Lablab

Lablab purpureus

LEGUME · ANNUAL / WEAK PERENNIAL · WARM SEASON

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

A drought-tolerant tropical legume for high-quality forage, green manure, warm-season soil cover and mixed crop–livestock systems.

WHY SHORTLIST THIS PRODUCT

- **Managed forage**
  Can support forage goals when harvest stage, animal class and local feeding guidance are considered together.
- **Biological nitrogen**
  As a legume, it can support biological nitrogen fixation when compatible rhizobia and sound establishment are used.
- **Dry-period resilience**
  Established stands can maintain useful function through dry periods, subject to soil depth and local conditions.
- **Green-manure fit**
  Fits planned rotations that return biomass and nutrients to the soil ahead of the next crop.

PRODUCT SNAPSHOT

CROP TYPE
Legume · Annual / weak perennial

SEASON / CLIMATE
Warm season

PRIMARY ROLES
Forage · Nitrogen · Drought

GENERAL SOIL FIT
Confirm locally

SOIL pH
5.0–7.5

Establish well. Manage the whole cycle

ESTABLISHMENT

01 Choose the window

Match planting to the product's season, frost risk and the field's moisture outlook.

02 Test and prepare

Use a current soil test, control competing vegetation and prepare the seedbed or planting zone for good contact.

03 Calibrate the lot

Confirm the current seed lot, germination, treatment and whether the recommended rate is bulk seed or pure live seed.

04 Establish carefully

Follow the technical reference for placement and method, then verify emergence and stand uniformity early.

05 Support nodulation

Use the compatible inoculant where required and protect it from heat, drying and incompatible seed treatments.

MANAGEMENT

01 Set the objective

Manage the stand for its primary role—cover, soil recovery, forage, grain, tubers or a planned combination.

02 Watch the stage

Use crop stage and field condition—not the calendar alone—to time grazing, harvest or termination.

03 Maintain function

Monitor moisture, fertility, weeds, pests and stand density; adjust before lost ground becomes difficult to recover.

04 Plan what follows

Coordinate residue, regrowth or termination with the needs and planting window of the next enterprise.

05 Verify locally

Adapt the program to local climate, soils, regulations, animal class and product labeling.

TECHNICAL REFERENCE

Soil pH **5.0–7.5**	Primary uses **Forage, hay, silage, cover crop, green manure**
Planting depth **2.5–4 cm in a prepared seedbed**	Leaf crude protein **21–38%**
Forage biomass **1.4–2.5 t DM/ac**	Monoculture rate **12–20 kg/ha**
Drought tolerance **High once established**	Grass-mixture rate **5–8 kg/ha**
Waterlogging tolerance **Low; requires drainage**	Best temperature **18–30°C**
Inoculation **Appropriate lablab or cowpea-group rhizobia**	Growth habit **Vining, herbaceous annual or weak perennial**

IMPORTANT MANAGEMENT NOTE

Reference values are not performance guarantees. Confirm the current seed lot, label, local agronomic recommendation and any animal-use restrictions before planting or feeding.

Technical basis: Tropical Forages — Lablab purpureus profile; USDA-NRCS — Lablab (Lablab purpureus) Plant Guide; Texas A&M AgriLife — Rio Verde Lablab recommendations and utilization

FIELD NOTE

Rates and performance vary with environment, seed lot and management. Scan for the current online profile and supporting resources.

SCAN FOR UPDATES