

STEPS TO SUCCESS

Like any good production system planning and organisation greatly enhances your chance of success. Following are a few key questions to assist in this planning process.

1. PLAN

- ⇒ What is my production goal (meat/milk/progeny)?
- ⇒ When do I need the feed?
- ⇒ What are my climatic patterns?
- ⇒ What species will fit my demand and climate?

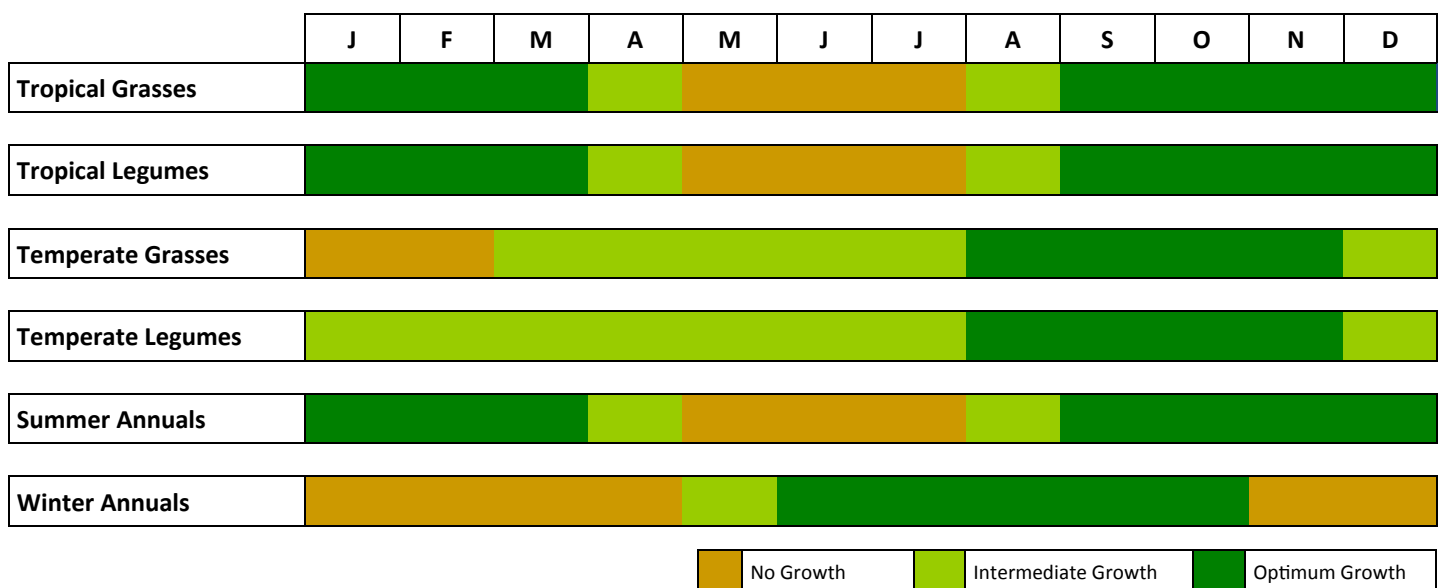
2. PLANTING

- ⇒ What type of planter suits my soil/species?
- ⇒ Is my temperature and moisture correct for species?
- ⇒ How do I ensure seed to soil contact?
- ⇒ What is an adequate planting rate?

3. GRAZING OR CUTTING

- ⇒ When is my forage ready for grazing/cutting?
- ⇒ What is the optimum growth stage to graze/cut?
- ⇒ How long to graze for/how low to graze/cut?

FORAGE PRODUCTION GUIDE



Production guides are based on Southern Queensland averages. Variation will occur with geographic location, management and climate.

Graphs represent the peak growth periods for each species group. Quality is not uniformed with continued growth. Generally the highest quality forage in perennial grasses and legumes is achieved at 10 percent seed head emergence (grasses) and 10 percent flowering (legumes).

For annual crops these times vary according to species. Peak quality of feed is also the best time to store crops as hay or silage in order to use the forage at another time.