It was jointly released by CLIMA and Agriculture Western Australia in August 1998.

Cassab was derived from propagation of a single plant selection from the accession ILL7200 obtained from the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), Aleppo, Syria. ILL7200 is a selection (FLIP92-35L) from a cross made at ICARDA in 1985 between ILL5690 (ex-ICARDA) and ILL5722 (ex-ICARDA; released in Australia as ‘Digger’). ILL5690 was selected from the cross of ILL149 (Turkey) × ILL321 (Hungary), and ILL5722 was selected from the cross of ILL883 (Iran) with ILL470 (Syria).

In 1995, ILL7200 was screened for suitability to Western Australian conditions at the Dryland Institute, Merredin Western Australia (WA) in a single row plot. Plants were selected from this row for uniformity and performance characteristics to develop Cassab. Further selection and multiplication was carried out at the Cunderdin Agricultural College WA and in New Zealand in 1996 and 1997.

Cassab was tested in more than 30 comparative and agronomic trials at various regional locations in WA, South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland between 1996 and 1998. It outyielded all cultivars tested at most locations in southern Australia. It flowers earlier than all cultivars tested, beginning at about 90 d after sowing, compared with 93 d for Digger. On average, Cassab produces 10 to 15% greater yield than Digger in WA. Cassab is of similar height and quality to Digger. The plant type is erect, tall and compact with a slender stem. Stem anthocyanins are absent or weak. Leaflets are medium green, medium length (14 mm), alternate and have an oval shape. There are approximately 13 leaflets per leaf. The racis length is medium (34 mm) and the tendril length is short-medium (14 mm). There are usually three flowers per peduncle that are white with purple veins. The pods are bivalve, rhomboid with two ovules. The seed is biconvex with uniform reddish-brown testa, red cotyledons, and large seed size (3.92 g 100^-1 seeds).

Seed of Cassab is maintained and can be obtained for research purposes through the Germplasm Improvement Program, CLIMA, Nedlands, Western Australia, 6009.

K.H.M. Siddique* (1)

References and Notes
1. K.H.M. Siddique, Plant research and Development Service, Agriculture Western Australia, Baron-Hay Court, South Perth, Western Australia, 6151. Registration by CSSA. Accepted 31 Jan. 2000. *Corresponding author (msiddique@agric.wa.gov.au).

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Registration of ‘Chalus’ Lathyrus cicera L.

‘Chalus’ Lathyrus cicera L. (Reg. no. CV-175, PI 612243) was developed by the Centre for Legumes in Mediterranean Agriculture (CLIMA), germplasm evaluation team, Western Australia (WA) and Agriculture Western Australia. It is a lentil cultivar suitable for low and medium rainfall areas of Australia. It was jointly released by CLIMA and Agriculture Western Australia in August 1998.

Chalus was derived from propagation of a single plant selection from the accession ILL7200 obtained from the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), Aleppo, Syria. ILL7200 is a selection (FLIP92-35L) from a cross made at ICARDA in 1985 between ILL5690 (ex-ICARDA) and ILL5722 (ex-ICARDA; released in Australia as ‘Digger’). ILL5690 was selected from the cross of ILL149 (Turkey) × ILL321 (Hungary), and ILL5722 was selected from this single plot for uniformity and performance characteristics to develop Cassab. Further selection and multiplication was carried out at the Cunderdin Agricultural College WA and in New Zealand in 1996 and 1997.

Chalus was tested in more than 30 comparative and agronomic trials at various regional locations in WA, South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland between 1996 and 1998. It outyielded all cultivars tested at most locations in southern Australia. It flowers earlier than all cultivars tested, beginning at about 90 d after sowing, compared with 93 d for Digger. On average, Cassab produces 10 to 15% greater yield than Digger in WA. Cassab is of similar height and quality to Digger. The plant type is erect, tall and compact with a slender stem. Stem anthocyanins are absent or weak. Leaflets are medium green, medium length (14 mm), alternate and have an oval shape. There are approximately 13 leaflets per leaf. The racis length is medium (34 mm) and the tendril length is short-medium (14 mm). There are usually three flowers per peduncle that are white with purple veins. The pods are bivalve, rhomboid with two ovules. The seed is biconvex with uniform reddish-brown testa, red cotyledons, and large seed size (3.92 g 100^-1 seeds).

Seed of Cassab is maintained and can be obtained for research purposes through the Germplasm Improvement Program, CLIMA, Nedlands, Western Australia, 6009.

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References and Notes
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