



Key Features

- Resistant to Rust and tolerant to Ascochyta
- Replacement for current varieties in areas with average rainfall above 300mm
- Soft seeded, non-shattering
- Suitable for green manuring and grazing
- Vigorous early plant growth and good grazing palatability

Key Benefits

- Morava produces more dry matter than other common vetches while still providing high grain yields, providing greater options for grazing, green manure, hay or grain.
- The combination of soft seed, high disease resistance and dry matter production make Morava the best vetch option for areas receiving greater than 300mm annual rainfall.

Description

In the early stages of growth, Morava has reddish leaves and shoots which later turn dark green in colour. It has red/purple flowers and the seed coat is dark brown with beige coloured cotyledons. This compares with Blanchefleur which has light green shoots and leaves, white flowers, smooth light brown seed coat, and orange cotyledons. Morava has shown to produce longer shoots and much larger leaves than Blanchefleur and Languedoc.

Disease Resistance/Tolerance

Current Vetch varieties, Blanchefleur and Languedoc, are very susceptible to Rust, (caused by *Uromyces viciafabea*), and Ascochyta blight, (caused by *Ascochyta spp.*). Morava however is resistant to Rust and tolerant to Ascochyta. In screen field and glass house tests since 1992, Morava has been resistant to showing any pustules, whereas Blanchefleur and Languedoc were susceptible, showing pustules on stems and leaves. Morava will replace current Vetch varieties for grain and herbage production in areas where Rust occurs.

Pest Resistance

Morava, as with all common Vetch varieties, is susceptible to Red Legged Earth Mites (*Halotydeus destructor*), Native Budworm (*Helicoverpa punctigera*) and Lucerne Flea (*Sminthurus viridis*). Appropriate control measures should be taken, especially in seedling stands.

Variety Management/Agronomy

Regeneration Morava has 90-95% soft seed. This is a significant advantage in the reduction of volunteer vetch plants for following seasons for short term cropping rotations. Morava pods demonstrate a longer non shattering period compared to other Common Vetch varieties such as Blanchefleur and Languedoc, meaning that seed harvest can be delayed slightly without suffering from a significant yield penalty.

Grazing Vetch is not suited to close grazing as its growing points are well above ground level. However, in longer season environments, Morava can be lightly grazed successfully during winter and early spring, provided the growing points are not damaged. Heavy grazing can cause significant damage to the plant and it may not recover. Bloat can be a problem on pure legume stands and stock will have to be watched carefully if grazing green Vetch paddocks.