



**Di Bella Produce**

Ingham North QLD Australia

## Seed sales- tech sheet.



### Pinto peanut

*Arachis pinto* is a persistent, high quality forage legume.

The crop is well suited as a cover crop under tree crops and in cattle pastures. It is difficult to obtain seed from Pinto peanut, however it grows well planted vegetatively.

#### Positive attributes

- Multi-purpose legume that can be used for forage production and as a green manure cover crop.
- Is a legume which can fix atmospheric nitrogen.
- High nutritive value and high for grazing systems.
- Adapted to a wide range of soils.
- High quality forage.
- Persistent under intensive grazing.
- Tolerant to low soil fertility.
- Tolerant to short periods of flooding.
- Combines well with low, dense pasture grasses.
- Shade tolerant.

#### Limitations

- High seed costs and difficult to access seed.
- Must have good moisture for production.
- Slow to limited growth under cool or dry conditions.
- Underground seed can attract rodents.
- Slow to establish from seed, so it is recommended to plant vegetatively.
- Difficult to eradicate once established.



**Soil type**

The plant is suited to a range of soils, including low fertility types. It performs best on well drained soils that have adequate soil moisture, but can also tolerate temporary waterlogging. It is tolerant of relatively high levels of manganese and aluminium found usually in very acid soils.

**Sowing**

Pinto peanut can be sown into a well-prepared seedbed that has a good depth of subsoil moisture (at least 75 cm) or direct drilled into an existing cover.

**Sowing time**

It is best planted during warm weather and when there is a likelihood of follow up rain.

**Sowing rate**

Seeding rate for 20kg seed in pod/ha for horticultural uses.

When planting vegetative plants, they should be spaced out to 2-5m apart depending on its intended use.

**Inoculation**

It is recommended to inoculate the seed and vegetative plants with Pinto Peanut inoculum (CIAT 3101 strain).

Inoculation will ensure that the legumes nodulate efficiently to produce nitrogen.

**Fertiliser**

Pinto peanut does not require high levels of fertiliser in most situations, but it is advisable to use a moderate application of 200kg/ha of superphosphate and 50kg/ha of muriate of potash when sowing into very infertile soils.

In low fertility applications of calcium, cobalt and molybdenum will lead to increases in crop yields, plant health and vigour.

Consult your Tropical Agricultural Services (TAS) agronomist for a specific nutrition program for forage crops.

**Pests**

White- fringed weevils and slugs may eat leaves, with damage being usually minimal. Rodents can consume the underground seed.

**Diseases**

Leaf and stem diseases are rarely a problem.

**Herbicides**

The plant is susceptible to metsulfuron- methyl (eg. Brushoff®), 2,4-D, and glufosinate (eg. Basta®).

## **Animal production**

### *Feeding value*

Similar to that of lucerne, with 13-25% crude protein and 60-70% dry matter digestibility, depending on the age of the forage.

### *Palatability*

Pinto peanut is well eaten by all classes of animals, including chickens, ducks and pigs. It is selectively grazed by cattle.

### *Production potential*

Annual liveweight gains of up to 200kg/head and over 900kg/ha, as well as significant increases in milk production have been recorded.

### *Livestock toxicity*

Nil recorded to date.

## **Purchasing seed to plant.**

It is difficult to obtain seed for planting.

Di Bella Produce and Farming can supply Pinto peanut plants vegetatively, as grown plants when required.

Farmers and graziers must order plants a few months in advance to enable plants to be grown out as tube stock.

A 50% deposit must be paid on ordering.



A quote for plants will be provided based upon the number of plants to be purchased.

The minimum order that can be placed is 100 plants.

## **Contact:**



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