



330mm-650mm+

5.0-8.0

Most Well Drained

Group E

Performance:

RM 4 can be successfully grown, like other woolly pod varieties in many soil types. RM 4 performs better in grain productions than other woolly pod varieties when season finishes sharply.

V. villosa Woolly Pod Vetch	Year				Mean for 4 years	% of Capello
	2008	2009	2010	2011		
Capello	5.85	6.07	6.57	6.16	6.16	100
Haymaker	6.18	6.15	7.96	6.53	6.71	109
Popany	4.77	5.01	7.5	5.76	5.76	94
RM4	6.78	6.17	7.52	6.49	6.74	109

Disease / Pest Resistance:

RM 4 is moderately resistant to ascochyta blight. It is susceptible in early growth stages to red-legged earth mite and alfalfa flea, like other woolly pod vetch varieties. Also, RM 4 is susceptible to blue-green and cowpea aphids from early growth through to pod maturity, as well as to native budworm during pod formation and filling.

Key Features:

- Best early vigour of all lines in SARDI research trials
- Long term average dry matter yield 108% of Capello
- Early maturity, it can be cut for hay 10-15 days earlier than current varieties
- Good frost tolerance in international testing
- Soft Seeded
- Multipurpose variety- can be used for hay/silage, grazing & green/brown manure.

Description:

RM 4 woolly pod vetch has better early establishment than present varieties (in 45 days form 3-5 nodes). It is earlier in flowering and grain/seed maturity, up to 10-15 days earlier than Haymaker/Capello. RM 4 is a soft seeded variety. It was selected and released as a new woolly pod variety for dry matter and seed production in areas of rainfall <380mm/yr as well in higher rainfall areas >400-650mm/yr.

Establishment:

The recommended planting rate for RM 4 Woolly Pod Vetch is: 15 – 35Kg per Hectare

Sowing rates are related to the end use targeted and rainfall areas. Higher rates are required for hay/silage, grazing and green manure (30-35kg/ha) and 15-20kg/ha used for grain/seed production. Sowing time is the same as other woolly pod vetches.

Management/Agronomy:

Paddock selection and basic requirements for growing RM 4 are similar to other woolly pod vetch varieties. Good control of weeds in early growth stages is very crucial, as it is for other vetch varieties. Vetches are poor competitors to weeds in early growth stages, but when vetch reaches 20-25cm height it is competitive with broadleaf and grassy weeds. Suitable to graze from 15 nodes up to finish of flowering. For hay/silage, cut in full flowering for the best balance of feed value. RM 4, like other vetches is excellent for soil fertility/structure and nitrogen fixation. Turn into soil or desiccate at flowering time.

RM 4 was not sensitive to any herbicides recommended/registered for use in woolly pod vetch varieties.