

Congosignal grass (*Brachiaria ruziziensis*)

Zones: All Zones

Varieties: DBRS-1, DBRS-7

Soil Type: Well drained upland soils rich in organic matter should be selected

Land Preparation: One ploughing by mould board plough, followed by 2-3 harrowing and planking are sufficient to prepare the land

Time of planting: As congosignal is a perennial grass the first year is an establishment year. Planting can be started from March with the onset of pre-monsoon showers and can be continued up to July to get good yield in the first year. The crop can be continued up to five years.

Spacing: Row to row: 50 cm; Plant to plant: 50 cm

Rooted slips requirement: 40,000/ha (5000/bigha)

Manures and fertilizers: Apply compost or FYM @ 5t/ha or 7q/bigha

Nutrient	Requirement (kg/ha)	Form of fertilizer	Fertilizer	
			kg/ha	kg/bigha
N	120	Urea	264	35
P ₂ O ₅	50	SSP	313	42
K ₂ O	30	MOP	50	7

Nitrogenous fertilizer @ 40 kg/ha should be applied as basal and the rest amount of nitrogenous fertilizer should be applied @ 20 kg/ha after each cut. The entire quantities of phosphatic and potassic fertilizer along with the first split of nitrogen are to be applied as basal dressing. 25 % chemical fertilizer can be saved when both FYM + vermicompost is applied @ 2.5 t/ha.

Intercultural Operation:

Intercultural operations in the form of light hoeing are necessary at 30-35 days of planting and also after each cut.

Irrigation:

First irrigation should be applied immediately after planting if a dry spell prevails. Subsequent irrigation will depend upon rainfall.

Number of cuttings:

First cut is to be taken at 60-65 days after planting and subsequent cut at an interval of 40-45 days.

Green Forage Yield: 110-120 t/ha