

VISCOUNT 
PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

agriseeds 
superior pastures

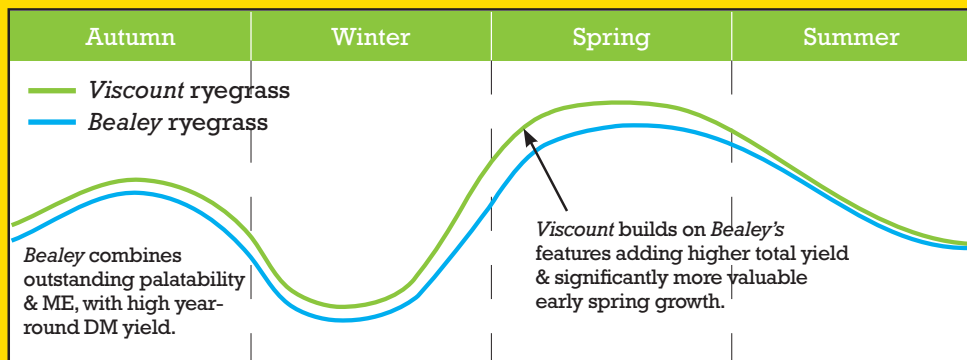
**Viscount - the
next stage
in pasture
development...**

VISCOUNT

PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

Viscount has been a standout tetraploid perennial ryegrass in Agriseeds plant breeding programme, with significantly more early spring growth and better total yield than *Bealey*. Add to this improved rust resistance and better summer feed quality too.

The biggest gain with *Viscount* is in its early spring growth, through calving or lambing when feed is most valuable. For dairy farmers extra grass at this time of year has been valued at an average of \$0.46/kgDM in the DairyNZ Forage Value Index.





WHY SOW VISCOUNT?

Three reasons to sow *Viscount* perennial ryegrass:

1. More feed when you need it.

Viscount has a flowering date of +19 days (6 days earlier than *Bealey*). It has very good total DM yield but importantly has improved early spring growth – a time when feed is of the highest value in pastoral systems.

2. Animals love it.

Viscount has all the features animals love in a pasture;

- the excellent palatability of a tetraploid
- upright growth for ease of harvest
- high quality with reduced aftermath heading and improved rust tolerance
- clover friendly

3. Healthy animals.

In addition to providing high quality feed *Viscount* comes with the *NEA* endophyte, similar to that in *Bealey* and *Shogun*. This plays an important role in providing superior animal performance with a very low risk of animal health problems, such as ryegrass staggers.



“*Viscount* was a
standout in our
breeder’s trials,
topping the Waikato
yield trial and showing
impressive early
spring growth.”

Courtney Inch -
Team Leader
Plant Breeding

SOWING VISCOUNT

Suggested below are several seed mixes for *Viscount NEA**.

Dairy

Suggested seed mix	kg/ha
<i>Viscount</i> perennial ryegrass	30
<i>Kotare</i> white clover	2
<i>Weka</i> white clover	2
Total	34

Sheep & Beef

Suggested seed mix	kg/ha
<i>Viscount</i> perennial ryegrass	30
<i>Weka</i> white clover	2
<i>Apex</i> white clover	2
<i>Tuscan</i> red clover	4
Total	38

Viscount/Trojan mix

Suggested seed mix	kg/ha
<i>Viscount</i> perennial ryegrass	15
<i>Trojan</i> perennial ryegrass	10
<i>Kotare</i> white clover	2
<i>Weka</i> white clover	2
Total	29

*Results to date with *NEA* give us confidence that *Viscount NEA* is unlikely to cause staggers. As a matter of caution we currently do not recommend *Viscount NEA* is used for horses or deer.

MANAGING TETRAPLOID PERENNIALS

Tetraploid perennial ryegrasses like *Viscount* have higher palatability and can increase per animal and per ha performance. They require good management to get the best out of them and here are three tips to help achieve this;

1. Develop a system to give them a bit more TLC - avoid continual hard grazing when dry, and in wet winter conditions avoid treading damage.
2. Keep tetraploid paddocks together in a block – this makes it easier for staff to manage point 1.
3. Sow *Trojan* with *Viscount* where you want the palatability advantage, but robustness too.

