

Assessing Creeping Vigna (*Vigna parkeri*) lines in Far North Queensland



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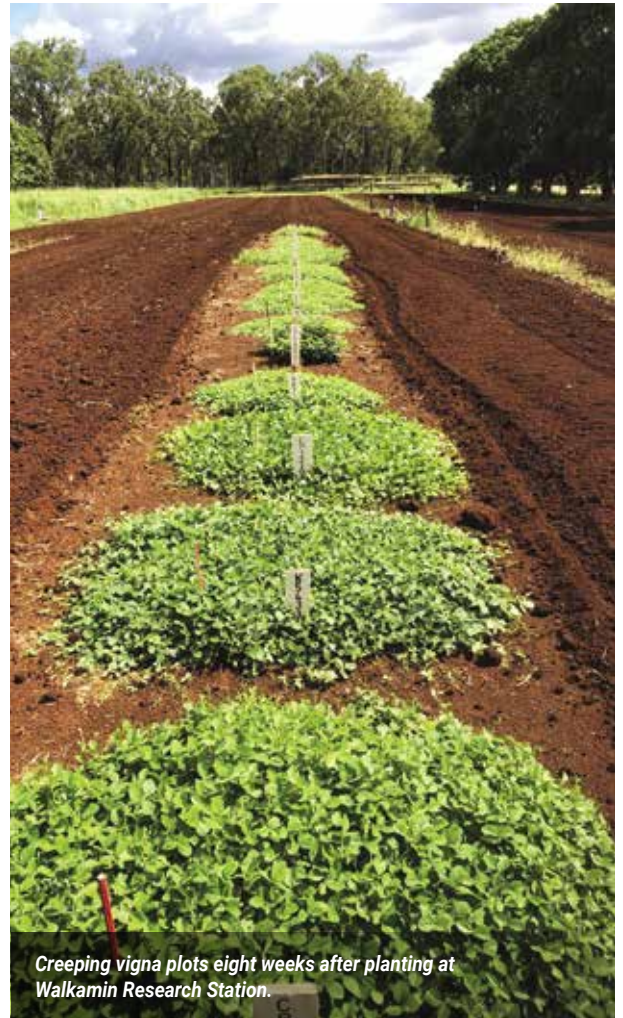
In recent times, the commercial availability of affordable creeping vigna seed has been unreliable and sporadic. To address this problem, the Subtropical Dairy Far North Queensland Regional Group in conjunction with Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Queensland (DAF) recently initiated a project at Walkamin Research Station (WRS). The purpose of the project is to evaluate the seed production potential of 17 previously unreleased creeping vigna (*Vigna parkeri*) lines from the Australian Pastures Genebank.

The 17 creeping vigna lines have been planted out in plots and monitored regularly for plant growth, flowering times, seed set and eventually seed yield. To gain insight into the variation in seed production throughout the year, two planting times were researched. The first plots at WRS were planted on 9th February, 2021 and the second lot of plots on 25th May, 2021. Creeping vigna lines planted in mid-February took a month to become fully established. By mid-April, 2021 it was clear that two lines were out-performing the others based on their great coverage, dense canopy, presence of flowering and seed production. At this time, only six out of the 17 lines had produced flowers and seeds.

The photos show some of the experimental lines growing at WRS. An industry field day including a field walk, project update and discussion will be held on Wednesday 14th July 2021. ■■

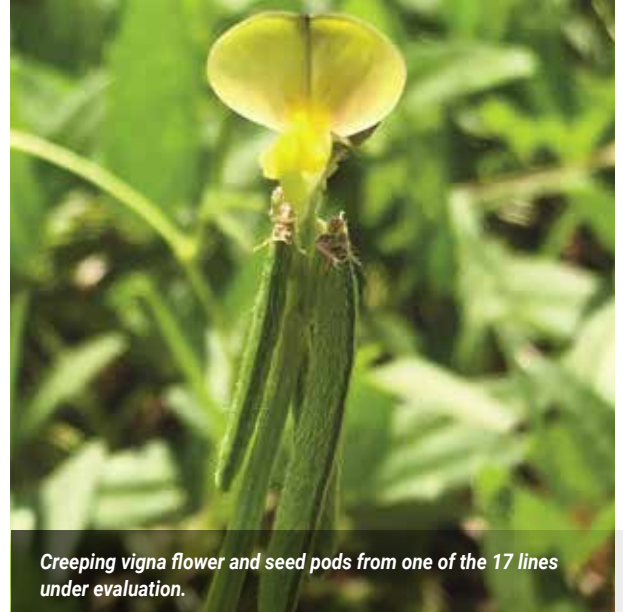


Creeping vigna seedlings in the glasshouse approximately six weeks prior to the second planting on 25th May, 2021.



Creeping vigna plots eight weeks after planting at Walkamin Research Station.

Two lines were out-performing the others based on their great coverage, dense canopy, presence of flowering and seed production.



Creeping vigna flower and seed pods from one of the 17 lines under evaluation.

For further information or to RSVP for the field walk, please contact Jo Srhoj on 0458 065 695 or jo@subtropicaldairy.com.au