




## ZIMBABWE


# PASTURES

## SSH 421

<b>BOTANICAL NAME</b>		<i>Avena sativa</i>
<b>TYPE</b>		• Temperate, Forage cereal
<b>PRODUCTION PERIOD</b>		• Annual, Winter & spring
<b>MORPHOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION</b>		• Erect, tufted grass, 1.0 – 1.5 m tall • Leaf blade is flat, narrow and veined; taper to a fine point; rolled in bud; 15 – 30 cm x 0.6 – 1.2 cm • Long, narrow yellow, brown seeds; 0.6 – 1 cm; 35 000 - 75 000 seeds/kg
<b>CROP</b>	<b>Strengths:</b>	• Highly palatable grazing • Dual purpose crop
	<b>Feeding value:</b>	• Crude protein: 7 – 8 % • Digestibility: 70 %
	<b>Production potential:</b>	• Dry matter production: 5 – 8 t/ha/annum
	<b>Uses:</b>	• Grazing, hay, silage, companion crop & winter cover crop
	<b>Soil requirements:</b>	• Widely adapted to most soil conditions, avoid waterlogged soils • pH range of 5.5 – 7.0
	<b>Establishment:</b>	• Plant during January – April; April – May • Seeding rate of 40 – 50 kg/ha dryland and 75 – 100 kg/ha irrigated



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