Grasslands®
Savvy
Cocksfoot

Agrinote

"Lifting dryland production"

- Rapid establishment for a cocksfoot
- High autumn and winter production
- High quality and leafy in summer
- Excellent disease tolerance

PERENNIALITY	HEADING DATE	WINTER ACTIVITY	LEAF SIZE	GROWTH HABIT	SUGGESTED SOWING RATE (kg/ha)
Perennial	Mid	High	Fine	Erect	3 Mixed sward 6-8 Pure sward (with dryland clovers)

Background

Savvy cocksfoot is a high yielding and very productive cocksfoot. It is characterised not only by its soft leaves, but also its potential to have very long leaves. **Savvy** is an indiscriminate seeder which means that under grazing many **Savvy** plants may not produce any seed head at all. As well as having less seed head than traditional cocksfoot's, **Savvy** has exceptionally low aftermath heading (the period of seed head development is very short), therefore it's relatively easy to manage, particularly with cattle.

Savvy has been bred to lift the seasonal growth over Kara cocksfoot, while holding pasture quality. **Savvy** is particularly strong for drymatter production in late spring and summer while maintaining high growth rate potential in autumn and winter.

Savvy fits the traditional cocksfoot role in low fertility dryland pastures where it may be mixed with **Samson AR37** and sown with species such as **Nomad** white clover, **Coolamon** sub clover, **Viper** balansa and in some conditions **Relish** red clover. In some farm systems there may be value in **Savvy** being sown with **Torlesse** lucerne.

Due to the high quality and highly productive nature of **Savvy** its response under centre pivot irrigation and nitrogen has been outstanding. In such situations **Savvy** has been utilised as a **Savvy**/legume pasture for intensive cattle grazing.

Production Data

Savvy will provide important drymatter production during dry periods and in cooler months (Table 1). This high yield potential in enhanced through irrigation and the application of nitrogen.

Table 1. Seasonal Cocksfoot and Total Cocksfoot Yield (kg DM/ha), mean of 3 years. (2007 - 2010 Lincoln Canterbury Trial).

CULTIVAR	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER	AUTUMN	TOTAL
Savvy	**1495**	**4150**	**4303**	**2496**	**12445**
Vision	1413	3602	3945	2219	11180
Ella	1231	3043	3571	1898	9742
Kara	1464	3076	3215	1912	9667
LSD 5%	251	472	542	372	1416
Trial Mean (kg DM/ha)	1391	3619	3827	2155	10991

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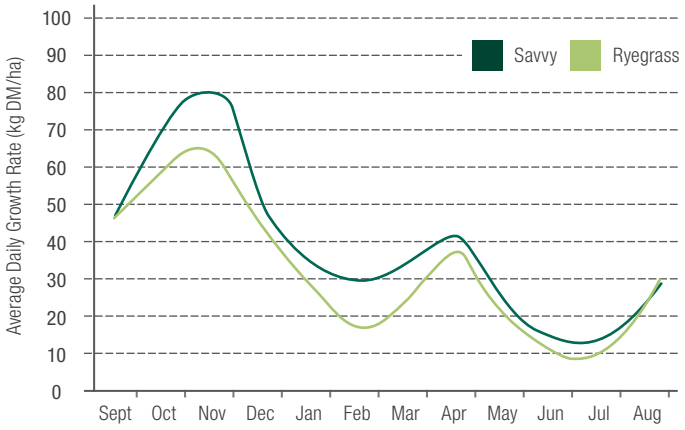
Additional Data

Figure 1 demonstrates the seasonal growth difference between **Savvy** cocksfoot and perennial ryegrass in a hot, dryland environment. With these obvious seasonal advantages it is important to note that cocksfoot is much slower than ryegrass to establish and its establishment speed is highly influenced by soil temperature. Cool or reducing soil temperatures really check establishment speed of cocksfoot and it may take six months to be established enough to demonstrate the growth advantages demonstrated in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Monthly Growth Rate Differences between Savvy Cocksfoot and Perennial Ryegrass* Culverden Dryland site, mean of 2 years (Trial Sown March 2011)



*Ryegrass is an average of 8 commercially available perennial ryegrass cultivars.

Key Tips

- Consistent grazing in early to mid-spring will reduce seed head production in late spring
- Key times for nitrogen use are:
  - Late spring to maintain protein levels over early summer
  - Late summer to improve total autumn production
  - Mid-autumn to maximise winter production and help maintain winter pasture quality
- To maintain summer legume content sow **Savvy** with tap rooted legumes such as lucerne or **Relish** red clover. Annual, sub and balansa clovers are important for winter and spring legume content
- When sowing in an intensive sheep breeding system it is better to use a low sowing rate of perennial ryegrass as a cover crop for the **Savvy** to enable early spring set stocking, while the **Savvy** gets fully established

Suggested Mixes

DRYLAND DAIRY PASTURE EXAMPLE MIX

	RATE (kg/ha)
Prospect AR37 or AR1 perennial ryegrass	18
Savvy cocksfoot	3
Mainstay white clover	2
Tribute white clover	3
Choice chicory	2
TOTAL	**28**

DRYLAND SHEEP & BEEF PASTURE EXAMPLE MIX

	RATE (kg/ha)
Samson AR37 or AR1 perennial ryegrass	12
Savvy cocksfoot	6
Nomad white clover	3
Coolamon sub clover	6
Tonic plantain	2
TOTAL	**29**

INTENSIVE BEEF PASTURE EXAMPLE MIX

	RATE (kg/ha)
Savvy cocksfoot	12-14
Tribute white clover	3-5
Relish red clover	4-6
TOTAL	**19-25**