Pigeon pea (*Cajanus cajan*) for livestock feed on small-scale farms

**Objective**
To provide high quality feed for livestock in lowland arid areas

**Description**
- Short lived perennial shrub with deep root system
- Food legume with leaves used as forage
- Very drought tolerant
- Good for restoration of soil fertility and intercropping with cereals (sorghum, millets) and legumes (cowpea and groundnut)
- Adapted to a wide range of low fertility soils

**Limits of use**
- Not adapted to areas over 2000 masl with frost
- Does not tolerate heavy grazing or low coppicing
- Not suited to waterlogged areas
- Not relished by cattle in the immature stage

**Performance**
Expect about 20 t/ha dry matter and up to 40 t/ha with application of fertilizer. High quality leaf with 10–15% crude protein

**For further information, contact**
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**Management**

**Field preparation**—ploughed field or sown in holes in zero tillage

**Establishment**—direct sowing at 3 cm depth or transplant seedlings in hedgerows at 1 m spacing between plants and 2 m spacing between rows

**Fertilizer**—apply 100 kg DAP or manure per hectare

**Weeding**—slow seedling establishment phase, weed once at the fourth week after establishment and at regular intervals throughout the first year

**Harvesting**—cut at 0.8 m after grain harvest