

Fertilization

Responds well to fertilizer application despite being adapted to acid infertile soils. Dry Matter yield increases from 5 to 9 t/ha when manure application is also introduced. In low fertility soils, produces an almost linear response to N fertilizer up to 240 kg/ha.

An application of 50kg/acre of complete fertilizer before planting is recommended in tropical climate. This is followed by a second application at 7 months of age to boost up foliage production before harvesting.



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Ministry of Agriculture
Livestock Unit
Central Farm, Cayo District

Nacedero

(*Trichanthera Gigantea*)



Tel: 832-8187

Description

Nacedero (*Trichanthera Gigantea*) is a multipurpose, versatile tree native of South America that thrives in a wide range of tropical ecosystems. It is used for fodder for pigs, rabbits and ruminants.

Is a small to medium sized shrub, generally about 5 m high but it can grow to a height of 12-15 m.

It can be cultivated from sea level up to 2000 m. It grows on a wide range of soils, including those that are acidic and infertile with a pH as low as 4.5. *Trichanthera Gigantea* does better where average temperatures are high (around 30°C) and where annual rainfall is in the range of 1500 mm to 3000 mm. It can grow in places where rainfall is lower (1000 mm), but then it drops its leaves during dry periods.

Establishment

Generally established from stem cuttings that strike roots easily. Cuttings 1 cm in diameter, 8 inches long and with at least 2 leaf buds are most effective in striking roots (92% of cuttings). Larger and longer cuttings are less successful. Cuttings should be selected from the basal part of young stems. Germination rate has been improved by storing cuttings in a shaded place for one day prior to planting into a nursery bed. Cuttings produce shoots in about one month and can be planted into the field after about 50 days. Spacing vary from 3 to 5 ft. apart

Crude Protein

Trichanthera Gigantea content ranges from **12-22%**

Utilization

Not recommended for grazing. It is best used with the cut and carry system where the stem/leaves are cut/grind and taken to the livestock directly or mixed with other forages to achieve the necessary daily nutrient requirements. *Trichanthera Gigantea* is best when harvested at 8 months after planting to obtain the maximum nutrient for your livestock.

Strengths

- Relatively high nutritive quality
- Shade tolerant
- Relatively high DM production in acid-infertile soils

Limitations

- Poor low temperature tolerance
- Poor dry season growth