

Register of Australian Herbage Plant Cultivars

B. Legumes

13. Vetch

c. *Vicia sativa* L. (common vetch)

cv. Nyabing

Reg. No. B-13a-3

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Origin

Developed by selection from a seed sample introduced under the name *Vicia angustifolia* from the Department of Agriculture, Cyprus, in 1946, and given the CPI number 10005A. Mr. E.T. Bailey, CSIRO, selected it on the basis of comparative trials as the best of the vetches introduced up to the end of 1946 (1). Seed was multiplied and it gradually infiltrated into commercial use in Western Australia. It was subjected to further testing in 1957-59 and was named in 1959 (2).

Morphological description (2)

Similar in habit to Languedoc, though the leaves and leaflets are a little smaller; primary leaflets 2.5 cm long and about 0.15 as wide, secondary leaflets 1.8 cm long and about 0.15 as wide, secondary leaflets 1.8 cm long and 0.25 as wide. The grain is somewhat browner than Languedoc, pale yellow and orange mixed in fracture (2); it is also a little smaller with approximately 16 300 seeds/kg.

Agronomic characters

Slightly later flowering (16 September at Kojonup, W.A.) than Languedoc (2) but matures 10 days later (3). It is best suited to the 400-460 mm rainfall zone in south-western Australia but its usefulness extends over the 355-635 mm range (3). The yields of Nyabing are significantly lower than those of Languedoc (2), particularly in lower rainfall areas. Like Languedoc it nodulates satisfactorily with *Rhizobium* strain TA101, which is contained in Australian commercial inoculant 'E'.

References

1. Bailey, E.T. (1952). Vetches and other large-seed legumes in south-western Australia. CSIRO. Aust. Div. Plant. Ind. Tech. Pap. No. 1.
2. Bailey, E.T. (1965). Yield trials of *Vicia sativa* L. in the wheat belt of Western Australia. *Aust. J. Exp. Agric. Anim. Husb.* **5**, 466-9.
3. Poole, M.L. (1969). Vetches for the cereal growing areas. *J. Agric. West. Aust.* **10**(4th Ser.). 15-17.