






SARDI 7 SERIES 2 LUCERNE

-  350mm +
-  5.8-8.0
-  Deep Well Drained
-  AL or **AgriCote**
-  PBR

KEY FEATURES

- Winter activity rating of 7
- High yielding
- Multi-purpose
- Excellent persistence of 5 to 7 years
- Strong pest and disease resistance
- Very Good grazing tolerance
- Improved performance in cold, wet environments
- Well suited to grazing and hay production with a broad crown and high leaf to stem ratio



DESCRIPTION

SARDI 7 Series 2 is the next generation winter active lucerne. It is even more versatile, broadly adapted and persistent than the current market leader, SARDI 7. It has been bred specifically for adaption to the Australian climate and will perform well in both dryland and irrigated systems. SARDI 7 Series 2 is ranked higher for persistence than SARDI 7 and other commercial cultivars in Australian trials.

PRODUCT FIT

SARDI 7 Series 2 will provide superior performance wherever SARDI 7 was successful. This includes situations where persistent, high producing lucerne stands are required and in grazing situations where winter produced feed can be utilised. It is suited to direct grazing or hay and silage production and can be sown in pasture mixes or under-sown in cropping systems. In addition SARDI 7 Series 2 will perform well in dairy, beef and sheep production systems in high rainfall zones where dormant or semi-dormant varieties have traditionally been grown. It will persist and produce more dry matter than winter or semi-winter dormant varieties delivering more feed during the winter months when feed is in demand. Lucerne may be suitable for planting in soils with lower pH levels, provided exchangeable Aluminium levels are very low. A reliable soil test and advice from an agronomist is strongly recommended.

BREEDING HISTORY

SARDI 7 Series 2 was developed using multiple cycles of selection for persistence and yield on Australian commercial farms under a range of farming systems (cattle, sheep, hay, dryland and irrigation). This process was combined with intensive screening for stem thickness and leafiness plus tolerance to bluegreen aphid, spotted lucerne aphid, anthracnose and Phytophthora root rot.

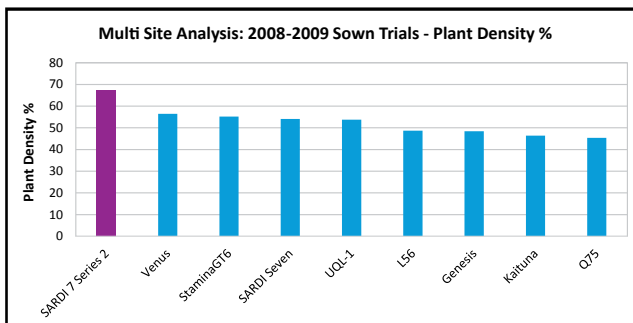


DISEASE/PEST RESISTANCE

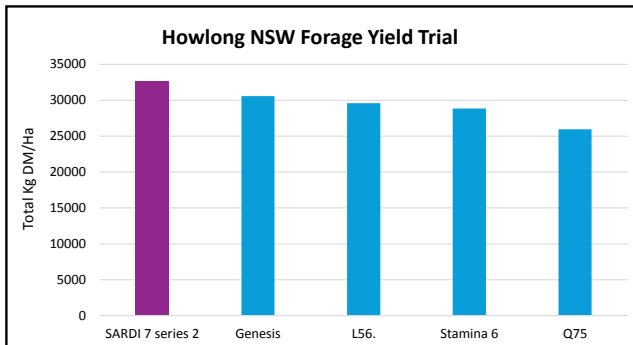
SARDI 7 Series 2 has very high levels of resistance to the pest and disease strains present in Australia. As an example, the selection for BGA resistance was conducted with a new highly destructive biotype identified in SA in 2008/09. SARDI varieties are screened using new strains of virulent pathogens collected from field sites – this breeds resistance to the ever changing challenges that varieties will face. To deliver increased tolerance to cold, wet environments, the majority of the parentage comes from Victoria and New South Wales field selections. Thirty seven of the final fifty parent plants were selected from high rainfall or irrigated sites where high disease pressure, cold wet conditions and tolerance to heavy traffic and urine scalds from cattle grazing are the major stresses that affect persistence.

SPOTTED LUCERNE APHID	BLUEGREEN APHID	PHYTOPHTHORA ROOT ROT	ANTHRACNOSE
HR	HR	HR	HR

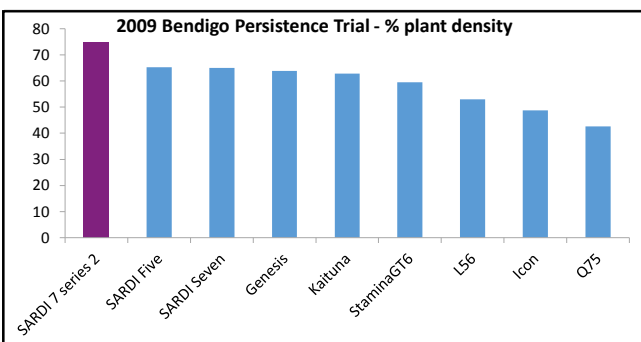
PERFORMANCE



Trial locations: Bendigo Vic, Rochester Vic, Timboon Vic, Coolac NSW, Culcairn NSW, Grenfell NSW & Mingbool SA.



Howlong NSW forage yield data. Trial sown in spring 2011, 15 cuts taken (ongoing).



Persistence of lucerne varieties at Bendigo, Vic 2009 trial after 4 years (ongoing).

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