ONE SOURCE FOR GROWING GREAT RESULTS.

Pasture Options Guide Spring 2018



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Growing Great Results with Farm Source

Productive pasture is key to a successful dairy farm so there's much to consider when choosing seed: annuals, Italians, hybrids, perennial, clover, chicory, plantain...

Your Farm Source team can provide pasture options for you to suit local conditions. Plus, your local TSR can visit to make a recommendation about your pasture options, taking into account the individual factors affecting your farm.

Our TSR's are out on-farm all year round talking with specialists, industry organisations and contractors in the field. They regularly receive information about the best pasture solutions for your area which take into account climate, soil type and the DairyNZ Forage Value Index.

Whether you are renewing pastures post crop or improving existing pasture, we have varieties to suit your situation.

Visit your local Farm Source team in-store, or call us on 0800 731 266.

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PASTURE CONDITION

Pasture Condition Score Tool

There are three types of pasture renewal to consider this spring:

- 1. New pasture ex crop;
- 2. Repairing/undersowing damage caused in wet conditions, and;
- 3. Grass to grass renewal

For the second and third types, the Pasture Condition Score Tool can be useful to help determine what action to take, depending on its condition. Assess each paddock on the farm and give a score from 1 to 5 using the photos and descriptions below. Consider the suggested actions to develop an action plan for each paddock.

Choose the best performing cultivar and endophyte for your farm using DairyNZ's Cultivar Selector Tool – visit **www.dairynz.co.nz/fvi**

For more information, visit www.dairynz.co.nz/pasturerenewal



DESCRIPTION

Whole paddock has dense sward of desired grasses and clovers.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

No action required. Would be happy if whole farm in this state.



DESCRIPTION

Parts of the paddock show signs of low level damage, less vigourous grasses and some weeds.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

Check fertility. Apply summer N to encourage tillering. Paddock probably OK for coming season.



DESCRIPTION

Majority of paddock has low level damage, some weeds, and less vigorous grasses.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

If the pasture is open, undersow with an appropriate ryegrass this spring to thicken it, and keep the weeds out.



DESCRIPTION

Parts of the paddock have severe damage, a lot of weeds and bare ground.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

Either:

- Sow into crop this spring, and plan to follow this with new pasture, or;
- Undersow with Italian, or annual ryegrass in autumn, and plan to renew in following 6-12 months, or;
- Spray-drill the pasture. Spraying out (see page 6) to control the weeds and sowing an appropriate ryegrass.



DESCRIPTION

Entire paddock severely damaged.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

Sow into either a crop or new pasture this spring.

SPRAY OUT AND SOWING TIPS

Spraying out for pasture renewal

A thorough spray out prior to planting your spring pasture can greatly improve the cultivated seedbed and early establishment.

Using the right rate of WeedMaster® TS540, Pulse® Penetrant and a companion herbicide where required will ensure the pasture will get off to a great start.

WEEDMASTER TS540

- A high strength product that is 50% stronger than 360G/L glyphosate formulations.
- Quicker turnaround to graze, cultivate or drill 24 hours for annual weeds and 3 days for perennial weeds.





- Improves penetration and uptake of WeedMaster TS540, especially in spring growing conditions.
- Also aids in the performance of WeedMaster TS540 providing 20 minutes rainfast.

Spraying tips

For grass to grass, graze paddock hard to reduce weed cover. Allow the pasture to freshen up, and spray out with glyphosate at correct label rate. Ensure plants are actively growing and have at least 5-10 cm of green leaf for effective glyphosate absorption.

Hard graze to remove vegetation (refer to label use directions for recommended application to grazing intervals). Direct drill the required quantity of seed.

Where cultivation is required or preferred, leave the paddock for a further seven days after the removal of the vegetation before cultivation commences. This will allow a faster breakdown of root material, making it easier to form a firm seedbed.

Managing weed burden for existing pasture

If you're looking for ways to get more out of your existing land and pasture this season, a herbicide spray programme may be just the solution you need.

Weeds like thistles, pennyroyal, water pepper, willow weed, buttercup, fleabane, hedge mustard and daisy germinate under existing pasture covers. Once pastures are grazed, however, these weed seedlings and small plants are then exposed to sunlight and their growth takes off rapidly which will reduce the amount of quality pasture dry matter (DM) that can be grown productively in future seasons.

The best time to control weeds is between germination and flowering when they are growing fast and are still susceptible to herbicides.

To get the best out of your spray application, graze paddocks before spraying to expose the target weeds, and to reduce clover leaf area which in turn minimises clover damage. Let the paddock freshen for two to three days, and aim to spray as soon as possible thereafter, weather permitting. Observe any witholding periods and restrictions before grazing teated pastures.

Choosing the right product for your specific needs will come down to your weed species range, application method, clover selectivity requirements, timing, seasonality and location.

CONQUEST

 Herbicide for the control of gorse, broom, blackberry and other brushweeds, and for the spot treatment of many broadleaf weeds including ragwort, thistles and docks.



TRIBAL GOLD

 Ultimate selective herbicide for early control of broadleaf weeds in new and established pasture.



Undersowing into existing pasture

Graze hard to remove as much cover as possible.

Sow required seed, graze again 21 days later and keep pasture cover short to allow the establishment of the new grass and clover.

Ideally clovers would not be drilled more than 1cm deep and ryegrass no more than 3cm deep. Sow mixtures at 1cm deep.



Forage Value Index Guiding Farmer Choices

Since 2012, another index as useful as the BW has been evolving. Its purpose is to help farmers choose the best-performing grasses for their dairying region.

The Forage Value Index (FVI) provides a 'star' rating for each cultivar, with five stars being the premier cultivar and one star the poorest.

Like BW for sire selection, the FVI provides farmers with an indication of the likely annual benefits of selecting a ryegrass cultivar based on its performance value, weighted by appropriate economic values for each trait included in the FVI.

Performance values are based on how well a cultivar performs in a trait, relative to older 'genetic base' cultivars such as Nui perennial ryegrass. Economic values are the change in farm operating profit in dollars/ hectare/year for a unit change in the trait.

If all farmers moved from using a three-star perennial ryegrass cultivar to a four- or fivestar perennial ryegrass cultivar, it would contribute an estimated \$160 million/ year extra to the dairy industry through improvements in farm profitability. FVI data comes from the National Forage Variety Trials, which regularly evaluate the dry matter production of cultivars being assessed.

A TOOL FOR ALL FARMERS

The interface between farmers and the FVI is DairyNZ's online Cultivar Selector Tool, which provides a simple five -step process to choose the right cultivar, as illustrated below. Farmers can tailor their cultivar selection based on their region, forage type, endophyte need, tetraploid versus diploid, and heading date.



Access the Cultivar Selector Tool at dairynz.co.nz/fvi.

The SHOGUN advantage

Shogun, with its unique combination of performance and flexibility, overcomes some of the limitations of existing pasture renewal techniques and makes higher rates of renewal a reality.

A common factor stopping farmers renewing more pasture is their high stocking rate (relative to a farm's pasture production), meaning only limited areas of the farm can be taken out of grazing for resowing. Shogun helps resolve this long-standing challenge.

Key benefits from Shogun with NEA for increased pasture renewal:

- Exceptional DM yield Ideal for undersowing
- Fast establishment Winter growth with flexibility

EXCEPTIONAL DM YIELD

Over a 12 month period, Shogun produces more than most perennial ryegrasses in summer and autumn, and in winter and early spring its growth is comparable to an Italian.

FAST ESTABLISHMENT

Shogun's fast establishment is comparable to that of an Italian ryegrass. This means paddocks resown with Shogun are back into the grazing rotation more quickly than those renewed with perennial or other hybrid ryegrasses.

Shogun produces significantly more growth over summer, increasing total feed supply over a 12 month period.

UNDERSOWING

Undersowing can improve thin pastures for 1 - 3 years prior to full renewal. Research has shown over 99% of seeds in the soil on dairy farms are weeds', and these can take over if thin pastures aren't thickened with ryegrass. Shogun is tailor-made for this purpose, with a mix of attributes unlike any other cultivar.

Shogun establishes very rapidly, similar to Italian ryegrass, giving better, more reliable results from undersowing. This is the most important advantage of Shogun compared with undersowing perennial ryegrass, because seedlings must be able to compete well with existing pasture.



Hogan

Hogan is the top performing annual in the industry NFVT trials and has fast establishment and regrowth from grazing which makes it an ideal 6-12 month option.

Key benefits from Hogan:

HIGH VALUE

Hogan establishes rapidly and produces high DM yield, to out yield old (pre-1981) cultivars Moata and Tama by around 1 tDM/ha. The value of this extra cool season feed is \$380/ha*, for an extra seed cost of \$35-45/ha to sow Hogan.

(*\$380/ha or 38c/kgDM value for establishment autumn - spring pasture in the DairyNZ Forage Value Index.)

FAST ESTABLISHMENT

A key part in breeding Hogan was rapid establishment (23% faster than old cultivars Moata and Tama). This provides 'fast feed' in autumn, critical to dairy systems.

Tabu+

Tabu+ is 12-36 month pasture option, and is the only five star ryegrass sitting in both the 'winter feed' and '12 month' categories of the 2018 DairyNZ Forage Value Index.

Key benefits from Tabu+:

HIGH PERFORMANCE

Tabu+ was bred to supersede the best selling Tabu, with significantly higher DM yield. It is nutritious, with explosive establishment speed and superior cool season growth.

UP TO THREE YEAR OPTION

Tabu+ has the flexibility of being sown as a 12 month option, often to clean up weeds, allowing a double spray programme prior to sowing a permanent pasture. Alternatively it can be used for a 2-3 year high performance pasture.

Cocksfoot

Cocksfoot (Dactylis glomerata) is a very persistent perennial grass that tolerates summer dry conditions, moderate soil fertility and insect attack.

- Cocksfoot is used to enhance the growth and persistence of permanent pastures in very dry areas. It also adds variety to the stock diet.
- New fine leaved cocksfoot cultivars are much more compatible with ryegrass, giving better long term pastures.
- Cocksfoot is quite slow to establish and has lower digestibility than most other grasses. Cocksfoot has limited winter growth but good summer growth.

Tall fescue

Tall fescue (Festuca arundinacea) suits some situations but not others. It is a perennial grass more tolerant of hot summers and poorly drained soils than perennial ryegrass.

- Tall fescue is sensitive to soil temperature so must be sown when soil temperatures are above 12°C. It is slower to establish than ryegrass, so it is more important to have a good weed free seedbed.
- In NZ Tall fescue is mainly sown in dry areas for its summer growth and good clover content, performing best on clay soils, where its deeper rooting ability can utilise more soil moisture than ryegrass.
- Tall fescue needs to be grazed at the correct time in spring, more frequently than ryegrass, to prevent a loss of feed quality.
- Tall fescue cannot be sown with ryegrass, as the ryegrass is much faster to establish and will dominate the pasture.
- Sow tall fescue at 20-25 kg/ha with suitable white clovers.



Ryegrass varieties

Perennial Ryegrass

• Excellent base for permanent pasture mix, with good stock palatability and establishes well. The most commonly used permanent pasture grass in New Zealand.

Italian Ryegrass

• Italian ryegrases are natual bi-annuals, they are characterised by a strong establishment and last 1-2 years or longer depending on conditions. Generally more persistent than annual ryegrass.

Annual Ryegrass

• SImilar to an Italian ryegrass with fast establishment, good winter feed growth and feed value which generally persists for 9-12 months.

Diploid vs Tetraploid

The main difference between diploid and tetraploid ryegrass is the number of chromosomes per cell. Diploid ryegrasses have two sets of chromosomes per cell, compared to a tetraploid which has four.

Diploids combine yield and robustness. They have more tillers per plant and due to the lower water content per cell have a higher dry matter per kg of feed and also more energy than tetraploid plants. Most ryegrass and red clovers cultivars are diploid.

Tetraploid ryegrasses are naturally high in sugars which makes them more palatable to livestock and improves intake and production.

Endophyte Types

An endophyte is a fungus found in many grass species including ryegrass. It provides the plant with protection from insects. There are several types of endophytes available, understanding which is more suitable for your farm system will help you to maximise productivity.

Seed Treatment

Seed treatment is the process of coating individual seeds with a mix of chemicals to protect and enhance establishment. The coatings contain insecticide and fungicide to help protect young plants from insect attack and disease and will last approximately six weeks post-sowing. Seed treatment gives good control of low to moderate insect pressure.

Teated seed may not be suitable in all situations or a wider control programme may be required, for more information contact your Farm Source TSR.





Custom mixing

Growing the right pasture, at the right time, in the quantities you need is all part of the spring equation.

We know it takes a great deal of hard work and planning – from your renewal programme and choice of seed, to dealing with a variety of weed types – and we're here to help.

Farm Source can custom mix seed for you using our access to all the seed varieties and expertise from leading seed production companies including Barenbrug Agriseeds, Agricom, PGG Wrightson Seeds, Seed Force, and DLF Seeds.

We'll work to ensure you get the pasture that meets your requirements. Your local TSR can visit to make a recommendation about your pasture options, taking into account the individual factors and environmental situation affecting your farm.

Pasture Packs

Alternatively, we have a range of ready made pasture packs available.

Each of our Farm Source Pasture Packs contain a specialised mix of seed to meet the variations in insect control, climate, soil type, paddock use and farm facilities to deliver the best possible results.

All seed in our Pasture Packs have been cool stored in facilities that exceed industry standards and have been tested to ensure high levels of active endophyte.

Read more on the following pages or contact your local TSR for more information and availability.



GREEN PACK

RYEGRASS TYPE DIPLOID PERENNIAL

ENDOPHYTE OPTIONS NEA2

SEED TREATMENT OPTIONS AGRICOTE TREATED OR BARE

HEADING DATE LATE HEADING +16 DAYS

SOWING RATE Refer to pack label for details Image: Constant and the second seco

The Green Pack is suited to high performing farm systems where both seasonal dry matter (DM) yield and total DM yield are key requirements, along with high feed quality and excellent persistence.

- Trojan NEA2 sets a new standard of DM yield but, most importantly the variety has the ability to produce this growth at the shoulders of the season, in winter/early spring and autumn, when the normal end of season feed pinch can affect production. Trojan is now New Zealand's 'most preferred' perennial ryegrass.
- Trojan contains NEA2 endophyte which supports high animal performance, good control of Argentine stem weevil and pasture mealy bug (provisional rating only) and moderate control of root aphid.
- The Green Pack contains the high performance white clover combination of Kotuku and Weka. Kotuku is a new large leaved clover with exceptional DM yield, and Weka is medium leaved with excellent persistence and tolerance of clover root weevil.

GOLD II PACK	
RYEGRASS TYPE DIPLOID PERENNIAL	LIMITED STOCK
ENDOPHYTE OPTIONS AR37	
SEED TREATMENT OPTIONS AGRICOTE TREATED OR BARE	
HEADING DATE	
MID HEADING +5 DAYS	GOVERNOR A. TREATED 21kg
SOWING RATE Refer to pack label for details	KOTUKU TREATED 2kg
	WEKA TREATED 2kg

The Gold II Pack is suited to most farming systems, helping to provide year round yield and a robust, high feed value pasture.

- Includes Governor AR37 a fine leaved, dense and persistent perennial ryegrass particularly suited to areas affected by porina. It's fine dense habit can help in wet situations, giving more soil protection against treading damage.
- The Gold II pack should not be considered a stand alone defence against porina i.e. persistence is significantly influenced by pasture management.
- AR37 endophyte is not recommended for pasture grazed by deer or horses due to the risk of ryegrass staggers.
- This pack contains the high performance white clover combination of Kotuku and Weka. Kotuku is a new large leaved clover with exceptional DM yield, and Weka is medium leaved with excellent persistence and tolerance of clover root weevil.
- Please note, there is limited stock currently available. Please talk to your local Farm Source team to confirm your requirements.



EMERALD PACK

RYEGRASS TYPE TETRAPLOID PERENNIAL

ENDOPHYTE OPTIONS NEA4

SEED TREATMENT OPTIONS AGRICOTE TREATED OR BARE

HEADING DATE LATE HEADING +19 DAYS

SOWING RATE Refer to pack label for details

WEKA WHITE CLOVER	TREATED	2kg	
KOTUKU WHITE CLOVER	TREATED	1kg	
VISCOUNT -	TREATED	22kg	

The Emerald pack suits farm systems targeting high animal performance providing high quality feed in all seasons particularly early spring.

- This pack contains Viscount, a new tetraploid perennial ryegrass.
- Viscount has very good total DM yield but importantly has improved early spring growth

 a time of year when feed is of the highest value in pastoral systems.
- Viscount has all the features animals love in a pasture: excellent palatability, upright growth for ease of harvest and high quality feed with improved rust tolerance and reduced aftermath heading.
- It contains the NEA4 endophyte, for superior animal performance and improved insect resistance.
- This pack contains the high performance white clover combination of Kotuku and Weka. Kotuku is a new large leaved clover with exceptional DM yield, and Weka is medium leaved with excellent persistence and tolerance of clover root weevil.

BURGUNDY PACK		
RYEGRASS TYPE DIPLOID PERENNIAL		
ENDOPHYTE OPTIONS AR37		
SEED TREATMENT OPTIONS TREATED	BURGUNDY	grasslanz endophyte
HEADING DATE LATE HEADING +20 DAYS		21kg
SOWING RATE Refer to pack label for details	Perend Regres TREATED WRITHE GLOWER TREATED	2kg
	WEKA TREATED	2kg

The Burgundy Pack is suited to dairy farms, where yield advantages can **be realised.** One50 diploid perennial ryegrass provides excellent summer, autumn and winter production with year round quality and palatability.

- Highly productive perennial ryegrass with the ability to stay green under summer stress which exhibits high rust tolerance.
- AR37 endophyte offers the best long-term, natural protection to porina and root aphid. It also provides very good control of Argentine stem weevil larvae while not compromising milk production.

PLATINUM PACK
RYEGRASS TYPE TETRAPLOID/DIPLOID PERENNIAL MIX
ENDOPHYTE OPTIONS NEA4 (VISCOUNT) NEA2 (TROJAN)
SEED TREATMENT OPTIONS AGRICOTE TREATED OR BARE
HEADING DATE
SOWING RATE Refer to pack label for details

READY-MADE PASTURE PACKS

The Platinum Pack is a unique combination of tetraploid and diploid perennial ryegrasses, to provide a balance high palatability, with improved density and persistence.

- Viscount tetraploid ryegrass has all the features animals love in pasture: excellent palatability, upright growth for ease of harvest, high feed quality and reduced aftermath heading.
- Tetraploids don't suit every farm system, so we've added Trojan diploid ryegrass to improve pasture density and pasture persistence. So this tetraploid/diploid mix provides great animal performance with better long term yield.
- Viscount contains NEA4 endophyte, and Trojan NEA2, both providing superior animal performance and good control of insects including Argentine stem weevil.
- The Platinum Pack contains the high performance white clover combination, of Kotuku and Weka. Kotuku is large leaved and very high yielding, and Weka is medium leaved, stoloniferous and very persistent.

WHITE PACK				
RYEGRASS TYPE TETRAPLOID PERENNIAL				
ENDOPHYTE OPTIONS AR37	Ι.			
SEED TREATMENT OPTIONS TREATED OR BARE		WH		7
HEADING DATE LATE HEADING +22 DAYS			TREATED	21kg
SOWING RATE Refer to pack label for details		KOTARE WHITE CLOVER	TREATED	2kg
		WEKA WHITE CLOVER	TREATED	2kg

The White Pack includes Base, a tetraploid perennial ryegrass selected from surviving ryegrasses grown under drought conditions. The AR37 endophyte has excellent persistence and low aftermath heading for better utilisation. Base is the perfect cultivar because it delivers high yields, excellent pasture quality and has a high tiller density.

READY-MADE PASTURE PACKS

TAN PACK

RYEGRASS TYPE DIPLOID PERENNIAL

ENDOPHYTE OPTIONS AR37

SEED TREATMENT OPTIONS TREATED

HEADING DATE MID HEADING +12 DAYS

SOWING RATE Refer to pack label for details

TAN REALET		
Greatest ^{er} Prospect Perennial Ryegrass	TREATED	21kg
KOTARE WHITE CLOVER	TREATED	2kg
WEKA WHITE CLOVIER	TREATED	2kg

The Tan Pack is best suited to a variety of situations from hill country to highly productive dairy pastures. The density of Prospect provides increased persistence under stock pressure. AR37 endophtye provides excellent insect tolerance.

RED PACK	
RYEGRASS TYPE DIPLOID PERENNIAL	
ENDOPHYTE OPTIONS AR37	
SEED TREATMENT OPTIONS TREATED	RED 237
HEADING DATE	
MID HEADING +7 DAYS	Excess means TREATED 21kg
SOWING RATE Refer to pack label for details	KOTARE TREATED 2kg
	WEKA TREATED 2kg

The Red Pack includes Excess, selected for its high yield and persistence which is further enhanced with AR37 endophyte. Excess combines the robustness of a diploid and high yield resulting in an ideal ryegrass for all dairy farms.

CONDITIONS: Cultivars in pack may differ to those listed due to availability at time of mixing. The sale of these goods is made strictly on the basis that Fonterra Farm Source, RD1 Limited and the vendor of the goods disclaim all liability, whether express or implied and whether in contract, tort or otherwise, for any loss, damage, claim or injury arising from the result produced by the goods or any failure of the goods to produce a desired result where such result or failure is attributable to any act or omission of the purchaser or any factor beyond the control of Fonterra Farm Source, RD1 Limited or the vendor, including without limitation, purchaser negligence, the storing and sowing of the seed, time of sowing, cultivation, soil conditions, weather conditions, third party intervention and all acts of God. If Fonterra Farm Source, RD1 Limited or the vendor of the goods is found to have any form of liability for any breach of any obligations imposed on them by law, then the purchaser agrees that liability is limited to replacement of such goods or damages not exceeding the original retail price of the goods. Fonterra Farm Source, RD1 Limited and the vendor shall not be liable for any consequential, indirect or special damages or loss of any kind whatsoever including without limitation loss of profits, whether arising from the goods, the result produced or intended to be produced, or from any other cause whatsoever. For specific advice in relation to your farm needs, please consult your local Fonterra Farm Source Technical Sales Rep.