



# Handbook

## Recommended Grass and Clover Lists for England and Wales



# 2023/24





# Recommended Grass and Clover Lists

## – who are they for?

**Knowing the performance characteristics of grass and clover is immensely useful for grassland producers. It allows appropriate selection of varieties that will perform well under a particular system.**

The Recommended Grass and Clover Lists for England and Wales are drawn up after rigorous testing for attributes such as yield, persistency, quality and disease resistance. The data come from trials carried out by the NIAB, Barenbrug, IBERS, DLF Seeds, DSV, AFBI and SRUC, and are evaluated by a panel of experts.

The scheme has changed – it is no longer partially funded by merchants, which means the data are available to all. The testing is funded by plant breeders through the British Society of Plant Breeders and the ruminant levy boards Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board and Hybu Cig Cymru. Herbage trials are organised and coordinated by the NIAB on behalf of BSPB.

There are three steps to making the best use of this booklet:

- 1. Is it on the list?** – when looking at mixtures check that the varieties are listed in this booklet
- 2. Is it right for the job?** – make sure the type of grasses or clovers listed in a mixture are fit for the purpose
- 3. Which varieties fit the job?** – refinements can be made to mixtures in consultation with your merchant

*This booklet is produced for use in England and Wales. Farmers in Scotland should consult the Scottish recommended grass and clover varieties list.*





# Why are grass and clover important?

---

**The cost of production per litre of milk or kg of liveweight gain is a major consideration for all livestock producers. One of the best ways to reduce costs is to produce more forage on the farm rather than buying feed in.**

There is huge potential on grassland farms in England and Wales to increase the amount and quality of the grass and clover that is grown and eaten.

As few as 1 in 20 varieties of ryegrasses tested will actually make it to full recommendation on the list

Few farmers these days would want to use bull or ram genetics from the 1950s in their livestock breeding, yet they continue to use outdated varieties in their grassland.

By relying on old varieties, farmers are missing out on millions of pounds worth of investment made by plant breeders to produce new grasses that are far superior in important aspects such as yield, digestibility and spring growth.



## Is it time to reseed?



**The percentage of ryegrass (or other sown species) in a sward is a better indicator of a need for reseeding than the age of the ley.**

Pulling up a handful of grass plants allows farmers to assess how much perennial ryegrass (PRG) there is by looking for a red base to their stem.

Weed grasses, such as annual meadow grass, take every opportunity to invade sown pastures and do not have red stem bases. Weed grass species yield poorly, are of poor feed quality and do not respond well to nitrogen.

The ideal grass/clover balance across the grass growing season is 30% white clover to 70% grass – but clover content can vary widely between and within fields.

Reseeding or over-seeding allows farmers to increase the performance of their swards by sowing improved grass and clover varieties that match individual field objectives – i.e. long term grazing or shorter term cutting.

**Consider reseeding if there is less than 50% sown species in the ley**



# Which type of grass?

## Mixtures

In GB farmers tend to reseed with a mixture of different grasses and clover, rather than sowing a single variety.

Mixtures can produce yield benefits when compared to the same varieties sown individually. They also allow farmers to capitalise on the strengths of different species. For instance the digestibility of Perennial ryegrass (PRG) can be combined with the yield of a hybrid ryegrass (HRG) and the superior nutrient value of white clover in one field.

## Heading Dates

Grasses are classified according to heading date – which is the date on which 50% of the ears in fertile tillers have emerged.

Early varieties of ryegrass reach their heading date in the first two weeks of May; intermediate varieties head during the second half of May and late varieties reach this stage during the first two weeks of June.

In general, early heading varieties grow earlier in the spring, are more erect, tiller less freely and are easier to cut for conservation than later heading varieties, which tend to be more prostrate and persistent and give good mid-season growth.

## Perennial, Italian and Hybrid ryegrasses

Ryegrass is the most important sown grass grown in GB due to its productivity and suitability to the climate and farming systems.

Perennial ryegrasses (PRG) produce persistently good yields of high quality forage. Italian ryegrass (IRG) yields higher than PRG but has poor persistence.

Hybrid ryegrass (HRG) is a cross between perennial and Italian varieties, combining the strengths of the two parent species, e.g. the sward density of PRG and the out-of-season growth of IRG.

For 2 year leys – use tetraploid and diploid Italian ryegrasses  
For 3-4 year leys – use hybrid ryegrass and early perennial ryegrasses  
For long term leys – use intermediate and late perennial ryegrasses.

# Choosing the right type of grass

## Ryegrass

Each type of grass has different growth and quality characteristics. When reseeding it is important to select the most appropriate grasses and clovers for the situation and to meet the objectives set for each field.

### Perennial ryegrass

- Most effort by plant breeders has been concentrated on PRG
- Establishes rapidly, even from autumn sowing
- High yields in first harvest year
- High sugar content makes it good for silage-making
- Produces dense and persistent swards so useful for long term leys and establishing permanent pasture

**Good for all types of management e.g. silage or hay production, extensive or intensive grazing**

### Italian ryegrass

- Produces heavy crops of silage or hay
- Useful for short term leys of one to three years
- Long growing season gives opportunity for 'early-bite' grazing followed by leafy hay or silage cut

**Good for cutting, but can also be used for intensive spring grazing**

### Hybrid ryegrass

- Better ground cover and longer lived than IRG
- Good winter hardiness and disease resistance
- Mid-season digestibility better than IRG, but poorer than PRG
- First year yields lower than IRG, but yield improves in second and third year
- More drought resistant than IRG

**Good for silage production and cattle rotational grazing**

### Diploids vs Tetraploids

Tetraploids have twice the number of chromosomes of diploid varieties, which makes all their cells bigger. This means they have larger seeds and leaves and tend to establish quickly. They are more able to compete when used for over-seeding.

Tetraploids have a more upright growth habit and are suited to drier growing conditions. In some cases they have better digestibility and palatability than diploids.

Diploids tend to be more persistent and tiller more freely and are generally better suited to wetter growing conditions. Well-managed diploid leys will usually produce denser swards.





# Choosing the right type of Timothy and clover

## Timothy

- Grows at lower temperatures than ryegrass so can be good for early season grazing, especially in cold, late springs
- Good mid-season growth can fill the gap when ryegrass growth falters
- Good winter hardiness and ground cover
- Can be slow to establish and yields are likely to be lower than PRG
- Best utilised in cooler, wetter areas

**Good for extensive grazing and hay production**

## White clover

- High nutritional value, particularly protein and mineral content
- High palatability
- Good animal performance
- Can provide 150kg/ha (120 units/acre) of nitrogen for grass growth
- Match leaf size to stock (small for continuous, hard sheep grazing; medium for frequent cutting and rotational grazing; and large for cutting and cattle grazing)

**Good for grazing and cutting**

## Red clover

- High protein content up to 19% in silage depending on percentage in sward
- High yields, even with no or low N fertiliser
- Early red clovers produce two main cuts and a small autumn cut
- Generally only lasts for three years

**Good for cutting and finishing stock in autumn**

**Key information on each of the different grass and clover species is contained in the tables on pages 9 to 19.**

**The data provided has been extracted from the full Recommended Grass and Clover Lists. The full lists are available to all and can be found on the British Grassland Society website [www.britishgrassland.com](http://www.britishgrassland.com)**



# Tips for reseeding

Once the decision to reseed has been made, it is important to follow some key steps:

## Preparation

- Spring or autumn reseeding are equally advantageous and the choice will depend on the farming system plus when the field is available and conditions are good

**Remember that any mixture containing red clover needs to be in by August and white clover needs to be in by September.**

- Take a soil sample at a depth of 15cm – deeper than soil sampling in established swards as cultivation will disturb the soil
- Check for any soil structure issues – a plough may sort some of them out, but if the issue is deeper a sub-soiler may be needed
- Aim to deal with major weed problems in the old sward
- Correct any nutrient deficiencies

## For lime

Apply before ploughing so it can be mixed in during cultivations and remember that it can take nine to twelve months for pH to increase so planning ahead is important.

These guidelines are based on material with neutralising value of 50. This is a simplified version as it has combined recommendations for different soil types. Look at Table 1.2 on page 14 in RB209 Chapter 1 - Principles of nutrient management and fertiliser use. See <https://ahdb.org.uk/nutrient-management-guide-rb209> for more information. Seek advice from a FACTS-qualified adviser.

### Guidelines for lime application

pH	Tonnes per ha	Tonnes per acre
6.2	0	0
6.0	0	0
5.5	3-4	1.2-1.6
5.0	5-7	2.0-2.8

To calculate from tonnes/ha to tonnes/acre multiply by 0.4046

Apply no more than 7.5 t/ha at one time.

## The Nutrient Management Guide (RB209) provides recommendations for grass establishment:

- For spring sown reseed the recommendation is 60kgN/ha
- For autumn reseed the recommendations for moderate soil nitrogen supply situations is 0-50kg per ha depending on sowing date and soil Nitrogen supply
- Grass and clover reseed have no requirement for nitrogen at establishment

For phosphate and potash:

P or K index	Phosphate (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ) kg/ha	Potash (K <sub>2</sub> O) kg/ha
0	120	120
1	80	80
2	50	60 (2-) 40 (2+)
3	30	0
>3	0	0

**Remember to deduct any nutrients applied in the seedbed from the first season's grazing or silage/hay requirements.**



## Full reseed

- For a full reseed, spray the old sward using a product containing glyphosate

**Ensure there is enough leaf area remaining to take up the product and manufacturer's instructions are followed.**

**Consider how pests like leather jackets can be controlled – without chemicals.**

- For a full reseed, plough, press and work down to a firm and reasonably fine seedbed
- Drill or broadcast the seed on to the rolled seedbed, to place it no deeper than 1cm
- Ring roll or light harrow to ensure maximum contact between seed and soil, but avoid burying the seed below 1cm, especially small seeded species such as clovers and timothy

## Over-sowing

- Over-sowing or stitching-in can be a way to rejuvenate old or damaged grass without the cost of a full reseed
- As existing grass or weeds can out-compete the new seedlings, good soil structure and nutrients are still important
- The best time is summer as the existing grass is less vigorous and soil temperatures will be high, although soil moisture may be a limiting factor
- The seedlings need light so 40% of bare ground should be seen before over-sowing is considered – harrowing in two directions may help
- The seed can be broadcasted or direct drilled and the existing sward can be sprayed off beforehand or “checked” by hard grazing or cutting
- Seed to soil contact is still important, so roll after sowing or allow sheep to graze the field for 7-10 days to tread the seed in
- Seed rate will change depending on sward conditions – a minimum of 8kg per acre and up to 15kg for badly damaged swards
- Do not apply nitrogen as it will only boost the growth of the existing sward (if it has not been sprayed off)

## Post-establishment

- Once the grass is established (after five to six weeks), graze lightly with sheep or young stock when the grass reaches 8-10cm to firm in roots and encourage tillering. Do not graze it down lower than 4cm
- Weed control in a new ley is usually necessary to ensure good establishment and to avoid variable ground cover
- If significant weed problems are expected, consider establishing the ley without clover and introduce it once the weed problems have been solved

All grass and clover species can be successfully established by following the above guidelines, however, tetraploid ryegrasses are likely to establish quicker and easier than diploids as they have larger seeds and are more competitive against the existing grasses.

# How to use the Recommended Grass and Clover Lists

The tables on the following pages contain data extracted from the Recommended Grass and Clover Lists for 2023/24. They are provided to help producers to check and formulate seed mixtures in conjunction with their merchant.

The data produced are based on cutting trials in North Yorkshire, Shropshire, Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, Devon and Ceredigion, plus additional information from Northern Ireland and Scotland. Each variety is sown for two or more seasons.

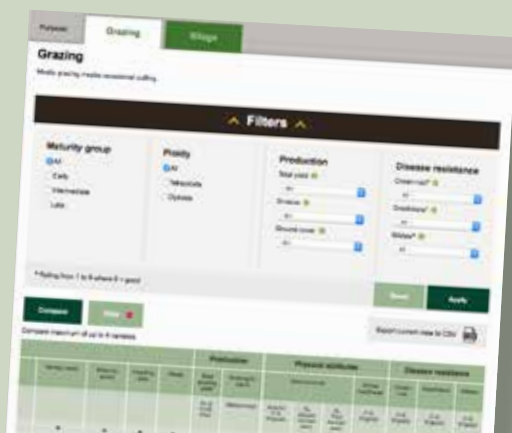
The cost of grass seed is a small proportion of the expense of reseeding – yet taking time to select the right varieties will reap productivity and lifespan benefits.



Your grass seed merchant will have a more in-depth booklet with more information about each variety on the Recommended Grass and Clover Lists. It can be found at [www.britishgrassland.com/publications](http://www.britishgrassland.com/publications)


An online tool is available at <https://ahdb.org.uk/recommended-grass-and-clover-lists>

It can be used to compare perennial ryegrasses for various traits to help choose the correct varieties for the job.



# Recommended List of Early Perennial Ryegrass Varieties 2023/2024

*OK for short term cutting and grazing leys.  
Can lose quality quickly as head early.*

Variety	Recommended list status	Heading date	Simulated grazing management		Conservation management		Ground cover	Crown rust	Drechslera	Suitable for my farm 
			Total annual yield	D-value	Total annual yield	D-value				
			Average = 100 at 9.23 t DM/ha	Midsummer	Average = 100 at 14.36 t DM/ha	2nd conservation cut				
							1 = poor 9 = good			
<b>Diploids</b>										
Genesis	<b>G</b>	11 May	97	74.8	105	69.3	6.5	6.0	5.9	<input type="checkbox"/>
Moyola	<b>G</b>	14 May	98	74.6	104	69.6	6.1	5.9	5.4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glasker	<b>G</b>	17 May	98	76.0	102	72.9	6.1	5.4	6.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Tetraploids</b>										
AberTorch	<b>G</b>	9 May	95	76.0	102	70.5	6.5	4.1	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cooky	<b>PS</b>	17 May	96	76.5	101	72.2	6.2	5.7	6.6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barwave	<b>PS</b>	20 May	97	75.3	107	70.1	4.4	6.9	-	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Yield

For yield figures, 100 equals the average yield for the varieties on the Recommended Lists. For example, if a variety has a yield of 105, it is above average. If it has a yield of 95, it is below average. It is measured in tonnes of dry matter per hectare.

## D-value

D-value is a measure of quality and refers to the percentage of the dry matter that can be digested by an animal. A higher number is better.

## Crown rust and Drechslera

Score relates to resistance. A higher number is better.

[ ] Limited data.

# Recommended List of Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass Varieties 2023/2024

Variety	Recommended list status	Heading date	Simulated grazing management		Conservation management		Ground cover	Crown rust	Drechslera	Suitable for my farm ✓
			Total annual yield <i>Average = 100 at 9.23 t DM/ha</i>	D-value Midsummer	Total annual yield <i>Average = 100 at 14.36 t DM/ha</i>	D-value 2nd conservation cut				
<b>Diploids</b>										
Boyne	<b>S</b>	21 May	100	74.5	105	69.0	6.2	6.0	4.1	☐
Galgorm	<b>G</b>	22 May	107	76.6	105	74.6	5.9	5.2	4.5	☐
AstonConqueror	<b>PS</b>	23 May	98	76.4	101	73.5	6.5	3.0	5.3	☐
Nifty	<b>G</b>	23 May	102	76.5	102	71.5	6.6	5.3	5.0	☐
Moira	<b>G</b>	23 May	101	75.5	103	74.2	5.9	4.6	5.5	☐
Goldwell	<b>PG</b>	23 May	105	76.8	102	72.6	6.4	5.9	-	☐
AberZeus	<b>G</b>	26 May	105	77.8	103	74.0	7.2	6.3	4.9	☐
AberMagic	<b>G</b>	27 May	104	77.1	101	71.5	6.4	6.1	3.5	☐
Alecto	<b>PG</b>	27 May	102	76.1	102	71.3	6.6	6.1	-	☐
AberWolf	<b>G</b>	27 May	100	77.4	100	71.7	7.1	5.0	4.4	☐
Gosford	<b>G</b>	28 May	101	77.0	101	73.5	6.3	6.0	4.6	☐
Agaska	<b>PS</b>	29 May	104	75.2	100	71.3	6.3	7.2	4.3	☐
AberGreen	<b>G</b>	29 May	104	77.0	103	72.5	6.8	5.7	4.7	☐

1 = poor 9 = good

**Good for cutting, but can also be used for intensive spring grazing.**

Variety	Recommended list status	Heading date	Simulated grazing management		Conservation management		Ground cover	Crown rust	Drechslera	Suitable for my farm ✓
			Total annual yield	D-value	Total annual yield	D-value				
			Average = 100 at 9.23t DM/ha	Midsummer	Average = 100 at 14.36t DM/ha	2nd conservation cut				
<b>Tetraploids</b>										
Fintona	<b>S</b>	21 May	103	76.5	106	73.8	5.4	2.2	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
AberRoot #	<b>PG</b>	22 May	100	78.5	102	73.1	5.0	3.6	6.3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seagoe	<b>G</b>	22 May	100	76.5	106	72.7	6.0	6.2	5.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Erinvale	<b>PG</b>	23 May	99	77.2	106	72.8	5.1	4.7	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nolwen	<b>G</b>	23 May	99	76.2	103	73.0	6.1	8.3	5.4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tollymore	<b>PG</b>	23 May	106	76.6	105	73.5	5.2	4.9	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
Banbridge	<b>PG</b>	24 May	101	76.6	107	71.7	5.8	5.3	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
AberClyde	<b>S</b>	25 May	97	77.1	101	72.4	6.0	6.3	6.6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ritchie	<b>PG</b>	26 May	104	75.4	104	70.1	6.6	5.7	6.1	<input type="checkbox"/>
AstonVision	<b>PS</b>	26 May	100	77.0	98	74.7	6.0	6.7	5.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chatsworth	<b>PG</b>	27 May	102	76.9	101	71.8	6.0	3.7	8.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
AberSpey	<b>G</b>	29 May	107	78.6	104	73.9	5.7	4.9	6.6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Convey	<b>PG</b>	30 May	101	75.7	101	72.5	6.0	5.4	6.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dunluce	<b>S</b>	30 May	102	76.8	102	72.4	5.4	2.7	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pensel	<b>S</b>	30 May	98	74.8	104	69.9	5.6	5.9	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Federer	<b>PG</b>	30 May	97	76.6	101	73.0	5.8	6.1	6.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Triwarwic	<b>PG</b>	30 May	97	75.4	103	72.3	5.6	6.4	4.6	<input type="checkbox"/>
AstonEnergy	<b>S</b>	31 May	98	77.6	97	74.8	5.4	6.6	6.8	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Festulolium type variety.

# Recommended List of Late Perennial Ryegrass Varieties 2023/2024

**Diploids – Good for long term grazing and cutting leys. Good for ground cover.**

Variety	Recommended list status	Heading date	Simulated grazing management		Conservation management		Ground cover	Crown rust	Drechslera	Suitable for my farm 
			Total annual yield <i>Average = 100 at 9.23t DM/ha</i>	D-value Midsummer	Total annual yield <i>Average = 100 at 14.36t DM/ha</i>	D-value 2nd conservation cut				
Diploids										
AberSevern	PG	29 May	111	78.8	100	76.3	6.1	5.1	-	
Wetherby	PG	30 May	101	77.2	101	73.3	6.9	7.4	5.1	
Kendal	PG	30 May	97	76.0	98	73.7	7.2	8.1	5.6	
AberTest	PG	31 May	104	78.7	97	75.8	6.7	7.9	[4.7]	
Callan	G	31 May	102	75.6	99	73.6	6.6	4.2	4.2	
Graphic	PG	1 Jun	97	76.2	97	72.8	7.4	6.2	-	
Toddington	G	1 Jun	95	75.2	95	72.5	6.6	6.9	4.9	
Ballyvoy	PS	1 Jun	100	76.8	100	75.1	7.0	2.9	4.3	
Bandon	PG	1 Jun	106	76.5	102	75.8	5.9	4.9	-	
Dundrod	PS	1 Jun	101	75.0	99	72.0	6.3	6.8	4.2	
Crossgar	PG	2 Jun	99	75.9	98	73.3	6.5	5.9	-	
AberAvon	G	2 Jun	99	77.3	93	74.1	7.2	6.1	3.7	
Oakpark	G	2 Jun	98	76.3	97	73.0	6.8	4.7	5.3	
AstonKing	PS	2 Jun	99	75.1	94	73.1	6.0	7.0	4.1	
Drumbo	G	2 Jun	95	76.7	92	75.0	6.2	4.9	4.6	
Glenarm	G	3 Jun	98	76.1	99	74.0	6.5	6.4	4.0	
Zorgue	PG	4 Jun	96	76.1	94	74.5	7.5	7.5	5.5	
Gleneagle	PG	4 Jun	99	75.6	95	72.5	7.0	4.3	5.4	
Timuco	PG	4 Jun	103	75.3	99	73.3	6.0	6.2	-	
AberBann	G	5 Jun	105	76.9	97	72.8	6.4	5.2	5.0	

Table continues on page 13 overleaf

**G** General Use    **S** Recommended for Specific Use

**PG** Provisional General Use Recommendation    **PS** Provisional Specific Use Recommendation



Variety	Recommended list status	Heading date	Simulated grazing management		Conservation management		Ground cover	Crown rust	Drechslera	Suitable for my farm ✓
			Total annual yield <i>Average = 100 at 9.23t DM/ha</i>	D-value Midsummer	Total annual yield <i>Average = 100 at 14.36t DM/ha</i>	D-value 2nd conservation cut				
			1 = poor 9 = good							
Timing	G	5 Jun	97	74.6	95	72.6	6.8	6.9	4.6	☐
Swan	PS	6 Jun	99	74.5	93	73.0	7.0	7.1	5.2	☐
AberThames	PG	6 Jun	106	75.8	101	72.4	5.7	8.3	5.1	☐
AberLee	G	6 Jun	96	78.5	90	74.2	7.4	6.6	4.3	☐
Delika	PG	7 Jun	101	76.4	95	74.1	6.5	8.4	4.8	☐
AberChoice	S	9 Jun	103	76.4	97	72.6	6.0	4.0	2.8	☐
Cancan	G	10 Jun	101	75.1	92	73.1	6.7	4.6	4.4	☐
AberDon	PG	10 Jun	108	78.5	94	74.8	6.0	6.2	-	☐
Bowie	PS	16 Jun	100	74.8	91	71.8	6.9	5.0	4.5	☐

## Tetraploids – Good for medium term cutting leys and in grazing mixtures.

Variety	Recommended list status	Heading date	Simulated grazing management		Conservation management		Ground cover	Crown rust	Drechslera	Suitable for my farm ✓
			Total annual yield <i>Average = 100 at 9.23t DM/ha</i>	D-value Midsummer	Total annual yield <i>Average = 100 at 14.36t DM/ha</i>	D-value 2nd conservation cut				
			1 = poor 9 = good							


### Tetraploids

Ballintoy	G	31 May	103	76.7	105	72.6	5.6	3.2	5.9	☐
Bijou	S	1 Jun	100	74.9	101	71.8	6.0	7.8	6.5	☐
Meiduno	S	1 Jun	103	76.3	102	74.0	5.4	5.7	6.6	☐
Weldone	PG	1 Jun	101	76.4	100	73.9	6.3	6.9	5.9	☐
Gracehill	PG	2 Jun	104	76.1	102	73.1	5.9	7.6	6.7	☐
Calao	PG	2 Jun	98	76.5	102	73.4	6.0	5.9	5.6	☐
Aspect	G	3 Jun	101	76.6	99	73.8	6.1	4.3	6.5	☐
AberGain	G	4 Jun	106	77.6	106	72.9	6.1	5.8	6.1	☐
Nashota	G	4 Jun	103	77.0	103	74.4	6.3	6.4	6.7	☐
Thegn	PG	6 Jun	102	77.2	98	73.3	6.4	6.7	5.9	☐
Hopi	PG	8 Jun	99	76.1	97	72.6	6.2	6.9	6.6	☐

[ ] Limited data.

# Recommended List of Italian Ryegrass Varieties 2023/2024

*Good for silage production and cattle rotational grazing.*

Variety	Recommended list status	Heading date	Total annual yield <i>Average = 100 at 15.99t DM/ha</i>	D-value 2nd conservation cut	Early spring growth 1st harvest year <i>Average = 100 at 1.66t DM/ha</i>	1st Conservation cut <i>Average = 100 at 6.37t DM/ha</i>	Ground cover	Crown rust resistance	Mildew resistance	Suitable for my farm 
							1 = poor 9 = good			

## Diploids

Shakira	<b>G</b>	19 May	100	64.1	100	102	3.3	6.7	6.6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Syntilla	<b>PG</b>	20 May	100	63.8	108	96	4.1	7.8	6.6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Doluga	<b>PG</b>	21 May	102	64.9	101	101	3.8	7.1	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
Muriello	<b>G</b>	21 May	99	64.6	100	95	4.0	6.7	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fox	<b>G</b>	22 May	100	64.9	104	99	4.0	7.2	6.8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jaccar	<b>PG</b>	22 May	102	64.7	114	104	3.9	6.7	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alamo	<b>G</b>	23 May	101	65.0	98	97	4.1	6.7	7.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pinaco	<b>PG</b>	23 May	101	65.0	93	98	4.1	6.6	6.8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sendero	<b>PG</b>	23 May	102	64.9	108	97	4.1	7.0	7.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Abys	<b>G</b>	23 May	101	64.3	104	98	4.2	7.3	7.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Melprimo	<b>PG</b>	24 May	99	64.2	103	94	3.8	7.3	[7.1]	<input type="checkbox"/>

Variety	Recommended list status	Heading date	Total annual yield Average = 100 at 15.99t DM/ha	D-value 2nd conservation cut	Early spring growth 1st harvest year Average = 100 at 1.66t DM/ha	1st Conservation cut Average =100 at 6.37t DM/ha	Ground cover	Crown rust resistance	Mildew resistance	Suitable for my farm ✓
							1 = poor 9 = good			

## Tetraploids

Melsprinter	PS	19 May	98	64.5	108	97	3.1	7.6	-	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kigezi 1	G	19 May	101	64.9	100	103	3.8	7.6	6.4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Udine	G	19 May	99	65.5	96	101	3.8	7.5	6.8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hunter	G	20 May	99	64.2	97	103	3.5	5.7	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Melsitra	PS	20 May	98	64.7	104	97	3.2	7.8	7.3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arman	PS	21 May	98	65.2	103	101	3.4	7.3	6.9	<input type="checkbox"/>
Messina	G	21 May	100	65.5	106	99	3.7	7.5	6.5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barmultra II	G	22 May	100	65.8	100	104	3.7	7.6	6.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cazzano	G	22 May	100	65.9	95	98	3.5	4.4	7.1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barimax	G	22 May	101	64.6	89	103	3.3	7.1	6.5	<input type="checkbox"/>

[ ] Limited data.

# Recommended List of Hybrid Ryegrass Varieties 2023/2024

Good for silage production and cattle rotational grazing.

Variety	Recommended list status	Heading date	Total annual yield Average = 100 at 14.85t DM/ha	D-value 2nd conservation cut	Early spring growth 1st harvest year Average = 100 at 1.57t DM/ha	Ground cover	Crown rust resistance	Mildew resistance	Suitable for my farm ✓
						1 = poor 9 = good			
<b>Diploids</b>									
Pirol	<b>G</b>	23 May	100	65.3	111	3.7	6.2	4.4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barsilo	<b>S</b>	26 May	97	66.4	104	3.5	4.7	7.1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barclamp	<b>S</b>	27 May	96	65.2	100	3.6	6.6	5.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Tetraploids</b>									
AberSheen	<b>PS</b>	17 May	105	68.1	88	3.6	4.5	8.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
AberEcho	<b>G</b>	18 May	100	69.9	95	4.2	4.5	6.3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aston Crusader	<b>G</b>	21 May	102	68.7	106	4.2	6.3	7.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Enduro	<b>G</b>	22 May	99	69.4	90	4.3	7.0	6.4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bannfoot	<b>G</b>	22 May	100	71.5	79	4.6	5.6	6.9	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tetragraze	<b>S</b>	22 May	99	69.4	77	4.6	4.2	6.6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Perkins	<b>PG</b>	22 May	100	68.0	100	4.4	6.3	7.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Novial	<b>G</b>	22 May	99	69.7	91	4.3	6.9	6.5	<input type="checkbox"/>
AberNiche #	<b>S</b>	22 May	101	66.0	106	3.7	6.0	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
AberOpal	<b>PG</b>	23 May	103	70.3	86	4.1	3.9	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
RGT Cordial	<b>PG</b>	23 May	103	69.7	90	4.6	6.8	6.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kirial	<b>G</b>	24 May	102	69.2	93	4.1	6.6	7.1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Perseus #	<b>S</b>	25 May	101	67.1	94	4.0	7.2	6.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
AberImage	<b>PS</b>	27 May	102	67.3	91	4.0	2.7	6.8	<input type="checkbox"/>


# Festulolium type variety.

**G** General Use    **S** Recommended for Specific Use

**PG** Provisional General Use Recommendation    **PS** Provisional Specific Use Recommendation

# Recommended List of Timothy Varieties 2023/2024

*Good for extensive grazing and hay production.  
Good for wetter soils.*

Variety	Recommended list status	Heading date	Simulated grazing management		Conservation management		Ground cover	Winter hardness	Suitable for my farm 
			Total annual yield	D-value	Total annual yield	D-value			
			Average = 100 at 9.36t DM/ha	Midsummer	Average = 100 at 13.34t DM/ha	2nd conservation cut			
							1 = poor 9 = good		
Presto	<b>G</b>	7 Jun	101	72.3	100	65.1	5.0	7.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comer	<b>G</b>	8 Jun	100	71.7	101	64.9	4.7	6.9	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dolina	<b>G</b>	8 Jun	103	71.5	102	65.1	4.6	7.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promesse	<b>S</b>	8 Jun	95	72.7	94	65.9	5.3	6.8	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comtal	<b>G</b>	9 Jun	100	71.9	99	65.0	5.0	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Winnetou	<b>G</b>	10 Jun	96	73.9	99	66.9	5.3	6.6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Baronaise	<b>PG</b>	13 Jun	101	73.7	98	68.1	5.0	-	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Recommended List of White Clover Varieties 2023/2024

**Good for grazing and cutting.**

Variety	Recommended list status	Leaf area (mm <sup>2</sup> )	Total yield of clover	Total yield of grass + clover	Autumn ground cover 1 = poor, 9 = good		Suitable for my farm
			3rd harvest year Average = 100 at 4.07t DM/ha	3rd harvest year Average = 100 at 9.82t DM/ha	After light defoliation	After hard defoliation	
AberAce	G	442	71	90	5.4	7.9	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aberystwyth S184	G	631	74	93	6.2	7.6	<input type="checkbox"/>
AberHerald	G	760	110	103	7.7	6.3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coolfin	PG	776	94	98	7.0	8.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	PG	804	94	101	7.3	8.9	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buddy	G	813	90	97	6.1	7.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Iona	G	841	99	98	6.5	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
AberDai	G	900	92	99	6.9	6.5	<input type="checkbox"/>
AberSwan	G	924	114	104	7.3	7.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grassands Bounty	G	936	98	102	7.2	8.3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dublin	G	967	113	105	7.4	6.7	<input type="checkbox"/>
AberSirius	PS	1008	121	110	7.5	5.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Violin	G	1039	110	103	7.6	7.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barblanca	G	1112	111	104	8.2	8.3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legacy	PG	1125	109	107	7.8	7.5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aran	G	1346	106	101	7.1	5.1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kakariki	PG	1353	116	103	6.9	6.4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brianna	G	1463	114	102	7.4	6.2	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Lucerne Varieties 2023/2024

Variety	Conservation management	Seasonal growth		Suitable for my farm
	Total yield Average = 100 at 12.64 t DM/ha	Yield of 1st cut in 1st harvest year Average = 100 at 4.15 t DM/ha	Crude protein % in 1st cut of 1st harvest year	
Daisy	100	100	18.5	<input type="checkbox"/>

**G** General Use    **S** Recommended for Specific Use

**PG** Provisional General Use Recommendation    **PS** Provisional Specific Use Recommendation




# Recommended List of Red Clover Varieties 2023/2024

*Good for cutting and finishing stock in the autumn.*

Variety	Recommended list status	Conservation management						Suitable for my farm 
		Yield of 1st cut in 1st harvest year <i>Average = 100 at 5.53t DM/ha</i>	Total annual yield <i>Average = 100 at 11.70t DM/ha</i>	Crude protein % in 1st cut of 1st harvest year	Crude protein % in 2nd cut of 2nd harvest year	Crude protein % in 2nd cut of 3rd harvest year	Ground cover % 2nd harvest year	
<b>Diploids</b>								
Merviot	<b>S</b>	105	95	17.1	19.6	19.2	50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lemmon	<b>G</b>	99	98	17.6	19.5	19.7	60	<input type="checkbox"/>
AberClaret	<b>G</b>	96	103	17.0	18.7	19.0	59	<input type="checkbox"/>
Harmonie	<b>G</b>	101	98	18.3	19.6	20.3	66	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sinope	<b>PG</b>	102	100	17.8	19.5	19.1	61	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fearga	<b>G</b>	91	101	17.1	18.3	18.6	58	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ganymed	<b>PG</b>	104	105	16.6	18.2	19.2	63	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Tetraploids</b>								
Amos	<b>G</b>	100	98	18.1	20.2	20.5	61	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maro	<b>G</b>	98	95	18.0	19.7	19.8	50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Atlantis	<b>G</b>	103	101	17.8	20.5	20.2	61	<input type="checkbox"/>
Magellan	<b>G</b>	101	102	18.0	20.2	20.2	62	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Cocksfoot Varieties 2023/2024

Variety	Conservation management		Seasonal growth		Ground cover	Winter hardness	Suitable for my farm 
	Total annual yield <i>Average = 100 at 15.28 t DM/ha</i>	D-value 2nd conservation cut	Yield of 1st cut in 1st harvest year <i>Ave. = 100 at 5.34t DM/ha</i>	D-value Midsummer			
Sparta	94	65.4	98	69.7	6.5	6.1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lidacta	98	64.4	100	69.3	6.5	5.4	<input type="checkbox"/>
RGT Lovely	107	65.7	102	69.6	5.8	-	<input type="checkbox"/>



# Useful Contacts

---

## **Aberystwyth University (IBERS)**

Gogerddan  
Aberystwyth  
Ceredigion  
SY23 3EE  
01970 823000

## **Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute**

Manor House  
Loughgall  
Co Armagh  
Northern Ireland  
BT61 8JA  
02838 892344

## **Barenbrug UK Ltd**

33 Perkins Road  
Rougham Industrial Estate  
Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk  
IP30 9ND  
01359 272000

## **Semences de France**

Activité fourragère et gazon  
62 rue Léon Beauchamp  
59930 La chapelle  
d'Armentières  
France  
0033 320 48 41 41

## **Goldcrop Ltd**

Carrigtwohill  
Co. Cork  
Ireland  
T45 F685  
00353 214882800

## **Germinal GB Ltd**

Camp Road  
Witham St Hughes  
Lincolnshire  
LN6 9QJ  
01522 868714

## **DLF Seeds Ltd**

10, Westerton Road  
East Mains Industrial Estate  
Broxburn  
West Lothian  
EH52 5AU  
01506 674800

## **DSV**

Wardington Road  
Wardington  
Banbury  
Oxfordshire  
OX17 1FE  
01295 758800

## **Feldsaaten Freudenberger GmbH & Co. KG**

Magdeburger Straße 2  
47800 Krefeld  
Germany

## **Grasslanz Technology Ltd**

Grasslands Research Centre  
Tennent Drive  
Private Bag 11008  
Palmerston North 4442  
New Zealand  
0064 6 351 8255

## **ILVO Plant**

Caritasstraat 39  
9090 Melle  
Belgium  
0032 9 272 28 59

## **INRA Chez Agri-Obtentions S.A.**

Chemin de la Petite Minière  
78280 Guyancourt  
France  
0033 130482300

## **Limagrain UK Ltd**

Rothwell  
Market Rasen  
Lincolnshire  
LN7 6DT  
01472 371471

## **PGG Wrightson Seeds**

PO Box 69132 Lincoln,  
Canterbury 7640,  
New Zealand  
M +64 27 555 3349  
D +64 3 966 9394

## **RAGT Seeds Ltd**

Grange Road  
Ickleton  
Essex  
CB10 1TA  
01799 533700

## **Teagasc**

Crops Research Centre  
Oak Park  
Carlow  
Co. Carlow  
R93 XE12  
Ireland  
00353 599170200

## **NIAB**

Headley Hall  
Spennithorne Lane  
Tadcaster  
North Yorkshire  
LS24 9NT



# What's different in this year's RGCL?

## New varieties

On the 2023/24 RGCL, five new varieties have been added.

The challenge with new varieties is that seed availability may not be high enough for them to be in many mixtures, but they are ones to watch.

Name	Type	Page
Goldwell	Inter PRG Dip	10
Banbridge	Inter PRG Tet	11
Graphic	Late PRG Dip	12
Bandon	Late PRG Dip	12
Doluga	Italian Dip	14

# What do I want?

Field name: \_\_\_\_\_

For:  Beef  Sheep  Dairy  Mixed grazing

It is likely to be:

Grazed only  Silaged once  Silaged 2-3 times

Needs to last:

1 year  2 years  3-4 years  5 years

10 years  is for overseeding only

My soil pH is:  5 - 5.5  6 - 6.5  6.5+

P and K indexes are: P: \_\_\_\_\_ K: \_\_\_\_\_

Nitrogen use:  None  Low  Medium  High

My priority is:  Yield  Quality  Balance of both

I wish to include varieties for:

Early spring growth  Mainly mid-season growth

Late autumn grazing  Extended spring and autumn grazing

Crown rust resistance is:

Very important  Moderately important  Not important

Other diseases I am concerned about include: \_\_\_\_\_

Species must include:

White clover  Red clover  High digestibility grasses

Timothy  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Other requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Recommended Grass and Clover Lists are funded by plant breeders through the British Society of Plant Breeders and the ruminant levy boards (AHDB and HCC).

The full Lists can be found at [www.britishgrassland.com/product-category/recommended-grass-and-clover-lists/](http://www.britishgrassland.com/product-category/recommended-grass-and-clover-lists/)



## Complying with spray legislation at a glance

### These measures apply to grassland weedkillers

- Demonstrate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is followed on your farm
- The sprayer operator on your farm must hold a Recognised Certificate; Grandfather rights are no longer valid
- All pesticide application equipment (excluding handheld equipment) in use must have a valid National Sprayer Testing Scheme (NSTS) Certificate.

These measures are a legal requirements for the UK and its farmers through the UK's Sustainable Use Regulations. Non-compliance could lead to prosecution and threaten your Single Farm Payment. They will also feature in Red Tractor standards.

## H2OK? Think Water – Keep it Clean

Many grassland weedkillers are detected in drinking water sources, take extra care to protect water when filling and washing the sprayer and avoid over-spraying ditches and streams.

For more advice visit [www.voluntaryinitiative.org.uk](http://www.voluntaryinitiative.org.uk)