

Hybrid Ryegrass

Hybrid ryegrasses (*Lolium x boucheanum* Kunth), also known as 'short rotation' ryegrasses, are generally produced by plant breeders crossing Italian or annual ryegrass with perennial ryegrass. Hybrid ryegrasses fall between Italian and long rotation ryegrasses in...

Shogun

Hybrid Ryegrass (*Lolium x boucheanum*)

- Exceptional DM yield
- Fast establishment
- Ideal for Undersowing
- Winter growth with flexibility



Exceptional DM yield

Over a 12 month period, Shogun has the highest DM yields of any ryegrass we've tested. It produces more than most perennial ryegrasses in summer and autumn, and in winter and early spring its growth is comparable to an Italian. This level of feed supply frees up more paddocks for renewal. The extra profitability Shogun can generate also helps fund investment in increased pasture renewal.

Fast establishment

Shogun's fast establishment is comparable to that of an Italian ryegrass. This allows paddocks resown with Shogun to be brought back into the grazing rotation more quickly than those renewed with perennial or other hybrid ryegrasses. Less down time means larger areas of pasture can be renewed without compromising production. For the same reason, Shogun lends itself to pasture renewal programmes which utilise staggered sowing dates – sown paddocks are ready for grazing quickly, allowing further paddocks to be dropped out of grazing for renewal

Ideal for Undersowing

Shogun is ideal for undersowing (drilling seed into pasture without a herbicide spray). This is a key technique for reviving larger areas of pasture on some farms.

Winter growth with flexibility

Cool season feed is critical in most New Zealand farm systems, whether it is for early lactation, winter finishing, or for winter carrying capacity. Traditionally, annual or Italian ryegrass cultivars have been used to achieve extra cool season pasture growth but the extent of their use in our farm systems is limited by their persistence. Shogun however provides similar levels of winter growth with the flexibility of a longer-lasting pasture, with typical persistence of three years. For example, rather than having 10 ha of Italian ryegrass each winter, a farmer could have 30 ha of Shogun (10 ha new sowing; 10 ha one year old; 10 ha two years old), which would significantly improve winter feed supply. This flexibility with Shogun's persistence has significant value for farmers, as opportunities change. Shogun also has the flexibility of being sown in a range of mixes (e.g. alone, with white clover, red clover, chicory) as the situation requires.

Management

Key to get best persistence out of tetraploids, including Shogun, is pasture management in two areas: During extended dry periods don't overgraze as their palatability makes them more susceptible to being overgrazed. During periods of wet weather the more open habit of tetraploids makes them more susceptible to pugging damage with cattle.

The key to getting the best performance from Shogun is the same as for any tetraploid – Avoid treading damage in the wet, and overgrazing in extended dry periods.

Sowing rate:

- Drilling at 20 - 22kg/ha
- Broadcast at 25 - 27kg/ha

Specifications

Using Shogun

Pure sward

Using Shogun

Undersowing

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