



Disease Resistance/Tolerance

SARDI-Grazer is resistant (R) to Phytophthora Root Rot (*Phytophthora medicaginis*) and Anthracnose.

Product Fit

- Cropping rotations where large paddocks restrict the use of rotational grazing
- Wool, prime lamb and beef production in medium to high rainfall areas where mob sizes and number of mobs prevent the use of strict rotational grazing
- Where a long term alfalfa stand is required for a permanent pasture with volunteer grasses or mixtures with phalaris, cocksfoot or tall fescue
- In any system where a simple 2 paddock rotation system is required for managing livestock.

Variety / Agronomy Management

SARDI-Grazer is a winter active cultivar that has been bred to withstand spells of continuous grazing of up to two months. To gain sound establishment the crop should only be lightly grazed in the first year, as per all alfalfa varieties. Once established, it can be grazed in a 2 paddock rotation with 6-8 weeks grazing followed by 6-8 weeks recovery. The recovery period is critical for recharging energy reserves of the plant which will maintain excellent levels of production and persistence.

SARDI-Grazer can also be recommended for any grazing enterprise, as the results from commercial farms in Australia show exceptional persistence under management practises currently used on commercial farms.



Medicago sativa



Key Features

- The most grazing tolerant commercial alfalfa variety in Australia
- Persists under periods of set stocking up to two months once established
- Winter activity rating 6 (6.5 effectively)
- Persistence 8-10 years+
- Requires minimal rotational grazing management
- Exceptional persistence across a range of environments from low to high rainfall, dryland and irrigation
- Broadly adapted to a variety of farming systems
- Well suited to mixed swards with perennial grasses such as winter active tall fescue, cocksfoot or phalaris.

Description

SARDI-Grazer is the most grazing tolerant alfalfa variety currently available in Australia. It is a new winter active variety developed by SARDI and the Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia with funding from the GRDC. SARDI-Grazer was developed primarily for use in cropping rotations, where large paddocks limit the use of rotational grazing. It delivers superior persistence where uneven grazing causes areas of the paddock to be heavily grazed before others can be properly utilised.

It is also useful in permanent pastures in medium to high rainfall areas where long periods of continuous grazing (over 4 weeks) by sheep or cattle is common practice.

Pest Resistance

SARDI-Grazer is highly resistant (HR) to Spotted Alfalfa Aphid (*Therioaphis trifolii*) and Blue-Green Alphid (*Acyrthosiphon kondoi*). As with other alfalfa varieties, SARDI-Grazer is susceptible to damage from Red Legged Earth Mite (*Halotydens destructor*) and control measures need to take place prior to seeding or soon after germination. AgriCOTE seed will aid establishment in these circumstances.

For any sales or product enquiries, please contact:

Robert Hedge

International Sales and Marketing Manager rhedge@heritageseeds.com.au

Roger Dennis

International - Sales and Marketing rdennis@heritageseeds.com.au

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