

# Babala

## Cultivar characteristics



<b>BOTANICAL NAME</b>		<i>Pennisetum glaucum</i>
<b>TYPE</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sub-tropical/Tropical Grass</li> </ul>
<b>PRODUCTION PERIOD</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual, Summer</li> </ul>
<b>MORPHOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Erect, robust, with tillers, 1.5 – 3.5 m tall</li> <li>• Leaf blade is glabrous or hairy; linear to linear-lanceolate; flat; 20 – 100 cm x 8 – 80 mm</li> <li>• Cylindrical or conical shaped seeds; 2 - 3 mm long; white, pearl-coloured to blue-grey or brown; 50 000 – 70 000 seeds/kg</li> </ul>
<b>CROP</b>	<b>Strengths:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adapted to low fertility soils</li> <li>• Does not cause prussic acid poisoning, good grazing</li> <li>• Good drought tolerance</li> </ul>
	<b>Feeding value:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crude protein: 8 - 17 %</li> <li>• Digestibility: 52 – 58 %</li> </ul>
	<b>Production potential:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dry matter production: 5 – 18 t/ha/annum</li> </ul>
	<b>Uses:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grazing, silage</li> </ul>
	<b>Soil requirements:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Widely adapted to most soil types, avoid waterlogging</li> <li>• pH range of 5.5 – 7.5</li> </ul>
	<b>Establishment:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plant during October – December</li> <li>• Seeding rate of 8 – 15 kg/ha dryland and 15 – 25 kg/ha irrigated</li> </ul>

\*Variety submitted for registration (where indicated). The photo in this document only indicates the kind and not the specific variety. Technical variety information provided in this document is applicable to climatic conditions in RSA. For final cultivar recommendations in your area contact your area representative.

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