Saia

Oats

Avena Strigosa

DOMESTIC

KEY FEATURES

- Fast establishing autumn-spring growing fodder crop with high feeding value
- High leaf to stem ratio
- Very fine stemmed oat variety
- Excellent cover crop, forage, or hay option
- Tolerant of acid soils

SAIA oats are a tall black seeded grazing oat with a fine stem. It is fast to establish and will provide good quality early winter feed when planted in late March/early autumn. SAIA can be utilised for grazing, silage, and hay. It will grow in a wide range of soil types and has a good tolerance of acid soils. SAIA rebounds quickly after grazing. Commonly used in cover crop situations, SAIA oats can help control root lesion nematode and stubby root nematodes which can cause dramatic damage in potato and vegetable crops. Highly tolerant to aluminium and manganese toxicity.

SAIA has a much smaller seed size than traditional forage oats so a reduction in seeding rate is recommended.

Can be spring or autumn planted, minimum rainfall 350 mm.

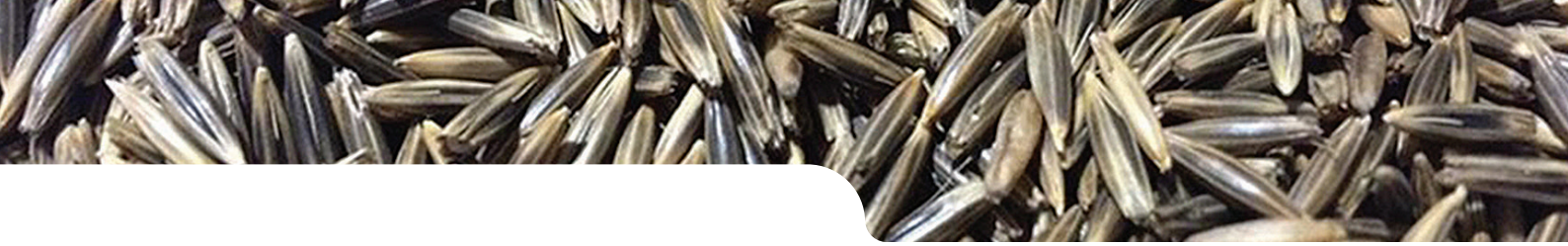
Growing Conditions

Soil Type:
Saia grows in a wide range of soil types and has a good tolerance of acid soils. Highly tolerant to aluminium and manganese toxicity

Sowing Rate:
Mixes 15 - 50kg/ha
Pure 60 - 100kg/ha

Rainfall:
350mm+

pH:
4.6 - 8.0 ($CaCl_2$)



Growth Habit, Speed to Grazing, Maturity and Disease Tolerance

Variety	Growth habit	Speed to grazing	Maturity	Diseases	
				BYDV	Leaf rust
Saia	**Erect**	**Medium**	**Early**	**Tolerant**	**Susceptible**

Forage oats agronomic information

Scientific name(s) *Avena strigosa*

Strengths

- Fast establishing autumn-winter growing fodder crop with high feeding value
- High leaf to stem ratio
- Opportunities for silage/hay/grain production

Limitations

- Susceptible to pugging; avoid grazing if waterlogged - regrowth will be compromised

Plant characteristics

Plant: tufted annual grows to nearly 2 m tall.

Stems: Stout hollow culm with conspicuous nodes.

Leaves: flat & narrow and veined; taper to a fine point. Rolled in bud.

Seedhead: large pendulous spikelet, 15-30 mm long; 2-3 florets.

Seeds: ~50,000/kg.

Pasture type and use

Sown in autumn for winter bulk. Some varieties suited to multi-uses - e.g. high quality hay export/grain production. Often used to provide weed control and soil preparation prior to renovating with perennial pasture. Robust, so often used as a pioneer crop on new land.

Where it grows

Rainfall

> 350 mm.

Soils

Well drained. Tolerates a broad pH range.

Temperature

Avoid sowing when soil temperature <12°C or >25°C.

Establishment

Companion species

Legumes: clovers, peas, vetch, medics.

Sowing/planting rates as single species

Sow into a cultivated seedbed to a depth of 35-70 mm at 25-120 kg/ha depending on soil type/region and expected rainfall.

Sowing/planting rates in mixtures

15-50 kg/ha.

Sowing time

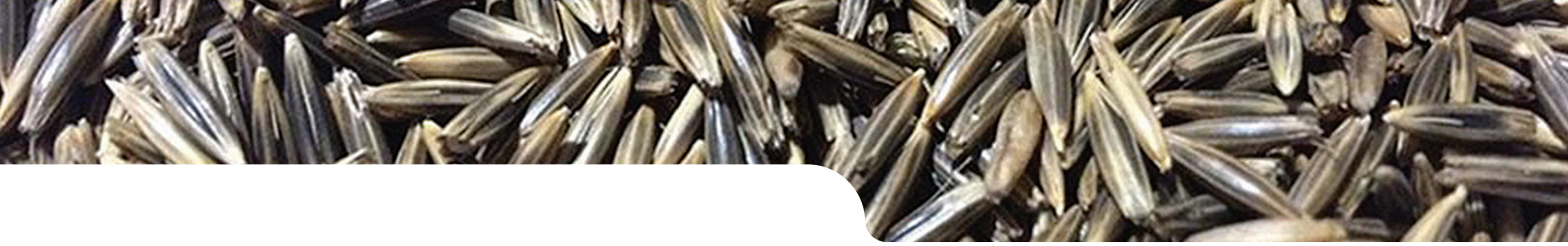
Sow late summer/early autumn. Can be sown dry (sow >50 mm).

Inoculation

Not applicable.

Fertiliser

Sow with 10 kg P/ha. If using MAP/DAP sow separately from the seed.



Management

Maintenance fertiliser
35-70 kg N/ha, ensure P, K, S, Zn are adequate.

Grazing/cutting
Graze prior to stem elongation. Leave 12 cm residues/ lowest stem node. Repeat grazings after a month's recovery. Where yield is high it is usually strip-grazed by dairy cattle along a long front - to minimize trampling losses. A back fence may maximise regrowth.

Ability to spread
Regenerates from self-sown seed.

Weed potential
Dropped seed may see plants regenerate for a season or two.

Major pests
Cereal cyst nematode, stem nematode, red-legged earth mite, snails, cereal aphids (re BYDV transmission), cutworms, webworm, lucerne flea, army worm, bryobia mite, wingless grasshoppers and australian plague locust.

Major diseases
Leaf rust, stem rust, septoria blotch, bacterial blight, barley yellow dwarf virus, halo blight, stripe blight, powdery mildew.

Herbicide susceptibility
Glyphosate.

Animal production

Feeding value
Winter feed typically 70% digestibility, 7-8% crude protein.

Palatability
Readily acceptable.

Production potential
Up to 7 t DM/ha by spring where moisture is available and soil fertility is good.

Livestock disorders/toxicity
Young plants can accumulate a high level of nitrates and lead to nitrite poisoning, especially in cattle. Slow growth, hot dry conditions or frost/hail damage can elevate nitrate level.

Source : Pastures Australia

Australian Government
Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation
RIRDC www.rirdc.gov.au

AUSTRALIAN OWNED AUSTRALIAN OWNED

Contact us:

Adam Davies National Forage Sales and Marketing Manager adam@synergyseeds.com.au 0498 632 496

Disclaimer: Synergy Seeds have taken all reasonable care in researching and preparing the information in this publication. While it is thought to be accurate, Synergy Seeds does not accept any responsibility for any negative consequences that may arise from any recommendations or suggestions made. Always seek advice from a local professional prior to purchasing any product.