



Farms visited on 4th November

Charlie & Jen Lillicrap

Todd & Anne Woodard

Pannell Family

Topics

Ryegrass V's Fescue

Cattle

Sheep

Seeding Options

Different Soil Types



South East Prime Livestock Achievers – Sticky Beak Day

Farmer – Charles & Jen Lillicrap

Enterprise – Sheep/Cattle Cropping & Small Seed Production

Farm Size Hectares – 1220

Overview – Lamb production mainly. Breed and trade Angus/Angus Cross Steers. Cropping and Summer Cropping to get paddocks back to permanent pasture. Cropping program has been reduced over the last 5 years due to climatic and agronomic reasons.

Tips For Pasture Success –

- Rotational Grazing (Wire Creates Grass)
- Weed Control in the First Year
- Buy Quality Seed
- Ground Preparation Essential
- Be prepared to oversow
- Sow to soil type. Don't be scare to split a paddock.

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MacKillop Farm Management Group Inc

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Three Things Have learnt –

- F!*%# Fescue
- Stick with Perennials
- Don't be scared to graze lightly early in 1st year.

Farmer – Todd & Anne Woodard (Peel Pastoral)

Enterprise – Cattle and Lamb Production

Farm Size Hectares – 2200

Overview –

1200 Angus cows, (Autumn and Spring calving.)

Calves are sold to back grounders at about 330kg ,(depending on the season) under contract

3000 F1, Multi Meat and composite ewes

Tips For Pasture Success –

- Grazing management
- Perennial species that want to grow and thrive in this country

How do you utilize your irrigation -

Only graze the right type of animals ,ie animals that are going to gain maximum weight.

Use irrigation to fulfill forward contracts, therefore know your end price and and your costs.

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Three Things Have Learnt –

- Grazing management is the Key when grazing perennials
- Match stocking rate to carrying capacity
- Set you country up to take advantage of rain whenever it falls

Farmer – Michael/Joe/Sue/Tim & Michelle Pannell

Enterprise – Sheep/Cattle & Cropping

Farm Size Hectares – 800 Hectares

Overview – Was mainly grazing with contracting income with succession change gone more cropping and increased stock numbers to compliment cropping. Have used cropping to clean up area to be sown back to permanent pasture to breed and finish lambs. Crop stubbles also utilized to finish lambs.

Tips For Pasture Success –

- Weed Control
- Preparation – Think at least 1 year ahead
- Good Tilt & Seed Soil Contact
- Don't skimp on Seed
- Graze new pastures early and lightly
- Good Plant Nutrition
- Utilise spray topping the previous year if cropping or summer cropping is not an option

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How do you utilize your irrigation –

- Lease some to next door neighbor.
- Summer fodder crop as a last resort to finish animals

Three Things Have Learnt –

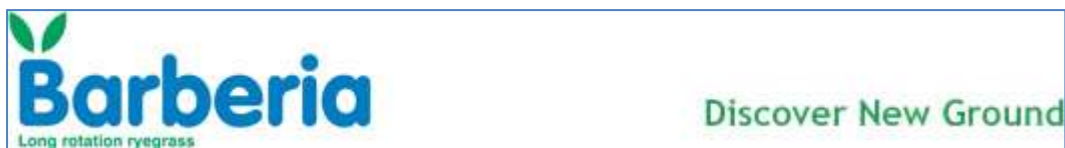
- Get pastures in early
- Don't be scared to so dry if preparation is right.
- Seed Dressings are worth the cost & Effort, due to better germination and early vigor and better root growth.

Pannell Annual Ryegrass Trial

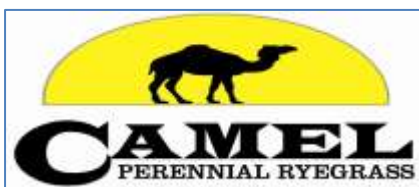
- **Atomic Ryegrass**
- **Abundant Ryegrass**
- **Arnie Ryegrass**
- **Icon Ryegrass**
- **Jeanne Ryegrass**
- **Jivet Ryegrass**
- **Perun Ryegrass**
- **Progrow Ryegrass**
- **Tetila Ryegrass**
- **Tetrone Ryegrass**
- **Surrey Ryegrass**

What were we looking for:

- Preferential Grazing
- What grew best at different times of year!
- Regrowth after Grazing
- Self Regeneration



BARBERIA is a new generation long rotation hybrid ryegrass unlike any other, it has a unique North African background giving it the winter and spring growth of an annual along with persistence approaching that of a perennial. Barberia is nil endophyte and combines high yields with high palatability for maximum animal production. It is suited as a high production medium term pastures or as part of a pasture blend and is especially suited to oversowing into thinning pastures to extend pasture life.



Camel is an Australian bred very tough Staggers free variety of perennial ryegrass. Used local for many years. Bred from the Vic cultivar plants were collected from area around St Arnaud in approx 450mm annual rainfall. A much lower rainfall requirement than other ryegrass varieties.

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133% More root growth than other Perennial Ryegrass varieties with excellent heat tolerance. Strong winter production and staggers free option. Have some trials at Conmurra trying as a substitute for fescues, but we need to be able prove the longer term persistence on the heavy flay country.

Sirosa Phalaris

Origin

Bred by J.R. McWilliam and H.E. Schroeder, Division of Plant Industry, CSIRO, Canberra, based on a wide range of ecotypes of *Phalaris tuberosa* introduced from the Mediterranean region. In summary, the breeding procedures involved top-crossing a large number of selected Mediterranean ecotypes on to the well adapted cv. Australian and one other mid-season Turkish ecotype (CPI15022), followed by several generations of random recombination before exposing the population to repeated cycles of individual and family selection (for further details see McWilliam and Latter 1970). Submitted by the Division of Plant Industry, CSIRO, and recommended for registration by the New South Wales Herbage Plant Liaison Committee. Registered April 1974.

Morphological description

Morphologically similar to the Australian cultivar, but differing in the following respects. Leaf sheath longer with broader laminae, culms thicker and taller. Panicles tend to be larger and more compact and the seeds are also larger and 25% heavier at maturity, with a tendency to be more hairy. The cultivar flowers c.3 days before Australian with a similar range of intrapopulation variation in flowering date. Up to 20% of the population carry the gene for red root tip (McWilliam and Shepherd 1964) which expresses clearly in newly germinated seedlings. In general, seedlings and adult plants are more robust and less prostrate during the winter period.

Agronomic characters

Evidence from trials throughout south-eastern Australia indicate that Sirosa has retained the wide adaptability of Australian. It has performed well on the slopes and tablelands extending in a broad sweep around south-eastern Australia, generally in regions with a rainfall in excess of 450 mm. The seedlings are more vigorous than those of Australian and display the rapid early growth characteristic of Sirocco, although they are better tillered and less erect. This increased seedling vigour results in more reliable establishment and greater dry matter production during the early years, especially during the cooler seasons. The persistence of the cultivar is comparable with Australian and Sirocco, but it produces more seed than either of these cultivars owing to increased seed yield per plant and superior seed retention at maturity. The cultivar has been selected for

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reduced levels of dimethyltryptamine alkaloids which are considered to be associated with the expression of staggers and sudden death syndromes. Breeders' seed will be maintained by the Division of Plant Industry, CSIRO, Canberra, A.C.T.

Holdfast Phalaris

Holdfast (*Phalaris aquatica*) is a semi-erect, winter active Phalaris, which forms thick dense tufts of wide blue-green leaves that are very palatable to sheep and cattle. It was selected as a superior replacement for Siroso. Holdfast has excellent production and persistence in areas with high acidity and moderate rainfall. It has a low level of summer dormancy so it can respond to summer rainfall, potentially providing feed all year round. Holdfast has excellent seedling vigour which will assist in successful establishment. Once established, Holdfast will tolerate periods of waterlogging and inundation. Holdfast's ability to grow in acidic conditions increases the range of pasture species available to combat soil degradation. Establishing a perennial pasture based on Phalaris will improve farm productivity compared to systems relying on Annual Grasses. Nitrogen produced by pasture legumes, usually grown with annual grasses, leaches down through the soil profile, taking nutrients with it, leaving acidic elements behind. The deep-rooted nature of Holdfast Phalaris draws these nutrients back up along the soil profile to help prevent or slow down the onset of acidification. Another major benefit of the deep-root system of Phalaris is it improves persistence and productivity under drought conditions. It is also useful in reducing recharge zones and helps prevent dry land salinity.

Lawson Phalaris

Lawson was bred in Argentina and has been extensively evaluated under Australian conditions across numerous trial sites in NSW and Vic over the past five years. It is a semi-erect, winter active phalaris developed for short summer dormancy, superior summer and autumn production, late flowering, disease resistance and good grazing tolerance. Lawson has strong seed yields and retention, this is an important consideration when selecting a phalaris variety as it impacts on seedling vigour, and the ability to recover stands through natural seed set and recruitment. Lawson has been submitted as a new variety for PBR.



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A very high yielding variety with semi-erect to erect growth habit, good winter activity and mid-season flowering. Vision has a finer stem and leaf form than some cocksfoots but is not excessively dense, allowing good compatibility with other grasses and clovers. Vision is the highest performing cocksfoot in the National Forage Variety Trials Summary; and is well suited to rotational grazing or set stocking.

Ambassador Cocksfoot

☐ Ambassador is a highly digestible and non-aggressive cocksfoot variety

- Good autumn and winter growth, summer growth in northern areas
- Well adapted to a wide range of soils
- Good seedling vigour and early growth
- Excellent tolerance to acid soils
- Highly palatable with high leaf bulk yields
- Better persistence in wet conditions

Attotas Arrowleaf Clover

Arrotas[®] was developed for Tasmanian producers to take advantage of Tasmania's long growing season. Arrotas[®] (at lat. 42') flowers 29 days later than the next variety Zulu, 31 days later than Seelu and Zulu 11 and 43 days later than Cefalu. With adequate moisture Arrotas[®] will provide an extra four weeks of high quality feed compared to any other variety of Arrowleaf clover available in Australia. Assuming growth rates of Arrotas[®] are a conservative 70kg DM per day (Growth rates of 135 kgDM/day have been recorded for Arrotas[®]) over this four week period Arrotas[®] will provide an extra 2t/ha in dry matter (DM) compared to other Arrowleaf clovers. Valuing pasture at \$60 per tonne this equals an extra return of \$120 per hectare simply by choosing the later maturing variety Arrotas



TONIC can add value, both in terms of dry matter, and quality, in a diverse range of ways in any farming system.

The benefits include:

- Increased dry matter production
- Extended 'shoulders' of seasonal production
- Improved quality at key times of the year

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- Positive impact on animal performance
- Improved supply of some trace elements to animals



Grasslands Puna chicory is a broad-leafed perennial herb with an extensive tap root which aids persistence, as well as contributing to the forage's high mineral content due to its uptake ability. Outstanding animal performance

Very high summer productivity

Perennial tap-rooted herb for excellent grazing or silage

Good drought and pest resistance

Proven milk production and live-weight benefits

Notes

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