



**Plant Research (NZ) Ltd.**



## **AP2 - Forage Pea**

**AP2:** A white flowering forage pea.

### **Key Features:**

**AP2** is a medium height, medium to late maturing forage pea.

**AP2** has good tolerance to powdery mildew and resistance to psbmv.

Flowering normally commences at 19-20 nodes, and 2 flowers are produced per node.

**AP2** has a TSW of 240-250g.

### **Management:**

General management practices should be similar to those applied to other forage and field pea varieties.

Choose your paddock carefully giving consideration to soil structure and previous cropping history, especially careful to avoid planting in paddocks where peas have been grown in the last 5-6 years. Check the paddocks aphanomyces root status and avoid paddocks with a high Disease Severity Index.

General herbicide, insecticide and fungicide practices should be followed, as for other forage and field pea varieties. However, a fungicide treatment targeting powdery mildew may not be required due to **AP2's** tolerance to this fungal disease. Check with your agent for the best possible advice.

**AP2** can be sown from late August until late October. The recommended plant population is around 80 plants/m<sup>2</sup>. This equates to a sowing rate of around 190-200kg/ha depending on TSW. If growing **AP2** in a cereal mix, the sowing rate would expect to be decreased. A ratio based on weight of 60% peas to 40% cereals could be expected for forage crops, however check with your agent for the best advice. **AP2** is a late maturing pea variety and is therefore ideally suited to mixing with wheat or triticale because the maturity is more in line with these cereal types. This will mean that the pea will be at a better stage for a silage harvest when the cereal is ready to harvest than with existing commercial forage pea varieties. Resistance to pea powdery mildew will help **AP2** to maintain a green leaf for longer than other varieties. **AP2** is the only forage pea available with resistance to powdery mildew.

**AP2** will respond to irrigation, however continued monitoring of soil moisture status will ensure efficient use of water with the crop.

### **Lodging Resistance:**

**AP2's** lodging resistance is rated as moderate. The crop will normally stand until pod fill when lodging can be expected. This may or may not be an issue with this forage crop depending on the timing of grazing.

### **Nutritional Data:**

**Table 1.** **AP2** nutritional analysis at flat pod and pod fill for the 2006/2007 season.

	<b>Flat pod</b>	<b>Pod fill</b>
% dry matter	18.8	29.9
% organic matter	90.0	90.8
% crude protein	16.1	13.2
% water soluble carbohydrates	14.9	9.2
% neutral detergent fibre	43.6	50.8
% acid detergent fibre	32.0	36.0
Digestibility (proportion of feed dry matter consumed able to be absorbed by animal)	66.5	58.5
Estimated ME MJME/kg DM (available energy/kg DM)	10.0	8.9

<sup>1</sup>Nutritional analysis conducted by the Analytical Services Unit, Lincoln University, Canterbury, New Zealand.

### **Contacts:**

Further information on cultivar characteristics should be directed to

Adrian Russell  
Plant Research (NZ) Ltd  
(03) 325 7031  
Email: [plantres.nz@xtra.co.nz](mailto:plantres.nz@xtra.co.nz)

Further information on seed availability should be directed to

Martin Reid  
Cates Grain & Seed Ltd.  
[martin@cates.co.nz](mailto:martin@cates.co.nz)  
(03) 3087166

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