

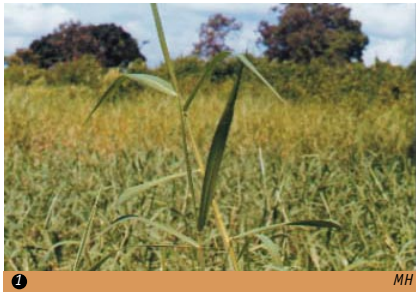
Other potentially useful forages

The following potentially useful forage species are only for special situations, or have yet to be proven in smallholder farming systems:

Grasses

***Brachiaria mutica* 'Para' ①**

It is common throughout the region in poorly drained and flooded soils. In Thailand it is grown for dairy cattle in paddy fields which were previously growing lowland rice. It is not suited for drier conditions.



***Digitaria milanjiana* 'Jarra' ②**

It is a low-growing, stoloniferous, perennial grass with soft leaves. It is best suited to areas with a short dry season. Its adaptation is similar to that of *Brachiaria decumbens* and is of particular interest because it can be fed to sheep, goats and young cattle.



***Paspalum guenoarum* 'Bela Vista' ③**

It is very similar to *P. atratum*. It is less productive, but has softer leaves and is very palatable. It is not suited to very high rainfall areas where it is susceptible to leaf spot fungus.



***Stenotaphrum secundatum* 'Vanuatu' ④**

It is a strongly stoloniferous grass suitable for grazed plots in moderate shade. Smallholder farmers in Vanuatu use it extensively in grazed pastures under coconuts. It is adapted to the humid tropics with no or only a short dry season, and grows best in soils with high organic matter. Its feeding value is slightly lower than that of *B. humidicola*. 'Vanuatu' produces no viable seed but is easily propagated by stolons. Here grown with 'Amarillo'.



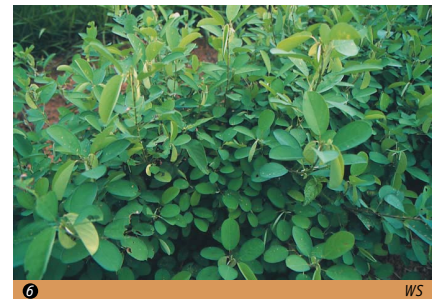
Legumes

***Centrosema pascuorum* 'Cavalcade' ⑤**

It is an annual, twining legume which may be used as a cover crop or fallow species. Its adaptation is similar to that of *Macroptilium gracile* (see below). In Thailand it is used for making hay.

***Codariocalyx gyroides* 'Belize' ⑥**

It is a short-lived (3-4 years), small woody shrub which is very similar to *Desmodium cinerea* (previously *D. rensonii*). 'Belize' grows best in the wet tropics and can tolerate waterlogging.

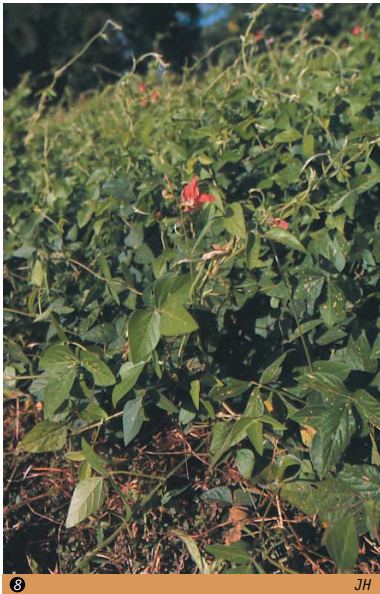


Other potentially useful forages



***Flemingia macrophylla* 'Chumphon' ⑦**

It is a long-lived, large woody shrub. 'Chumphon' is the most leafy and productive variety available. *F. macrophylla* is one of the very few shrub legumes which will grow well on very infertile, acid soils. It is best suited to the wet tropics. Leaves are not readily eaten by animals, since they contain high levels of tannins. Goats will eat leaves of *F. macrophylla* if they are mixed with other feed. Cut branches are useful for improving soil fertility, since leaves break down slowly in the soil.



***Macroptilium gracile* 'Maldonado' ⑧**

'Maldonado' is a short-lived (1-2 years), twining legume that is particularly vigorous for the first few months after sowing. It is an excellent short-term cover crop and can be used for grazing in mixtures with grasses. 'Maldonado' can be grown in a wide range of soils, including infertile and sandy soils. A special feature is that it survives waterlogging and short-term flooding.

***Sesbania grandiflora* 'Turi' ⑨**

It is a fast growing, short-lived (3-5 years), single-stemmed tree. It is a high-quality feed supplement, especially for the dry season, but leaf yields are low. It is well adapted to areas with a long dry season but needs moderate soil fertility. 'Turi' dies if the main stem is cut but side branches can be trimmed regularly. Local varieties are available in many parts of Southeast Asia.



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***Stylosanthes hamata* 'Verano' ⑩**

A very hardy short-lived (1-2 years) legume for heavily grazed plots in areas with a long dry season. In northeast Thailand it has been oversown along roadsides and vacant areas.



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