

Dictator 2

Forage barley

Hordeum vulgare

Forages



450mm+



5.4–8.0



Most soil types



PBR

Dictator 2 is a specialty forage, awnless (hooded), 2 row barley with dark coloured seed. It has medium green foliage and medium plant height at maturity. It is suitable for grazing, silage and hay production in most Australian production zones.

Key features

- 15–20% yield advantage over older varieties
- Improved early vigour
- Excellent recovery from grazing
- Shorter stature = Less prone to lodging
- Finer stems

Key benefits

- Excellent recovery from grazing
- Quick feed when sown in Autumn
- Multipurpose - Grazing, silage and or hay
- Improved palatability

Applications

Dictator 2 is an excellent option for April to July sowing when it is getting late for ryegrass or other pasture options. It is equally effective when used in a mix or as a sole variety and will produce exceptional quality feed. Dictator 2 is also a useful break crop option when looking at a pasture renovation program.

Agronomy and management

Dictator 2 should be grazed once it achieves approximately 300mm in height. Early grazing is useful to encourage tillering and increase dry matter production. Repeat grazings are possible each time the crop returns to the desired height. To achieve rapid regrowth, grazing down to no lower than 75-100mm is recommended. If grazed below this point e.g. 30mm, regrowth will occur, but it will be much slower. The strategic use of nitrogen fertilizer will boost crop recovery, this coupled with correct grazing management will provide the highest yields.

It will tolerate multiple grazings until the production of the first node (Z31). Like most other cereal varieties, Dictator 2 will not regenerate after hay cutting once the plant has

moved into its reproductive stage and the node carrying the head is removed by grazing or in a hay cut. A late sowing is capable of providing one grazing and moderate hay cut or one good hay cut. The awnless characteristic allows complete grazing, irrespective of the time of season. If the plant runs to head it produces more palatable grazing, hay or silage than conventional awned barleys, without the associated problems of impaction of awns in the mouth and gut and damage to eyes.

Dictator 2 will also tolerate short periods of waterlogging without any significant reduction in production. But if exposed to lengthy periods of waterlogging in mid to late winter and early spring a reduction in production can be expected.

Disease resistance

Dictator 2 has a strong disease package compared to other similar varieties.

Disease	Dictator 2	Moby
Leaf rust	MR	S
Powdery mildew	R	MR/MS
Net blotch (NF)	R/MR	MR/MS
Scald	R/MR	MS
BYDV	MS	VS

Source: EBDN 2018

Feed quality

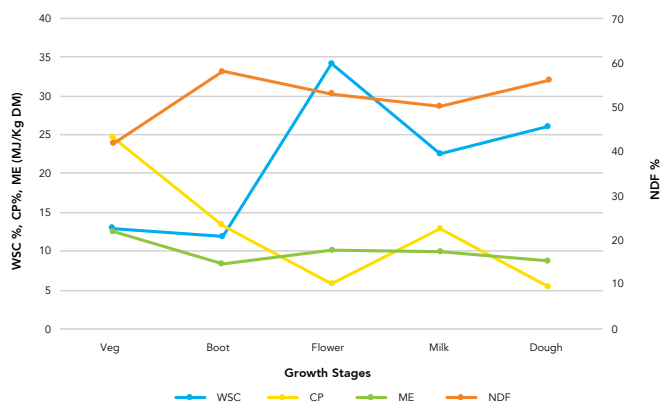
Feed test values compared to other species, Howlong October 2011

	ME	NDF	CP
Dictator 2	11.2	46	10.7
Ryecorn	8.5	63	5.0
Oats	8.7	60	9.8

Excellent ME during grazing phase. Best time of harvesting for silage or hay is milky-dough to dough stage.

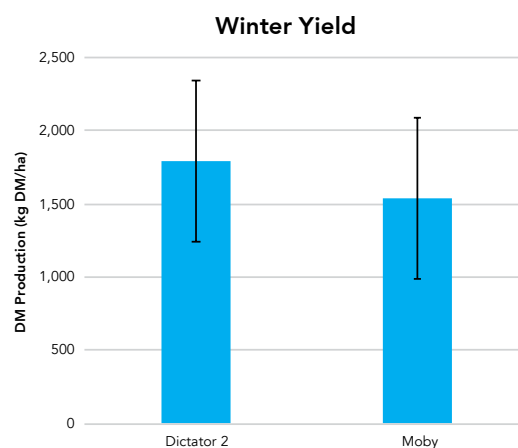
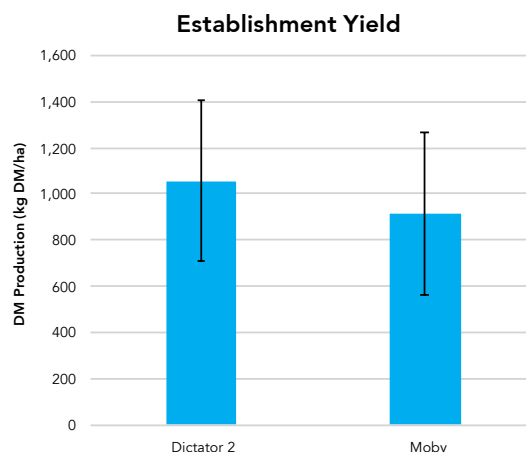
Dictator 2 maintains a relatively low NDF throughout thus offering improved stock acceptance.

Dictator 2 Barley Feed Quality V Growth Stages



Forage/fodder yield

Dictator 2 has consistent superior dry matter production over similar varieties across 6 years (2013-2018) of trials at Howlong, NSW.



Sowing rate

Marginal dryland: 40 kg/ha

Good dryland: 60 kg/ha

High rainfall/irrigated: 85–100 kg/ha

Sowing time (Australia):

Most suited: April–June: Ideal time for 2–3 grazings + fodder production

For fast autumn feed: February–April: Fast autumn feed, possible yield penalty for fodder

Late spring areas: July–October: Excellent late season option for southern most areas

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