) application methods; and
  - (d) farming practicesAccordingly, you accept the risks associated with using Progardes, including any risk associated with the failure of Progardes to perform in accordance with your expectations. To the extent permitted by law, Agrimix's liability for breach of any term implied into these Terms by any law is excluded.
4. You acknowledge that, except to the extent of any representations made by Agrimix in any current promotional literature, it remains your responsibility to satisfy yourself that Progardes is fit for its intended use.
5. To the fullest extent permissible by law, Agrimix is not liable for any direct, indirect, punitive, incidental, special or consequential damages including, without limitation, damages for loss of use or profits, arising out of or in any way connected with your use of Progardes, whether based on negligence or otherwise.
6. The Australian Consumer Law may give you certain guarantees, which cannot be excluded in accordance with Items 3 and 5 of these Terms. Where liability for breach of any such guarantee can be limited, Agrimix's liability (if any) arising from any breach of those guarantees is limited to the replacement value of the Progardes or the cost of resupply or replacement of the Progardes, determined with reference to the transaction to which the breach relates.
7. Progardes is a composite of Desmanthus varieties and includes materials covered by Plant Breeders' Rights (refer to the packing label included on the seed bag for details). Plant Breeders' Rights provide exclusive commercial rights and control over materials, which they cover. Unauthorised commercial propagation and any sale, conditioning, export, import or stocking of propagating material is an infringement under the Plant Breeder's Rights Act 1994 (Cth) (PBR Act). Without limiting the application of the PBR Act you agree not to:
  - (a) harvest, modify, genetically manipulate or breed Progardes; or
  - (b) supply Progardes to third parties for commercial purposes.
8. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Terms, if you chemically treat Progardes Agrimix accepts no responsibility, and will not be liable whatsoever, for any consequences that may be attributed to such treatment.
9. You acknowledge that Progardes is not for personal, domestic or household purposes.

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