

WINTER FEED

AND FORAGE GUIDE

EDITION 1

GROW WITH CONFIDENCE

INSIST ON THE YELLOW BAG

Heritageseeds



WINTER FEED AND FORAGES INTRODUCTION

Winter feed and quality, dependable fodder production are important to maintaining productivity in times where pastures are not growing well enough. Well established and managed autumn-planted annual crops will allow for increased productivity at times when perennials may be growing slowly, and will remove grazing pressure from your valuable pastures, keeping them in good shape for the next growing season. Targeted and well-grown silage and hay may be essential for feeding out in dry, cold and at other challenging times, or as cash crops for sale.

There are some very useful species to consider using and, at Heritage Seeds, we have been developing improved cultivars to meet particular challenges and opportunities for various enterprises. Annuals, forage rapes, cereals and vetches are vitally important for winter-dominant rainfall, summer-dry areas. They also have valuable attributes for milder summer areas where winters may be colder.

New ryegrass genetics that offer potential for multiple years of winter feed are now readily available and well received. Fast-establishing specialty forage cereals and ryegrasses also offer an efficient option for topping up or over-seeding existing pastures to enhance winter feed, whether in the warmer, coastal Kikuyu-based systems or the cooler inland and southern zones.

For increased feed quality, Heritage Seeds has an unsurpassed range of annual clovers, vetches and chicory to include in feed and fodder programs. If you are looking for productive rotational crops, a reliable spring surplus for silage or hay, or simply more feed in winter, with the right option from Heritage Seeds, you can grow with confidence.



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SUCCESS WITH WINTER FEED AND FORAGES

Winter forages in an animal production enterprise are usually needed when:

- 1. There is more feed needed in the cooler times when pastures are slow; or
- 2. Existing perennial pastures are not up to scratch and need renewal; or
- 3. Fodder options are limited.

Keeping paddock records of grazing history or pasture measurements are usually the best ways of determining which paddocks to target for renewal or for topping up and oversowing. As with all successful crops and pastures, planning, preparation, timely operations, weed and pest management, grazing and using fertiliser effectively are all important factors in helping to assure a good outcome.

Key elements for the success of winter feed and fodder crops:

- Paddock records
- Soil testing

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- Right species and variety to suit the job needed
- Paddock preparation for fertility, soil amendments and cultivation if required
- Sowing in a timely fashion, suitable depth, with appropriate moisture
- Appropriate fertiliser program to assure productivity prospects
- Early weed and pest control
- Grazing management.

And for silage and hay:

- Timely cessation of grazing
- Suitable application of fertiliser (and irrigation if applicable) to meet yield targets
- Ongoing pest monitoring and response as required
- Well-executed, timely harvest operations.

Which species and variety to use, and how to go about it will depend on your individual circumstances and objectives. This guide offers information on the most useful winter feed and fodder production options for much of the Australian pastoral scene. Your Heritage Seeds' Territory Manager and other good pasture advisers will be able to offer further technical advice.



WINTER FEED AND FODDER SELECTION CHART

Requirement		Purpose		Suitab	le spec	ies and variety		Page
				General purpose		LEAFMORE RAPE		12
		Autumn and winter feed main focus, terminate crop in spring		High performance	>	INTERVAL RAPE		12
Quality fast feed				Fastest to first grazing		FALCON LEAFY TURNIP		12
				General purpose		VORTEX ANNUAL RYEGRASS		7
		Winter and early spring feed with good, quality silage and hay prospects		Plus highest quality hay	>	ARNIE ANNUAL RYEGRASS		7
				Very late season	>	HOGAN ANNUAL RYEGRASS	>	7
		Later into spring or early summer or		High performance		TEMPO ITALIAN RYEGRASS		8
	-	potential for a second year	→	General Purpose	>	ASTON ITALIAN RYEGRASS	>	8
Quality feed, ongoing		2–3 years plus, good growing conditions		High performance		SHOGUN HYBRID RYEGRASS		9
		conditions		Tougher, drier sites		BARBERIA HYBRID RYEGRASS		9
		2-3 year grass free pasture/improved feed quality		Highest feed quality		COMMANDER GHIGORY		13
	}	Early sowing (Jan-Apr)		Long growing season with multiple grazings possible	>	OATS (VARIOUS)		15
Fast, bulk feed + silage or hay		Mid season sowing (Mar–May)		Ideal for 1–2 grazings followed by a big silage crop		CRACKERJACK 2 TIRITIGALE		16
		Later sowing (Apr-Jun)		Fast feed for later sowing. Also excellent standing feed at maturity		DICTATOR 2 BARLEY		16
		Improved protein with bulk		Often sown in mixes with cereals, especially oats		VETCH (VARIOUS)		18
Quality specific fodder production		Improved protein, energy		Usually added to ryegrasses		CLOVERS (VARIOUS)		10
		Late option, bulk quality feed		Suits late winter and early spring sowing	>	PEA & OAT SPRING SILAGE BLEND		24

FAST-FEED RYEGRASSES (Lolium spp.)

Short-term ryegrasses are a popular and highly reliable autumn, winter and spring forage with terrific prospects for one or a number of fodder crops in spring. There are three main categories that suit winter feed and forage production:

Annual ryegrass is popular in areas with winter dominant rainfall and dry, hot summers. Often used for quick autumn and winter feed and/or as a silage, hay or green manure crop, particularly where there is no expectation or requirement for summer growth.

Italian ryegrass has application in areas where late spring growth is reliable, or where summers are mild and a second year may be required. They are very useful for oversowing into existing pastures as a boost for a year or two.

Hybrid ryegrasses work well where multiple years are required with very good autumn and winter growth, and the persistence of true perennial ryegrass may be unreliable. They are also excellent for over-sowing. This category of ryegrass offers potential for summer production where moisture and conditions allow.

Italian and annual ryegrasses

Short-terms



Italian and annual ryegrass heading dates

Ryegrass heading date (relative time to reach flowering stage) is an important consideration when selecting varieties to suit production systems. It is often beneficial to have a range of heading dates on farm.

As a rule, the earlier the heading date, the more late winter growth potential and the more pronounced the spike in spring growth. Conversely, it is typical for late heading date varieties to exhibit a little less winter growth, have a longer but steadier spring flush, thus allowing for greater flexibility and extended pasture quality into early summer.

Earlier varieties:

- Suit paddocks or locations that typically finish earlier e.g. north facing, lighter soils
- Maximise the potential from rain fed (dryland) production with an early spring flush
- Likely to complement later paddocks by providing more feed in late winter/early spring
- Allow for allocation of paddocks for fodder conservation, later paddocks being grazed
- May be considered for sites where lower input costs are justified.

Later varieties:

- Suit sites where the spring season holds on longer and irrigation
- Offer higher feed quality and animal performance over an extended period
- Maximise the potential value from summer irrigation or moist summer conditions
- Potentially spreads the silage/hay season risk and workload
- Better prospects for a second or third cut
- More usually suited to sites where higher outputs are being targeted.

ANNUAL RYEGRASS

(L. multiflorum, L. westerwoldicum)

Annual ryegrasses are sown for a high quality, short-term winter crop, providing multiple grazings in winter and spring. They are generally used for a 6-9+ month winter crop prior to sowing a summer crop, or to make the most of a growing season rainfall where late season rain is unreliable.

Annual ryegrass exhibits the greatest winter growth potential of all the ryegrass types. Including annual ryegrass when sowing a permanent pasture is not generally recommended, as annuals die out, allowing space for weeds to take over. They also establish rapidly and compete strongly with perennial species.

VORTEX





















HOGAN









- Mid-late flowering
- Excellent autumn, winter and early spring growth
- Good quality
- Ideal for fast, cool-season feed, silage and hay
- Good heat tolerance
- Replacement for Maximus and T-Rex.
- Late maturing diploid annual ryegrass
- Densely tillered, fine leaves and an upright growth habit
- Quick to first grazing
- Good spring growth and rust resistance
- Excellent autumn/winter production plus strong late spring growth
- Very useful for hay and/or silage
- Highly adaptable across a diverse range of environments.
- New release
- Latest maturity annual available (+22 days)
- Very fast establishment for early grazing potential
- Excellent autumn/winter production plus strong late spring growth
- Good spring growth and rust resistance
- Good prospects for second cut or after-spring grazing
- Well suited to high production areas with good spring growth prospects.

Useful co-species:

Italian ryegrass, white clover, red clover, annual clovers, chicory and forage rape

SOWING & GRAZING WINDOW

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Plant	>	▶ ●	•	•	•4	▲						
Feed			>	>	>•	•	•	•	•	•4	◀	4

ITALIAN RYEGRASS

(L. multiflorum)

Italian ryegrasses are sown as highly productive short-term pastures in areas with mild summers or where late season rains or irrigation may permit pasture growth into late spring and early summer. They are also well suited to oversowing into run down pastures and may be sown in spring where summer moisture is reliable. Italian ryegrass can persist for 2-3 years in summer mild areas under irrigation or reliable summer rainfall.

In summer-dry or summer-hot areas, it will generally thin out over summer, being productive for only one year, but will continue to produce quality feed through spring and into early summer, giving it an advantage over annual ryegrasses. Italian ryegrass also establishes rapidly and competes strongly with perennial species. Some farming operations over-sow annually or biennially to maximise the benefits of strong cool season growth with late season quality. Italian ryegrasses from Heritage Seeds will not cause staggers.























- High yielding tetraploid Italian ryegrass
- High overall yield regardless of seasonal or regional variations
- Very fast establishment
- · Consistently even seasonal growth pattern, offering reliable feed through the growing season
- Intermediate growth habit with a reasonably open sward
- Very well suited to over-sowing.
- New release
- Increased overall yield, autumn, winter and spring yield compared to industry standard varieties
- Very fast establishment
- Highly reliable widely tested and consistent
- Grazing, silage, hay all stock classes
- Highly suitable for over-sowing
- Will be the new benchmark in this category.

Useful co-species:

Annual ryegrass, hybrid ryegrass, white clover, red clover, annual clovers, chicory and forage rape

SOWING & GRAZING WINDOW

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Plant	•	> •	•	•	•4							
Feed			>	>	>•	•	•	•	•	•	•4	4

 \blacktriangleright Earlier than ideal, but acceptable lacktriangle Optimum time \blacktriangleleft Later than ideal, but acceptable

RYEGRASS SOWING RATES

			New	sowings		Oversowing	
Туре	Variety	High input/irrigation	Good dryland	Marginal dryland	In mixes as main grass component	Existing ryegrass, lucerne, clover etc.	Existing Kikuyu
	Vortex	25–35	25	20	20-25	20–25	35–50
Annuals	Arnie	20–25	15-20	12-15	15-20	15–20	25-35
	Hogan	25–35	25	20	20–25	20–25	35–50
n le	Aston	25–35	25	20	20–25	20–25	35–50
Italians	Tempo	20–25	15-20	12-15	15-20	15–20	25–35
u.L.:J.	Shogun	25–35	25	20	20–25	20–25	35–50
Hybrids	Barberia	20-25	15-20	10–15	12-18	10–15	Rarely

HYBRID RYEGRASSES

(L. hybridum, L. boucheanum syn.)

This category of grass is well suited to specialist high performance paddocks, and is also very suitable for over-sowing and topping up thinning older stands. Hybrid ryegrasses are generally produced by plant breeders crossing Italian ryegrass with perennial ryegrass. Hybrid ryegrasses tend to fall between Italian and perennial ryegrasses in growth and persistence, but varieties vary widely. Some are more similar to Italian ryegrass and some to perennial ryegrass.

Hybrids provide better winter production than perennial ryegrass and are best used in mild summer areas where they may persist for 3–5 years. Shogun and Barberia hybrid ryegrasses will last for a number of years supplying very high quality feed year round. They require less frequent re-sowing than annual, Italian or many other (shorter-term) hybrids. For sites requiring winter performance with some summer hardiness, Barberia is a remarkably reliable option. Where winter and summer performance are expected, Shogun is a standout.























- A true breakthrough in grass breeding
- Very late flowering (+26 days)
- Exceptionally high yield potential, matching the best Italian ryegrasses
- High winter growth and good summer production
- Excellent feed quality
- Improved persistence over other hybrid ryegrasses
- Grows like an Italian and persists for multiple years
- Ideal for over-sowing run-down pastures
- Suited to farm systems requiring exceptional autumn, winter and summer performance
- NEA endophyte:
 - Good insect tolerance
 - No staggers.
- Very early flowering (-21 days)
- Very fast establishing
- Winter performance like an Italian
- Potential for persistence over 5 years+ (3-5 typical)
- Highly palatable, good clover companion
- Excellent option for autumn, winter and early spring feed
- Good heat tolerance
- A good choice where prairie grass may be considered
 - Suited to over-sowing
 - Endophyte free = no staggers.

Useful co-species:

Italian ryegrass, white clover, sub clover, red clover, annual clovers and chicory

SOWING & GRAZING WINDOW

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Plant	•	> •	•	•	◄							
Feed			>	>	> •	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

ANNUAL CLOVERS

Annual clover offers a range of grazing, hay and silage options with multiple benefits including nitrogen fixation, weed control rotations and disease breaks. The addition of annual clovers to grass or hay mixes can increase feed quality, protein of feed and provide nitrogen for grass or cereal to grow.

Annual clovers are best suited to rotational grazing. When used in a mixed sward, graze to manage grass but ensure animals do not re-graze areas, as this will greatly affect the recovery of annual clover. In pure stands, avoid grazing in the middle of winter. Don't graze below 5-8cm to allow maximum recovery. These clovers are generally annual options only, however hard-seeded varieties (e.g. Vista balansa, Zulu II arrowleaf, Nitro Persian) can be locked up just prior to flower initiation. They will then flower and set seed, thus providing a seed-bank.

BALANSA CLOVER (Trifolium michelianum) 1-3 kg/ha (in a mix)

Versatile option for medium rainfall areas that suits most soils of acid—neutral pH. Tolerates mild salinity and some waterloaging. Suitable for grazing and fodder conservation with fair to good winter growth. Often used as part of a High Density Legume (HDL) mix as the earliest flowering component. Also useful as an addition or alternative to sub-clover in perennial pastures, or to add bulk and quality to annual and Italian ryegrass hay crops. Regenerates by re-seeding. Hard-seeded.









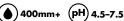


- Late season maturity approximately 130 days
- Superior spring/early summer growth
- Tolerates waterlogging and mild soil salinity
- Well suited for annual/short term ryegrass mixes
- High quality hay or standing feed
- High hard seed levels aid regeneration
- Replaces and supersedes Bolta and Paradana.

ARROWLEAF CLOVER (Trifolium vesiculosum) 3-6 kg/ha (in a mix)

Suitable for medium rainfall areas that suits well-drained soils of acid-neutral pH and tolerates mild salinity. Good for grazing and fodder conservation with fair winter growth. It is very late flowering and seed set can be affected by drought. Often used as part of a HDL mix as the latest flowering component.











- Approximately 130 days to flowering
- Excellent tolerance to acid soils
- Excellent spring and early summer growth
- Well adapted to loamy and deep acidic sandy soils
- Deep taproot which can increase growth in drier seasons
- High level of hard seed ensures good regeneration
- Not known to cause bloat.

PERSIAN CLOVER (Trifolium resupinatum) 3-6 kg/ha (in a mix)

Highly reliable option for medium rainfall areas that suits most soils of mildly acidic-moderately alkaline pH. Tolerates mild salinity and some waterlogging. Suitable for grazing and fodder conservation with fair to good winter growth. It is later flowering than balansa and an essential component in HDL mixes. Also useful as an addition to sub-clover in longer-term pastures, or to add bulk and quality to annual and Italian ryegrass hay crops. Regenerates by re-seeding. Hard-seeded and soft-seeded varieties available.

LASER PERSIANI CLOVER











• Late season Persian – approximately 165 days to flowering

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- Well suited to irrigation and summer rainfall
- Suitable for multiple grazing and hay cuts
- Used for fodder cropping and HDL mixes
- Superior quality to Maral or Shaftal
- Suitable for mixes with short-term ryegrass
- Typically 20–30% more DM yield than Shaftal.

LIGHTNING PERSIAN CLOVER







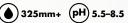




- Mid season maturity about 145 days to flowering
- Vigorous, erect to semi-erect annual clover
- Establishes quickly from a later sowing
- Tolerates waterlogging and mild soil salinity
- Forage/fodder cropping/HDLs or annual mixes
- Can be sown with oats or short-term ryegrass.

NITRO PLUS PERSIAN CLOVER











- Prostrate to semi-prostrate self-regenerating annual clover
- Early-mid season maturity as early as 68 days to flowering
- Average 114 days to flowering
- High hard seed level excellent regeneration
- Tolerates waterlogging and mild soil salinity
- Suitable for haymaking and grazing
- Excellent cereal rotation legume
- Supersedes Kyambro.

HDL mixes

High density legume (HDL) blends are a very useful finishing option, and may also be used in rotations for weed management and nitrogen fixation. Balansa, Persian and arrowleaf clovers are often key components in two, three or four-way HDL mixes, usually sown at 8–15 kg/ha. Berseem, crimson and some sub-clovers may also be considered.

SOWING & GRAZING WINDOW

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Plant	>	>•	•	•4	- ◀							
Feed					>	>	>•	•	•	•	•4	4

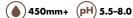
FORAGE RAPE AND LEAFY TURNIPS

Forage rape (Brassica napus) 3-4 kg/ha (1-2 kg/ha in a mix) Leafy turnips (Brassica campestris spp rapa) 5-8 kg/ha (2-4 kg/ha in a mix)

Rape is a fast-maturing leafy, single or multi-graze crop that can be sown for summer, autumn or winter feed. Rape has a broader adaptation that most other brassicas and can be used with great success for winter feed. Leafy turnips are forage brassica hybrids that may be utilised in a similar manner to rape and usually offer feed a little more quickly although are typically lower yielding.

Rape can be sown from the prior spring through summer and into to mid-autumn. It is most usually sown as a lone stand, but may be sown in combination with other autumn forages such as annual or Italian ryegrass with good results. Rape's feed value is high, but usually the crop must be mature before grazing, approximately 10–12 weeks after sowing. In many cases modern cultivars may be grazed from 8–10 weeks and when well-proportioned with other co-species, may be grazed earlier if required.

LEAFMORE FORAGE RAPE

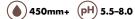






- Superior cold growth habit and frost tolerance
- Vigorous establishment and high yielding
- Early maturity to first grazing (8-10 weeks)
- Suitable for autumn and spring sowing
- Excellent regrowth for up to 4 grazings
- Multi-stemmed with semi-erect growth habit
- High forage quality with good leaf to stem ratio and high dry matter.

INTERVAL FORAGE RAPE





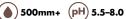




- Excellent for both summer and winter feed
- Offers valuable feed opportunities for farmers wanting to finish stock
- Strong frost tolerance and resistance to powdery mildew
- Suitable for 1-2 or more grazings from a late summer early autumn sowing.









- Quick feed in 6-8 weeks—suits sowing from early spring to
- Excellent companion plant for spring or autumn sown annual forages
- A break crop as part of a pasture renovation program
- May be used in a mix with other species for specific outcomes, although has excellent feed quality attributes when sown as a sole variety
- Very suitable for dairy, finishing and extensive sheep and cattle enterprises.



Typical sowing times

Brassicas should be early autumn sown-when soil temperatures are still up around 12-14 degrees or higher.

Cool-temperate areas

Southern and highland Victoria, coastal South Australia and

(Mid Feb - early April).

Warm-temperate areas

Northern Victoria, Inland South Australia, New South Wales, coastal southern Western Australia: (Early March - late April /early May).

Benefits from using autumn-sown rape or leafy turnips:

- High feed value and low cost option, grass break, carry through winter and regrowth potential
- Grazing through winter, possibly though spring/early summer in some cases
- High yield, taking pressure off other parts/pastures of the farm
- Alternative high value and timely feed option compared to forage cereals or straight grass
- In ryegrass mixes, brassicas will give 1-3 grazings through winter, then the grass will dominate into spring

CHICORY (Cichorium intybus) 6-8 kg/ha (2-4 kg/ha in a mix)

Chicory offers an opportunity for diversifying the feed base, a grass-free break, or to help resolve feed gaps or problematic pasture areas. Typically it is most productive and manageable as a sole stand, both in terms of getting the best out of them and addressing weed issues. Mixtures with other species are often popular, and chicary has the ability to improve the timeliness and quality of feed on offer by contributing to metabolisable energy (ME), digestibility and palatability of mixed swards. It is often used as a 1-3 year forage in combination with short-term grasses and clovers or forage brassicas. Chicory is also a useful oversowing option for older lucerne stands.

Chicory is a persistent leafy herb lasting 2-3 years with a large tap root. It performs best in fertile, free draining soils in regions of greater than 550mm rainfall or irrigation. It has potential for high dry matter of excellent quality with most growth through warmer periods. Chicory should be sown at 6–8 kg/ha as a sole stand or at 2–4 kg/ha as part of a grass-clover mix, and is suited to sowing in early autumn, spring and early summer where circumstances allow.

Reliable establishment of chicory usually requires a well prepared seed bed and soil temperatures of over 11–12°C. Chicory should be rotationally grazed on a 4–6 week rotation and will require added nitrogen for maximum performance. Avoid grazing with heavier stock classes in wet conditions as trampling will affect stand longevity.









- Chicory for high performance sites
- 15-20% higher yield than prostrate types
- Performs all year round including winter
- Fast establishment and regrowth after grazing
- High quality winter active forage chicory
- Erect growth habit offers high utilisation
- Responds to summer rain and irrigation
- Low crown gives good persistence over 2-3 years.

SOWING & GRAZING WINDOW May Jul Sep Oct Nov Dec Plant ▶• 4 Feed

Forage cereals are quick to establish and have strong winter and spring growth. Well managed crops produce moderate to high quality feed that can either be directly grazed or cut and conserved as hay or silage.

The Heritage Seeds' program of breeding and development that underlies the release of varieties is unmatched. New varieties are developed for tolerance to multiple grazing, high quality and high forage yields. Further evaluation in tough conditions means that these true forage cereals have the ability to perform as needed for the Australian grazing and forage industries.

Whilst most cereals may offer some grazing or silage/hay-making opportunity, true forage cereals are developed with traits that include:

- Rapid establishment
- Fast recovery from grazing
- Higher early-season grazing yield
- Higher proportion of leaf over stem material
- Increased tillering capacity
- Generally higher feed quality and forage yield than graintype cereals.

In most areas where winter feed with a subsequent fodder opportunity is needed, forage oats, triticale and barley may be planted from late summer through to mid-winter. Some oats and barley may also have application for late winter and early spring sowing in southern areas with excellent results.

Forage cereals may play a significant role as a break crop as part of a pasture renovation program and at the same time provide a valuable feed source when other options may be unreliable. Cereal forage crops may be further enhanced by the inclusion of other species such as vetch, field peas, short-term ryegrass, annual clovers and forage brassicas.

	500mm rainfall	600mm rainfall	700mm rainfall	800mm rainfall	Irrigation
SOWING RATES KG/HA	40-60	70–90	80–90	80-100	100-120

Sowing:

Forage cereals are well suited to sowing into either a prepared seed bed, or more commonly, by direct drilling into spray-fallows or crop residues. Consider the paddock history, or conduct a soil test to determine fertiliser requirement. Sowing depth should be between 10–35mm, although slightly deeper sowing is often still satisfactory.

Grazing:

Forage cereal crops are generally ready for a light first grazing when 20–25cm high, down to about 10cm. This will be around 6–8 weeks after sowing depending on conditions, and the crop can be allowed to re-grow for multiple subsequent grazings. True forage cereals have increased capacity for re-tillering after grazing. As the crop develops in late winter and early spring, be sure to check that the growing point or first node (Zadok's 31) is not being removed. Grazing after nodes start forming will very likely reduce subsequent silage or hay yield potential.

FORAGE OATS (Avena sativa) 60-100 kg/ha

Forage oats are a broadly adapted and reliable winter forage crop and are the most widely used of the forage cereals. Forage oats are easy to establish and are the only true forage cereal that can be sown in late summer and early autumn, giving forage oats the highest potential yield of the forage cereals.

Forage oats have a winter habit – growth will slow over the colder months and are slower to establish if sown too late. They produce reasonably well from a late winter/early spring planting given a higher sowing rate. In southern Australia, barley yellow dwarf virus (BYDV) is a significant disease limiting production in susceptible varieties.

MAMMOTH FORAGE OAT



















- True forage oat
- Exceptional early vigour
- High winter and good overall yield
- High quality, leafy feed
- Excellent BYDV tolerance
- Suitable for grazing, silage and hay
- Suits southern climate zones.
- New release
- Sets a news benchmark in yield 9% over Aladdin and Genie, 15% over Drover and Taipan
- · Good early growth
- · Excellent recovery from grazing and cutting
- Medium maturity
- Well suited to northern climate zones
- There are reports of a new pathotype of leaf rust that infects Wizard. In the absence of the pathotype, Wizard will appear resistant.

GENIE FORAGE OAT









- Excellent seedling vigour leading to more early growth
- Very late maturity which stays leafy into late spring
- Widely used, well regarded variety
- Suits northern and southern climate zones.

WARLOCK FORAGE OAT

- New release for 2019
- Bred by Queensland Department of Primary Industries (QDPI)
- A significant step-change in DM yield 18% higher that Genie.

SOWING & GRAZING WINDOW

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Plant	>	> •	•	•	•	•	•4	▲	◄			
Feed			>	>	> •	•	•	•	•	•4	4	4

FORAGE TRITICALE (X Triticosecale) 60-120 kg/ha

Triticale is a cross between wheat and cereal rye or ryecorn. Combining the quality and yield of wheat and the broad adaptability of rye, triticale is an extremely hardy and adaptable species. It has good disease resistance and is suited to a wide range of climates and growing conditions including light, sandy soil. It can also tolerate acid soils and waterlogging better than other forage cereal species, and has a more developed root system, giving better suitability to light soils.

The reliable grain yield of triticale is the key factor in its use for whole crop silage production. With whole crop silage, the crop is taken through to near maturity and while other cereals lose feed quality rapidly after emergence and continue to fall, the quality of triticale is retained.

CRACKERJACK 2









- Mid/late maturity
- Stripe rust resistant
- Very high forage yield or whole crop silage option
- Excellent winter vigour
- Very good resistance to lodging
- Long and broad leaves
- Can be sown earlier than the original Crackerjack

SOWING & GRAZING WINDOW												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Plant	>	> •	•	•	•	•	•4	◀	◀			
Feed			>	•	▶ ●	•	•	•	•	•4	◄	▲
► Earlier the	an ideal,	but accep	otable •	Optimum	sowing time	⋖ Later th	nan ideal,	but acce	ptable			

FORAGE BARLEY Hordeum vulgare (H. distichum L) 60-100 kg/ha

Barley has fast establishment and high winter production. It is best suited to late planting situations where its quick early growth under cold conditions is an advantage over other forage cereals. Barley provides excellent forage for grazing, hay or silage, with good forage quality. The later planting window gives more flexibility with programs that may include later finishing crops like corn, maize or sorghum and an earlier finish offers the best chance of following summer crops being sown earlier.

Dictator 2 is a hooded or awnless type, thus making it suitable for hay production, or it is very useful for use as standing summer feed. Dictator 2 is far less prone to lodging than other barleys.

DICTATOR 2 FORAGE BARLEY









- True forage barley bred to replace Dictator
- Fastest winter growth of all true forage cereals
- Ideal for late sowing
- Rapid establishment and early growth
- Quick regrowth after grazing
- Awnless suits haymaking as well as silage
- Highest feed quality of forage cereal options:
- Higher Metabolisable Energy (ME)
- Lower Neutral Detergent Fibre (NDF)
- Very high stock acceptance.

SOWING & GRAZING WINDOW												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Plant		>	>	>	▶●	•	•	•4	◀	◄		
Feed				>	>	>	▶●	•	•	•4	4	◄

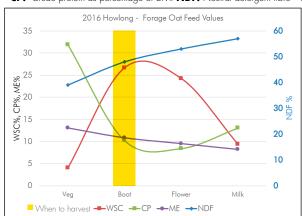
QUALITY AND BEST VALUE FROM FORAGE CEREALS

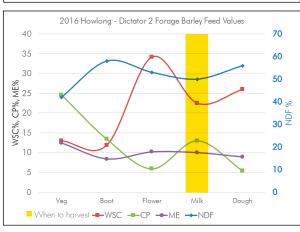
Whilst cereals are often required to provide simple bulk feed, there are opportunities to ensure that higher quality fodder may be produced. Continuing trial work at Howlong, New South Wales since 2014, has been developing some key information to support potential beneficial options such as forage cereal mixtures with other species, and to offer information to guide harvest timing.

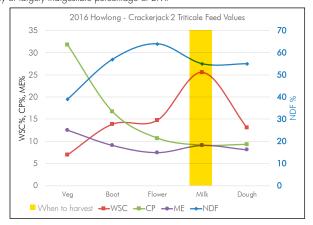
Where cereals were sown either as a sole species or with 20% annual ryegrass (Vortex), feed testing of harvested Crackerjack 2 triticale and Mammoth oats returned a comparative step up in energy levels. Test results reliably indicate an improvement for energy of 0.5 to 0.7 ME MJ/kg DM of the mix compared to the straight cereal sowings. There are also reliable yield benefits in the grazing season and post silage harvest with some very useful re-growth potential from the grass in favourable situations.

Best harvest timing for	forage cereal hay or silage quality	
	Harvest at Boot stage	Excellent ME 10-11 MJ/kg DM
Oats	(just before or at ear emergence)	Low NDF, excellent WSC, OK NDF 48%
	Later harvest will offer more yield, although e	nergy declines markedly.
	Harvest at Milk stage	Good ME of 9-9.5 MJ/kg DM
Triticale	(completion of grain fill)	High sugars, moderate NDF
	Late dough harvest will have a lower sugar c	ontent (WSC, but ME and NDF stable)
	Harvest at Milk stage	Excellent ME of 10-10.5 MJ/kg DM
Barley	(completion of grain fill)	Low NDF, OK protein
	Harvesting at dough stage lowers CP, increa	ses NDF a little, but still very good.

DM: Dry matter in feed. **ME:** Metabolisable energy as megajoules per kilogram of DM. **WSC:** Water soluble carbohydrates (sugars) as % of DM. **CP:** Crude protein as percentage of DM. **NDF:** Neutral detergent fibre – slowly or largely indigestible percentage of DM.







Cereal rye (ryecorn, rye) Secale cereal 40–75 kg/ha

Ryecorn has the potential for useful quick winter feed in a late autumn sowing window, and may be used as a cover crop in some lighter soil situations. Feed value declines rapidly from late winter and rye crops should be terminated before spring, as silage or hay are likely to have poor stock acceptance with very high fibre (70% plus NDF) and little feed value with ME of under 7.5 MJ/kg DM.

VETCH

Vetch is a winter and spring growing annual legume that is commonly used as a disease break in cereal cropping rotations. A multi-purpose crop, it offers high feed value and is ideal for hay production, early grazing as green pasture, dry grazing or green/brown manure. Vetch is often highly sought as a fodder to support dairying due to excellent quality and palatability. Common vetch may be used for grain.

Vetch has the ability to improve soil fertility by fixing large amounts of nitrogen (N) to the soil, which helps to meet the needs of following crops. It responds well to a wide range of soil types however it does not tolerate water-logging. There are a number of different vetch species all of which may be used for grazing or hay:

Common vetch (Vicia sativa)

e.g. Morava, Rasina, Volga, Languedoc and Blanchefleur. Grain larger seed size, lower % hard-seeded than other vetches. Usually faster to establish than other vetch types.

Woolly-pod vetch (Vicia villosa)

e.g. Capello, RM4, Haymaker and Namoi.

Smaller seed size, grain is toxic to stock: make hay before pod-set. Generally higher % hard-seeded than common vetch 15–20% higher hay yield potential than common vetch.

Purple vetch (Vicia benghalensis)

e.g. Popany

Grazing, silage, hay, grain hard-seededness varies with cultivars (Purple vetch now very much outclassed by new common and woolly-pod types.)

Sowing

Initial weed control is usually essential for a good crop. Spray-fallow or stale-seed bed should be incorporated into the program. Vetch may be an initially slow crop to develop, but once well-established, vetch is relatively competitive compared to other legumes.

As a rule of thumb, very often the best sowing window for a district coincides with barley sowing time:

Lower rainfall, spring dry areas April–May

Medium rainfall areas May-lune

Higher rainfall/cold winter areas July-August (or later)

Group E inoculant ought to be applied to seed where vetch, peas or faba beans have not been grown previously.

There is some variation in seed sizes, common vetch the largest, woolly-pod the smallest, requiring allowance for seeding rate, depending on the species being sown. Target plant densities are usually from 40 to 70 plants/m₂. Cereal vetch mixes are generally about 2:1 to 1:2 w/w, depending on seed sizes, and desired outcome.

٧	'etch – typic	al sowing r	ates kg/ha	
	Sole	stand	ln a mix	(cereal)
Species	Lower rainfall	Higher rainfall	Lower rainfall	Higher rainfall
Common vetch	30–50	50-70	25–40	30–50
Woolly-pod vetch	15–30	30–40	15–25	25–30
Purple vetch	30–40	40-60	20–30	30–40

Sowing depth:

Heavier soils: 10–20 mm | Lighter soils: 15–40 mm



Grazing

There is some potential for carefully managed grazing of vetch crops. During the growing phase, allow the plant to develop secondary nodes prior to grazing, and manage grazing such that a good number of these are preserved to provide for regrowth potential. Common vetch may be grazed through flowering or as a standing hay crop. Woolly-pod vetch must not be grazed after pod-set.











- · High yielding, rust resistant common vetch variety
- Multi-purpose suitable for grain, hay/silage, grazing or green/brown
- Earlier in maturity by 7-12 days than Rasina (90–100 days from seeding to full flowering)
- Very good early establishment
- Moderately Resistant (MR) to ascochyta blight. Susceptible (S) to botrytis
- The best adapted vetch variety for grain and hay production in low-mid rainfall areas.

MORAVA









- Resistant to rust and tolerant to ascochyta
- Replacement for all current varieties in areas with average rainfall above 300mm
- Soft-seeded variety and non-shattering
- · Vigorous early plant growth and good grazing palatability
- Produces more biomass than other varieties in medium-high rainfall zones.

RM4 OOLLY POD













- Best early vigour of all lines in SARDI research trials
- Long-term average dry matter yield 108% of Capello
- Early maturity—can be cut for hay 10–15 days earlier than current
- Good frost tolerance in international testing
- Soft-seeded.

HAYMAKER MOOLLY POD











- Hard-seeded, good regeneration from seed
- Selected for improved DM production over Namoi
- Suitable for grazing, hay and green manuring
- Highly efficient nitrogen fixation
- Offers a disease break in cropping rotations
- Resistance to spot, rust and ascochyta.

SOWING & GRAZING WINDOW

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Plant		>	> •	•	•4			▲	◄	∢		
Feed						>	> •	•	•	•4	◄	◄

 \blacktriangleright Earlier than ideal, but acceptable lacktriangle Optimum sowing time \blacktriangleleft Later than ideal, but acceptable

Winter Feed and Forage Guide

WINTER FORAGES QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

Variety/ies		Arnie	Vortex Hogan	Tempo Hulk	Aston	Shogun	Barberia	Commander	Vista, Lightning, Laser, Zulu II	Leafmore	Interval	Falcon	Mammoth, Aladdin, Genie	Crackerjack 2	Dictator 2	Volga	RM4 Haymaker
Туре		Annual ryegrass (diploid)	Annual ryegrass (tetraploid)	Italian ryegrass (diploid)	Italian ryegrass (tetraploid)	Hybrid ryegrass (tetraploid)	Multi-year, hardy ryegrass	Chicory	Balansa, Persian & Arrowleaf clovers	Hardy Rape	Tall Rape	Leafy Turnip	Oats	Triticale	Barley	Common Vetch	Woolly Pod Vetch
Stock Classes ¹		D, B, L, W	D, B, L, W	D, B, L, W	D, B, L, W	D, B, L, W	D, B, L, W	D, B, L, W	D, B, L, W	D, B, L, W	D, B	D, B, L, W	D, B, L, W	D, B, L, W	D, B, L, W	D, B, L	D, B, L
Fodder Options		Silage, Hay	Silage, Hay	Silage, Hay	Silage, Hay	Silage, Hay	Silage, Hay		Silage, Hay			,	Silage, Hay	Silage	Silage, Hay	Silage, Hay	Silage, Hay
Sowing rate (kg/ha)²	High input/Irrig.	20-25	25–35	20–25	25-35	25–35	20–25	0-10		4	4	8-9	100	100-120	85-100	50-70	40–50
	Good dryland	15-20	25	15-20	25	25	15-20	4-6	Usually in grass mixes	က	3	4-6	80-100	100	75-80	40-60	30-40
	Marginal dryland	12–15	20	10-15	20	20	10-15	2-4		2	2	2–3	08-09	08-09	5060	30-40	25–30
	In a mix (typical)	15-20	20-25	15-20	20-25	20-25	12–18	1.5–3.0	2-6	0.5-2.0	0.5-2.0	2–3	25-50	25–50	25–50	25-40	20–25
	Oversowing generally	15-20	20-25	15-20	20-25	20-25	10-15	4-6	rarely				40-80	40–80	40–80		
	Oversowing Kikuyu	25-35	35-50	25–35	35-50	35-50	rarely		rarely				80-100	80-100	80-100		
Sowing time ³	Early autumn	Ideal	pəp	Ideal	Ideal	Ideal	Ideal	Ideal	Ideal	Ideal	ldeal	Ideal	Ideal		Useful	Good	Good
	Mid autumn	Ideal	ldeal	Ideal	Ideal	Ideal	Ideal	¥	Good	Good	ŏ	Good	Ideal	Ideal	ð	Ideal	Ideal
	Late autumn/winter	OK	OK	Useful,	Useful, but slow to get going if late sown	t going if late s	own	Avoid	Usually slow	Little wint	Little winter growth if late sown	sown	OK	OK	Ideal	OK in mild	OK in mild winter areas
	Early spring	Useful	Useful	Good fo	Good for areas with extended spring season	ended spring s	edson	Ideal	OK in mild summer areas	May bolt if sown too early	wn too early	Ř	OK fo	OK for extended spring areas	reds	Good in late	Good in late spring areas
Suggested min 9c date	Suggested min 9am Soil C° at sowing date	8-10	8-10	8-10	8-10	8-10	8-10	12-14	12-14	12-14	12–14	12-14	8-10	8-10	8-10	12-14	12-14
Weeks to first graze⁴	ıze⁴	7–8	7-8	7–8	7–8	7–8	8-10	7-10	8-10	8-10	10-12	8-9,	7-10	7-10	7-10	10-14	10-14
Regrowth capacity ⁵	ly ⁵	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Limited	Limited
Guide to number of grazings typically possible	of grazings	Many	Many	Many	Many	Many	Many	Many	Many	2-3 +	1-2+	3-4 +	2-3 +	1-2 +	1-2 +	one	one

Nutritional	Vegetative growth																
features ⁶ (typical analysis)	Whole crop % DM			16–18	8			16	15-17	14-15	14-15	14-15	22–30	25-35	20–30	17-24	16-25
	Whole crop ME MJ/kgDM			11–12.5	2.5			11-12	11 - 12	11–13	11-13	11-13	9-11.5	9.5–12.5	9.5-12.5	9.5–12	10.5-13
	Whole crop CP%			16–25	25			11-13	17 - 27	17–20	17–20	17-20	9-14	10-15	10–16	18–30	18-30
	Whole crop NDF%			35-42	12			18–30	24 - 32	22–25	22–25	16–19	40–55	40-55	40–55	30-40	32-45
	Silage (good timing)																
	ME MJ/kgDM			9.5–10.5	0.5			Only ensile when	8.5-11	Silage is possible although rarely is it purposefully made. Having 10-30% forage	ssible although de. Having 10	rarely is it	8.5–10	8.5-10.5	9-10.5	Feed values similar to good vetch hay. Use of silage	nilar to good se of silage
	CP%			14-20	0.			in mixed swards	15-22	rape in a mixer cereals ca	in a mixed sward silage with gro cereals can be reasonably good	with grass or y good	7–12	8.5-10	9–12.5	inoculant is essenti results	ential for good Its
	NDF%			9060	00				40 - 55				50-60	50-60	45–55		
	Hay (well made)																
	ME MJ/kgDM			8-9.5	5			Unsuitable for	7.5 - 11	,	- - -		8-10	 	9–10.5	8.5-11	9-11
	CP%			10-12	2			hay	15-22	Aar Far	Karely taken tor hay	<u></u>	6-11	for hay	7-12	17–22	15-25
	NDF%			55-65	55				40 - 60				55-70		45-60	35-45	42-55
Co-species	Annual ryegrasses	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	rarely	rarely	Good	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		
Compatibility7	Italian ryegrasses	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		
	Shogun ryegrass	rarely	rarely	Excellent	Excellent		Good	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Good	Good		Rarely justified			
	Barberia ryegrass	rarely	rarely	Good	Good	Good		Excellent	Excellent	Good	Good	Good		Rarely justified			
	Annual clovers	Good	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Good	Excellent		Excellent	Excellent	Excellent				-	-
	White clover	rarely	rarely	Good	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Cereals IIsli	ally too competitiv	ossure	Karely in mixes other than with cereals	es other than ereals
	Red clover	rarely	rarely	Good	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Perennial type clovers only infrequently used with annual clovers	Good	Good	Good	0	good clover content	te		
	Sub-clovers	rarely	rarely	rarely	rarely	Good	Excellent	Good		Good	Good	Good					
	Forage rapes	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Good	Excellent	Cood				Car	Can be a very good mix	хiш		
	Chicory	Good	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent		Rarely justified			
	Forage cereals	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	rarely	rarely	rarely	Cereals usually smother	Can b	Can be a very good mix	mix				Excellent	Excellent
	Vetch	Vetch	Vetch rarely mixed with ryegrasses as will be outcompeted as a rule	vith ryegrasses o	ss will be out-co	ompeted as a ri	<u> </u>	rarely	Rarely justified	Œ	Rarely justified		Excellent	Excellent	Good		

1. D Dairy, B Beef, Llamb/Intersive sheep, VV Wool/extensive sheep
2. Sowing rates and desired success will depend on various field factors and management applied. Higher rates for high production expectations.
3. Earlier dates will largely only suit coolemperate areas. Warm/hot summer areas should sow towards the end of the window. Early spring sowing dates are the reverse: warm/hot areas sow earlier for best results.

Typical minimum growth times with suitable moisture and growing conditions. Slow germination and plant stresses will likely delay crop development.
 Float potential due to specific characteristics, provided moisture, nutrients, seasonal conditions and management are adequate.
 Infanciave figures only. Plant density and growing conditions may markedly affect nutritional hactors. Harvested fodder values highly dependant on seasonal conditions, liming and management applied.
 Crop growth characteristics typically observed, and resulting comments made as suggestions for best outcomes.

PASTURE MIXES

RENOVATOR SR E BUENDS









Quality grazing and fodder 1–2 years

Renovator SR offers the combination of Hogan for fast establishment and high winter growth and Hulk Italian ryegrass for longer lasting feed into the late spring-early summer. AgriCote annual clovers improve the quality of pasture for grazing, silage or hay production.

VARIETY	SPECIES	%
Hulk	Italian ryegrass	30
Hogan	Annual ryegrass	50
Laser	Persian clover	20
Sowing rate: 25–30 kg/ha		

MEATMASTER ST STURE BUENDS









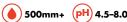


High yield grazing and fodder 1 year

A fast establishing, highly productive annual mix ideal for high quality winter grazing and spring hay or silage. Suited to irrigation or 500mm+winter dominant rainfall broad acre systems.

VARIETY	SPECIES	%
Vortex	Annual ryegrass	80
laser	Persian clover	10
Vista	Balansa clover	10
Sowing rate: 20-25 kg/ha		

RENOVATOR SPRING SILAGE RE BUENDS









High yield silage crop (pea and oat mix)

This blend offers an excellent later planting option for good silage production in southern areas. Usually sown from June to September in higher rainfall areas with a typically longer spring season. High yield of good quality feed may be produced from a modest area over a relatively short period. Mammoth oats provide yield, energy and reliable bulk. Field peas add protein and improve digestibility and overall animal performance. Silage inoculation is usually advisable at harvest time. Harvest when the pea is at flat pod or the oats milky-dough, whichever

VARIETY	SPECIES	%
Mammoth	Forage oats	40
Morgan	Field pea	60
Sowing rate: 120-180 kg/ha		

NOTES

OTHER PUBLICATIONS FROM HERITAGE SEEDS

For a copy of any of these guides please e-mail heritage@heritageseeds.com.au or visit www.heritageseeds.com.au











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