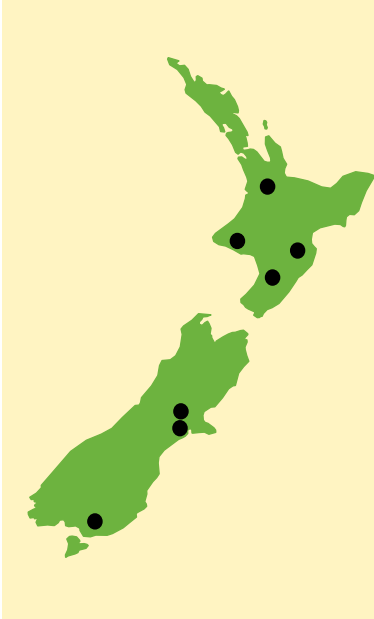


# National Forage Variety Trial (NFVT®) system

## Summary

- A co-operative system for testing pasture varieties, involving Agricom, Agriseeds, Cropmark, PGG Wrightson Seeds and Grasslanz.
- The NFVT® system provides reliable data. It has run a total of 101 trials since 1991.

## Trial system



- Trials are undertaken at a range of sites (the core sites are marked).
- Trials must have a minimum of 4 replicates.
- Perennial ryegrass and clover trials are generally run for 3 years, short-term ryegrass for 15 months.
- Trials simulate rotational grazing under high soil fertility with yield measured by cutting and dry matter analysis, or by pasture probe.
- In mixed sward trials herbage dissections are taken at every cut. In pure sward trials herbage dissections are undertaken when non-sown components contribute more than 5% of yield.

## Important points

- The trials in these summaries were carried out at a limited number of sites using specified management regimes and cannot represent every situation.
- Trials do not measure animal performance.

## Trial presentation

- The statistical variation or reliability of variety yield is shown by the bars ( ──── ) on the graphs. A wider bar means less reliability (possibly due to the variety being in fewer trials or more variable in yield). In comparing varieties, those whose bars overlap are not significantly different from each other, at the 95% confidence level.
- Within each period, the average DM yield of each variety is recorded as a red dot ( ● ).
- To be presented, varieties must have been in a minimum of three trials for that region.