



PASTURE:
**BLUE BUFFEL
MOLOPO**

Cenchrus ciliaris

**PRODUCTION
POTENTIAL:**

- Dry matter production: 2 – 9 t/ha/annum

TYPE

- Sub-tropical, Grass

**PRODUCTION
PERIOD**

- Perennial, Summer

STRENGTHS:

- Tolerant to drought, disease, and heavy grazing
- Palatable with high nutritive value
- High leaf production, recovers rapidly after defoliation

**FEEDING
VALUE:**

- Crude protein:- 4-10 %
- Digestibility: 44-54 %

USES:

- Permanent pasture, hay and silage

**SOIL
REQUIREMENTS:**

- Prefers deep, freely drained, sandy loam, loam and clay loam soils
- pH range of 7 –8

ESTABLISHMENT:

- Plant during October – March
- Seeding rate of 5 – 7 kg/ha

**MORPHOLOGICAL
DESCRIPTION**

- Tufted tussock-forming, grows up to 0.5 – 1.6 m tall
- Stoloniferous, rhizomatous
- Leaf blade is distinctively grey, linear; 3 – 30 cm x 2 – 13 mm; mostly glabrous
- Ovoid shaped seed; 1.4 – 2 mm; 400 000 seeds/kg