

AP2

AP2 FORAGE PEA

- **Medium height, medium to late maturing.**
- **Good tolerance to powdery mildew and resistance to psbmv.**
- **Flowering normally commences at 19-20 nodes, and 2 flowers are produced per node.**

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/m². 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.

	Flat pod	Pod fill
% 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	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

Nutritional analysis conducted by the Analytical Services Unit, Lincoln University, Canterbury, New Zealand