Management / Agronomy
All genotypes of digit grass are tolerant of heavy grazing. Regular grazing is necessary to maintain quality and to minimise disease incidence with best results if the grass is maintained between 10-15 and 30-40 cm, although this may not be feasible under sheep grazing. Ideally, it should be grazed every 2-3 weeks.

Pest / Disease Resistance
No major diseases have been found to affect Premier Digitaria. Leaves however can be affected by a rust in humid environments, and seed heads by a false smut during prolonged wet weather. Insects pests include spittlebugs (Tomaspis flavopicta, T. humeralis, Prosapia bicincta), rhodes grass mealy bug (Antonina graminis), chinch bug (Blissus leucopterus), sugar-cane aphid (Sipha flava), army worms (Laphигра spp., Spodoptera spp. and Mocis spp.), mole crickets and leafhoppers.

Performance
DM yields vary with fertility, genotype, and environmental and management conditions, but normally range from about 10-20 t/ha.

Animal Production
An excellent species for beef and milk production. N fertilized pasture can produce >1,000 kg/ha/yr LWG and 6,000 kg/ha/yr milk, with stocking rates of 2.5-7.5 animals/ha.

Toxicity: No record of toxicity. Contains low levels of soluble oxalate and therefore has low risk of causing oxalate-related animal health problems, i.e. suitable for horses and lactating cows.

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Establishment
Recommended planting rates for AgricOTE Pro-Tech for Premier Digitaria are:
Marginal Dryland:  4 - 6Kg per Hectare
Good Dryland:  8 - 12Kg per Hectare
Irrigated:  12-15Kg per Hectare
Sowing depth:  2-3mm
Requires a fine, firm, clean seedbed for establishment, to avoid competition in the early stages. Seed is slightly hairy and may not flow readily through some planting equipment, so the use of AgricOTE Enhanced seed is recommended.

Disclaimer: The information provided in this brochure is from official and other sources and is considered to be reliable. It is provided in good faith and every care has been taken to ensure its accuracy. Heritage Seeds does not accept any responsibility for the consequences that may arise from the acceptance of recommendations or the suggestions made.

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