



AQIS Registered
Premises No. 4053

ABN: 24 010 778 159

Principal Supplier of Quality Legume Seeds to the Sugar Industry

LEICHARDT SOYBEAN

The pick of the fallow crops

Leichardt Soybean has proven to be the best fallow legume for sugarcane land in North and Central Queensland and is the only variety presently suited to the wet tropics according to the Sugar Yield Decline Joint Venture.

Leichardt has been specially introduced to the sugar growing areas as a beneficial fallow green manure crop, in comparison with Meringa Cowpea, this soybean variety is more tolerant of water logging, produces more dry matter, fixes more nitrogen, and produces greater benefits to the following sugarcane crop. It has the potential of increasing plant cane yields by 15-20%. These facts have emerged from experiments and farmer demonstration areas.



	Dry Matter (kg/ha)	Nitrogen Return (kg/ha)
Broadcast Meringa (a)	3313	50
Planted Meringa (b)	4689	140
Planted Leichardt (b)	7429	310

(a) no herbicide applied.
(b) herbicide applied.
Results from the Sugar Yield Decline Joint Venture Trials

The following photos show a crop of soybean grown in the Babinda area during the fallow using seed supplied by North Queensland Tropical Seeds. This crop has now been worked into the soil and has been followed by a cane crop.



“We planted Leichardt Soybean supplied by North Queensland Tropical Seeds this season and we were impressed with the germination and vigour of the seed supplied. The beans grew into a magnificent green manure crop. One of the best fallow crops we have ever grown.” – Babinda Growers Guido & Romeo Ghidella

For best results Leichardt Soybean should be planted in rows and a pre-emergent herbicide used for weed control. In areas prone to waterlogging it is also necessary to plant on raised beds or hills to avoid the roots being subjected to prolonged wetness. Meringa Cowpea and Dolichos Lablab can also respond well to this method of planting. Seed quality is very important. Growers should purchase top quality seed, which has a germination of over 80% and has been dried well and stored in cool dry conditions. Seed exposed to high moisture and excessive heat conditions will rapidly deteriorate. Seed should be planted at 25mm – 50mm deep into soil. Planting too deep or in too dry soil may affect the germination and result in a poor strike.

PLANTING RATE – LEICHARDT SOYBEAN

Row Planting - recommended rate is approx 50kg/ha

Broadcasting - recommended rate is approx 75kg/ha

An average seed rate required for Leichardt Soybean is approximately 250,000 to 300,000 plants per hectare. North Queensland Tropical Seeds on average, supplies seed with a count of approximately between 5200 to 6400 seeds per kilogram. A well grown Soybean seed crop should produce large, quality seed with good vigour. All soybean seed is packed in 25kg bags and labeled with minimum purity, minimum germination and with the number of seeds/kg for calculating the seeding rate.

INOCULATING LEICHARDT SOYBEAN

If soybean has not previously been planted in the proposed paddock, inoculation is essential to ensure the crop nodulates and produces its own nitrogen. One packet of inoculant will coat 100kg of seed. Instructions for application are printed on the inoculant packet. Group H inoculant should be used for soybean.

STORAGE OF SOYBEAN

It is essential that Soybean is well stored prior to planting and protected from rodents and insects. North Queensland Tropical Seed has specialised seed storage facilities including a seed coldroom which are AQIS Registered, the aim is to maximise quality prior to dispatch. Growers can order their seed early in the season from their bean seed supplier and North Queensland Tropical Seeds will store the seed until it is needed for planting or until late October, this ensures that the industry gets the best possible planting seed. Growers are encouraged to place their bean orders with their suppliers early this season to avoid missing out as stocks sell quickly.



North Queensland Tropical seeds specialises in the production, commercial grading, processing and wholesaling of premium quality Tropical Pasture Seeds, Legumes and Grains. It prides itself in consistently providing the Sugar Industry with the best quality legume seed, stored in the best quality conditions every season. The Proprietors have supplied seed to the sugar industry for over 20 years and were amongst the first seed producers to grow Leichardt soybean for commercial sale to the sugar growing areas. North Queensland Tropical Seeds supplies seed to both the domestic and export market.

*** Sugar growers can purchase Leichardt Soybean, Stuart Soybean, Meringa & Ebony Cowpea, Highworth Dolichos & Rongai Dolichos from their local seed supplier who handles North Queensland Tropical Seeds product.**

**For more information or suppliers
in your district phone:
(07) 4093 3743 / 0409 637 044**

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