

**WITHSTANDING DROUGHT
STRESSES WITH
PROGARDES[®] DESMANTHUS**



progardes
Agrimix Pastures

www.progardes.com.au

Persistent, Productive, Palatable

A perennial pasture legume
for Australian conditions

First introduced in early 2010, Progardes[®] is now established over thousands of hectares, from Tamworth in the south to the Qld Gulf country and across into the Northern Territory. Its persistence, palatability and pasture health benefits, as well as its contribution to liveweight gains and forage quality, have made Progardes[®] the pasture legume of choice for producers right across Australia.

Key Benefits of Legumes

- Increased Dry Matter Yield: 40-100%
- Increased LWG/ha: 30-80kg/ha/yr
- Increased Carrying Capacity: 20-50%
- Increased body condition score
- Reduced lick requirements
- Improved herd fertility
- Faster turn off
- Reduced methane
- Carbon sequestration
- Provides Nitrogen to associated grasses
- Adds botanical diversity to pastures

Increased Animal Performance



Palatable



High Protein
12-20%



Non-bloating



Non-toxic

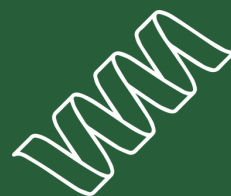


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Increased Live Weight Gains



Palatable



High Protein
12-20%



FASTER WEIGHT GAINS



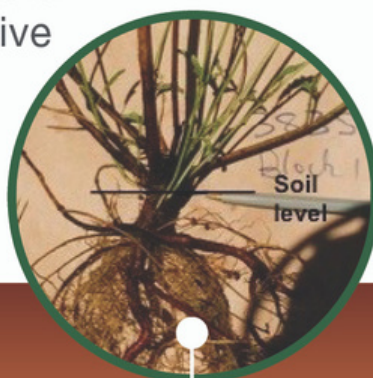
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Tap root system

Progardes® Desmanthus has a long tap root that allows it to access deep moisture and nutrients out of the reach of more shallow-rooted grass pasture species. This makes it very drought tolerant and able to survive extended dry periods, as well as enabling it to compete with grasses and to stay green and productive longer than associated grasses.



Low growing crown

The low growing crown of Progardes® allows it to reshoot from below soil level as seen in Figure 5. This enables Progardes® to tolerate heavy grazing, frost, and fire.





Ross Newman inspecting Progardes® with forage crops

|| Despite some of the driest years on record around the Rockhampton region, we have seen Progardes Desmanthus not only successfully establish, due principally to seed scarification and the sheer number of seeds in its bare form, but also continue to provide green leaf while most of the grasses were standing still. ||

ROSS NEWMAN
AGRONOMIST, ROCKHAMPTON

"I must admit, when Agrimix Pastures first started promoting Progardes® Desmanthus I was one of their largest sceptics. Some twenty years prior, we had seen Desmanthus cultivars being promoted as the solution to increasing productivity in the black soil Buffel country. These cultivars were sown with old school thought processes behind Blade Ploughs with limited success. Combined with a limited understanding of grazing management requirements, come May / June each year we just ended up with a paddock of green stems; all the leaf had been dropped on the ground. Agrimix Pastures, however, have undertaken significant research and extension work to provide producers with valuable information surrounding the successful establishment of this small-seeded legume in some of the harshest environments we can be faced within Northern Australia.

Preparing a paddock properly for seeding can be perceived as expensive. With the strength of current land values and the strength of the Queensland beef industry, however, every extra kilogram of beef produced per hectare is like gold. Following years of grass monoculture, our aging soils and tired pastures need persistent, productive and palatable legumes so that we can continue to be at the top of our game.

Whilst there is always a risk of failure when planting any pasture seed, with the production results we have seen from the inclusion of Progardes® in our pasture systems, I can foresee greater investment in seeding equipment in the future, ensuring continual success of establishing such a small seed in a big world. From what I have seen over the past few years, Progardes® Desmanthus has a huge role to play when sown on the right soils with the right equipment at the right time."

Bred for the harsh conditions of Northern Australia



Clay-rich soils



Drought
tolerant



450 -2000mm



Perennial



Neutral to alkaline



Progardes® Desmanthus in the Gulf



Progardes® Desmanthus, Gregory Downs



Progardes® Desmanthus , Augathella



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Bred for the harsh conditions of Northern Australia

Progardes® Desmanthus is resilient under poor conditions. The Blackall paddock below was planted in 2017, germinating on 130 mm of rain, and under drought conditions ever since (average rainfall = 530 mm/yr).



November 2018



April 2019

Progardes® for Silage

Greg Boto from Four Mile Nebo was keen to try putting his Progardes® into the bunker as silage.

The Pasture:

In 2018 Greg planted a 20ha paddock of heavy black soils with Rhodes grass and Progardes® Desmanthus. The plant density of the Progardes® once established was excellent at 4.7 plants/m².

In April of 2020 Greg was able to make 500 tonne of silage that has proved to be a palatable feed. Lab results revealed crude protein was 13.8% and metabolisable energy (ME) was 7.4MG/kg.

Withstanding drought conditions:

Greg used the silage to feed his cows with calves and get them through the dry, helping the cows to produce more milk and turn off better calves.



Progardes[®] for Hay

16.6% Protein

11.2 ME (mj/kg)

In 2020 Paul Murat grew a crop of irrigated Progardes[®] Desmanthus on his property at Mareeba from which he yielded 4.5 tonnes of hay per hectare (205 bales at 220 kilograms). Laboratory analysis showed Crude Protein content of 16.6% and metabolisable energy of 11.2 megajoules/kg.



|| The Progardes hay seems to be very palatable to a range of stock, even younger cattle. The waste also seems to be very minimal, they clean up the lot ||

PAUL MURAT, PROGARDES GROWER



For more information

WEBSITE

www.agrimixpastures.com.au

EMAIL

admin@agrimix.net.au

CONTACT NUMBER

1300 979 395

0429 820 388



Use this QR Code to take
a look at our Progardes
Establishment Guide



It is essential that Progardes Desmanthus is planted in accordance with this Progardes Desmanthus Establishment Guide which can also be accessed at <http://progardes.com.au/establishment>. All sales of Progardes Desmanthus are subject to Terms of Supply, 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 Desmanthus may vary depending on factors including climatic conditions, soil composition, application methods and farming practices.



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