

LANDMASTER

PHALARIS



500mm - 700mm+



4.2-8.5



Most Soil Types



PBR

KEY FEATURES

- Semi erect to erect, winter active variety
- Adapted to shallow acid soils with low fertility
- Strong seedling vigour – equal to Holdfast
- High winter forage production
- Reduces recharge and helps prevent dryland salinity
- Rotationally graze to maximise productivity



KEY BENEFITS

- Landmaster is renowned for its ability to grow in highly acidic, less fertile conditions, compared with other Phalaris varieties currently available.
- It has been shown to have better persistence than Cocksfoot in low fertility soils, particularly during droughts.
- Landmaster has a moderate level of summer dormancy so it can respond to summer rainfall, potentially providing green feed all year round.

DESCRIPTION

Landmaster (*Phalaris aquatica*) is a semi-erect, winter active variety, suited to moderate rainfall regions. It forms thick dense tufts of wide blue-green leaves that are very palatable to sheep and cattle. Landmaster was selected as a superior replacement for Siroso and is renowned for its ability to grow in more highly acidic, less fertile conditions compared to other Phalaris varieties currently available. It has excellent seedling vigour, which will assist in successful establishment and once established, Landmaster will tolerate periods of waterlogging and inundation.

Landmaster's ability to grow in dry, low fertile soils, extends the range of pasture species available to combat soil degradation. Another major benefit of the deep-root system of Phalaris is that it improves persistence and productivity under drought conditions. It is also useful in reducing recharge zones and helps prevent dry land salinity.

DISEASE RESISTANCE / TOLERANCE

Disease issues are very rare amongst established stands of Phalaris.

PEST RESISTANCE

Phalaris pastures can be seriously damaged by Blue Oat Mites (*Penthaleus major*), Red Legged Earth Mites (*Halotydeus destructor*), Field Crickets (*Teleogryllus commodus*), Pasture Scarabs (*Sericosthis spp.*), Slugs and Snails. Appropriate management of these insects is vital for successful stands, particularly during the establishment period.





VARIETY MANAGEMENT / AGRONOMY

Grazing of newly sown pasture should be avoided until plants have become established. Grazing prior to effective establishment can cause plants to be pulled out, reducing the population and pasture performance. Many older Phalaris varieties have high levels of Alkaloids which can cause Phalaris Toxicity (Phalaris staggers). New varieties such as Landmaster contain low Alkaloid levels in the leaves and therefore provide a safer grazing alternative. However, in areas prone to Phalaris Toxicity, plants should be grazed cautiously in the autumn and early winter. Landmaster can be grown with other legume or grass species to help reduce the risk of illness in livestock. Phalaris Toxicity can affect sheep that are grazing on fresh growth of Phalaris at the break. Stock are at the greatest risk of illness when grazing short, frosted plants; which mainly occurs during the autumn or early winter period. To counteract this potential problem, Cobalt bullets can be orally administered to stock and also ensure stock are not hungry when introduced to lush, green feed. The greatest risk to animals is when they are able to ingest a high level of herbage in a short period of time. Toxicity levels in the plant increases if plants are subject to stresses such as drought and frost.

Once stands are established, it is recommended that you follow the points below to maximise the benefits and persistence from your Phalaris stands:

- Lime acid surface soils if CaCl₂ extractable Al is 8+ppm
- Sow Landmaster rather than any other cultivar if Al is marginal
- Apply superphosphate if Olsen P is 8ppm or less
- Graze winter active cultivars rotationally with 4–6 week spells in autumn–winter
- Whilst rotational grazing is BMP, Landmaster allows for set stocking
- Do not heavily graze new stems from summer regrowth
- Clean up stem residues in summer to increase clover germination and growth

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