

# Seeking commercialisation partner: New highly productive Caatinga stylos

**The Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) and Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) have identified superior, persistent, drought resilient, highly productive, disease tolerant new Caatinga stylo accessions.**



## The problem

Pasture legumes are the best long-term option to increase productivity and profitability from both rundown sown grass pastures and native pastures for large parts of Australia.

Increasing nitrogen levels by adding legumes is a sustainable and economical option for increasing graziers' productivity.

There is currently no commercially available, summer growing legume for light textured soils (i.e., sands and loams) that is suited to southern inland Queensland. Frosty winters are too cold for most tropical legumes. Unreliable winter rain means that most years are too dry for temperate annual legumes to produce high yields.



## The solution

Superior Caatinga stylo accessions that are persistent and productive in the frosty climate of southern inland Queensland have been identified.

These superior accessions have averaged 40-70% higher yield than the best performing commercial varieties. They are widely adapted and have produced good yields at five trial sites across southern Queensland. They have good persistence (>20 years at trial site), drought tolerance, frost tolerance, disease tolerance, wide soil adaptation and good recruitment.



## Where is it up to?

Accessions have been evaluated at five trial sites across southern Queensland for nine years including four years of severe drought. Disease tolerance and rhizobia inoculant effectiveness have been tested.



## The opportunity

DAF and MLA are seeking a commercial partner to commercialise new Caatinga stylo (*Stylosanthes seabrana*) varieties for use by graziers in southern Queensland as well as more broadly across northern Australia. Three accessions have been shortlisted for release as new varieties and have provisional Plant Breeders Rights protection.

**Interested parties should contact Dr Allan Peake (MLA Program Manager) for a copy of the full EOI guidelines. Initial interest must be registered via email by 5pm AEST on 22 November 2024. The closing date for full EOI proposals is 5pm AEST on 31st January 2025.**

## More information

For more information or to register your interest in the new product, please contact:

**Allan Peake**  
MLA Program Manager – Sustainable Feedbase Resources  
M: +61 429 881 137  
Email: [apeake@mla.com.au](mailto:apeake@mla.com.au)