

Perennial ryegrass

Introduction

Throughout NZ, perennial ryegrass is the grass of choice for permanent pastures. It establishes rapidly, yields well, tolerates a range of management practices and has a high nutritive value. It is also compatible with white clover offering an excellent all-round pasture for all grazing systems.

<p>Most persistent</p> <p>↑</p> <p>↓</p> <p>Least persistent</p>	Perennial ryegrass
	Long rotation ryegrass
	Hybrid ryegrass
	Italian ryegrass
	Annual ryegrass

Most perennial ryegrasses are available with different endophytes, which are fungi that can assist plant survival (see page 59 for more details).

Ryegrass is naturally a diploid plant, meaning it has two sets of chromosomes. Some varieties are tetraploids, artificially developed by plant breeders to have four sets of chromosomes. Tetraploids are more palatable, and can offer improved animal performance (see page 160 for more details).

Diploid varieties

Alto

High performance, persistent, late heading (+14 days) ryegrass suitable for all farming systems. *Alto* is a fine leaved, robust variety with excellent persistence, along with high year-round yield and very good feed value, good resistance to rust and plant pulling. Available with *Plus AR1* or *Without* endophyte. (Refer also to the *Alto* sheet on page 7).

Arrow

Delivers high winter-early spring growth, while performing well in all seasons. *Arrow* combines early growth with a medium-late heading date (+7 days). It has a medium-erect growth habit allowing good clover compatibility, and has very good persistence. Available with *Plus AR1* or *Without* endophyte. (Refer also to the *Arrow* sheet on page 8).

Bronsyn

The variety that set the standard. The number one choice of NZ dairy farmers and widely used in sheep and beef systems over the last 12 years. *Bronsyn* has excellent persistence, summer and autumn growth and resistance to plant pulling. Available with *Plus AR1* or *Without* endophyte. (Refer also to the *Bronsyn* sheet on page 10).

AberDart

A UK-bred late heading (+15 days) variety. Good summer growth, but below average winter growth. Available with *AR1* or *Without* endophyte.

AberMagic

UK-bred late heading (+15 days) perennial ryegrass. Better year round growth with a higher tolerance of rust. Available with *AR1* or *Without* endophyte.

Ceres One50

Late heading variety (+20 days) with good autumn and winter production. Available with *AR1* or *Without* endophyte.