



# QUICK FEED OPTIONS FOR RED MEAT PRODUCERS

Autumn-planted forage crops can help to fill feed gaps during the winter months, when feed shortages may arise. They can also remove grazing pressure from other pastures, keeping these paddocks in good shape for the next growing season.

## **PASTURE PARTNERS** MAXIMISING HOME-GROWN FEED

There are many quick feed options available for red meat producers. Selecting the right option for your individual circumstances and feed requirements will help to ensure success.

### **OPTION 1: FORAGE BRASSICAS**

Autumn-sown forage brassicas are a low-cost option providing high feed value (high in protein and energy) through the winter months. Ideally, they should be sown in early autumn when soil temperatures are still around 12–14 degrees or higher.

Forage brassicas have a ripening requirement, which means that they take a bit longer to graze. You should be able to introduce stock at 8–10 weeks, however be careful to introduce stock slowly, and supplement feed with extra fibre in the form of hay.

**Varieties to consider:**

**LEAFMORE FORAGE RAPE**

**INTERVAL FORAGE RAPE**

**FALCON LEAFY TURNIP**

## OPTION 2: ANNUAL AND ITALIAN RYEGRASS

Annual or Italian ryegrasses are a popular and highly reliable autumn, winter and spring forage.

### ANNUAL RYEGRASS

Annual ryegrass is popular in areas with winter dormant 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 of summer growth. Annual ryegrass exhibits the greatest winter growth potential of all the ryegrass types.

**Varieties to consider:**

**VORTEX ANNUAL RYEGRASS**

**HOGAN ANNUAL RYEGRASS**

**FUZE ANNUAL RYEGRASS**

### ITALIAN RYEGRASS

Highly productive in areas where late spring rainfall is reliable, or where summers are mild. They are very useful for over-sowing into run-down pastures as a boost for a year or two. Italian ryegrass can persist for 2–3 years in summer-mild areas under irrigation or reliable summer rainfall.

**Varieties to consider:**

**TEMPO ITALIAN RYEGRASS**

**ASTON ITALIAN RYEGRASS**

## OPTION 3: FORAGE CEREALS

Forage cereals, such as oats or barley, are quick to establish, and have strong winter and spring growth. Well managed crops can provide good bulk feed that can be directly grazed or cut and conserved as hay or silage.

Breeding and development has seen the release of new varieties that are developed for tolerance to multiple grazing, high quality and high forage yield in Australian conditions.

In 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 forage cereals may also be suitable for late winter and early spring sowing.

**Varieties to consider:**

**MAMMOTH FORAGE OAT**

**EXPRESS FORAGE OAT**

**DICTATOR 2 FORAGE BARLEY**

**CRACKERJACK 2 TRITICALE**

## PASTURE MIXES

Sowing a pasture blend can be a good solution for meeting the nutritional needs of your stock. Consult with your agronomist to determine the best combination of products. At Heritage Seeds we work hard to ensure we have the range of quality seed varieties available and ready to mix to your needs.

### WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO SOW?

The success of winter feed and fodder crops is dependent on having adequate moisture for establishment. Providing your paddocks are not limited by water, sowing can begin anytime from mid-March through to later in the season.

### HOW QUICKLY CAN I GRAZE?

Grazing times will depend on the time of sowing and also what you choose to sow. Forage cereals and annual or Italian ryegrasses will give you good feed for your first grazing within 6–8 weeks.

## WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Our team of experienced Territory Managers are ready to provide you with specialist advice.

**START A CONVERSATION TODAY.**

**FRECALL: 1800 007 333 | [heritageseeds.com.au](http://heritageseeds.com.au)**

**GROW WITH  
CONFIDENCE**

**INSIST ON THE  
YELLOW BAG**

Heritage**seeds** 

