

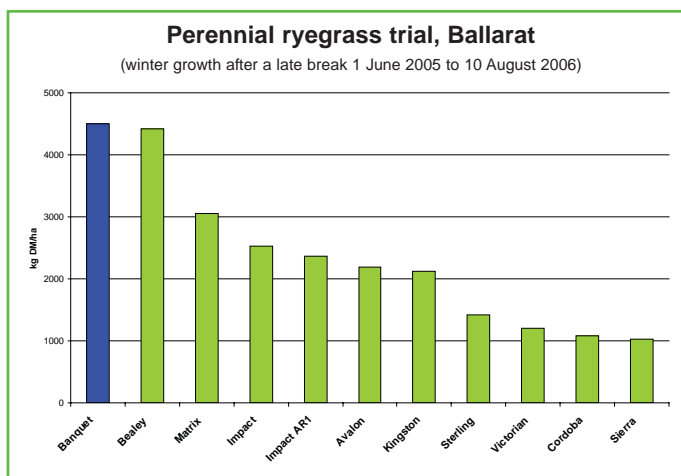
- High palatability and increased intake
- Responds well to either very early or late breaks
- Late flowering date
- Excellent pest and disease resistance
- Excellent persistence

### Long-term ryegrass benchmark for milk production and persistence.

BANQUET is a tetraploid ryegrass suitable for long-term pasture. It is derived from Grasslands Impact, and due to its tetraploid nature, is expected to be more palatable and more clover friendly than Impact.

BANQUET has a growth pattern similar to Grasslands Impact (winter and summer active). Special attention was paid to persistence during the breeding process. Its late flowering date gives improved late spring pasture quality.

## Yield



## Animal performance

A trial was conducted by the University of Sydney at Camden to assess the milk production benefits of tetraploid ryegrass. Banquet produced 10% more milk volume, 17% more milk fat and 16% more milk protein, for an increased return of \$223/ha.

CAMDEN MILK PRODUCTION RESULTS		
	Impact	Banquet
	Diploid	Tetraploid
Ploidy		
Species	Long rotation	Long rotation
Milk volume (L/ha)	8499	9354 (+10%)
Milk fat (kg/ha)	319	373 (+17%)
Milk protein (kg/ha)	288	334 (+16%)
Milk price (30 c/L)		
Gross returns (\$/ha)	\$2550	\$2806 (+10%)
Seed price (\$/ha)	\$208	\$241
Net returns (\$/ha)	\$2342	\$2565
Benefit over diploid (\$/ha)	0	+\$223

Source: Camden Dairy Trial, University of Sydney 2002. See note on page 4



## What the producers say...

### Robyn French, dairy producer, Rocky Cape Tas

The French family have trialled a lot of pastures - including grazing them to simulate real life grazing situations - and they're yet to see a better grass than Banquet.

"It's the best grass we've ever used,"

Robyn said. "We've never had a bad strike, it gets away really well and it's good under irrigation."

I really like it, and so do the cows. It's highly palatable and it persists well - it's just as good as it was 6 years ago, in fact it's as good as it has ever been this year.

"We also usually get about a thousand bales of silage off it each year before the rains come. It's late flowering characteristics are a real advantage. It grows well all year round, providing fresh feed all the time. We've used and trialed a lot of grasses over the years, but Banquet's the best perennial of the lot."

### Steve Branson, beef producer, Mortlake Vic

"I was looking for a pasture that would give us good growth through the winter, because anything will grow well in spring. I was also after a variety with good persistence. Certainly I can say in these last 2 years Banquet has outperformed our short rotation ryegrasses. We find with the Italian ryegrasses in these dry types of years, we are not getting the persistence into the second year."

The Banquet was grazed as early as we could to control the chicory and plantain. It took a good 6 months before we saw it through the herb mix. In January we had a storm and the Banquet absolutely exploded. I've never seen anything grow like it before. It just way outperformed anything else on the property. We set-stocked the paddock from June through to mid August, and absolutely hammered the Banquet. Then we reduced the stocking pressure afterward. What we were pleased about was that the Banquet came through the severe grazing pressure very well".

The production of Banquet is very close to that of an Italian ryegrass and the key advantage is that you don't have to resow every 2 years."

## Persistence

### PLANT DENSITY (% LIVE TILLERS) 2 YEARS AFTER SOWING

	Terang	Ballarat	Drouin	mean
Banquet	80	95	83	86
Impact	69	80	70	73
Quartet	71	83	41	65
Bronsyn	60	75	50	62
Kingston	43	78	nd	61
Avalon	nd	93	25	59
Samson	41	81	46	56
Aries HD	60	69	25	51
Banks	40	76	25	47
Supreme	53	60	26	46

Source: Wrightson Seeds 1999 - 2003

