

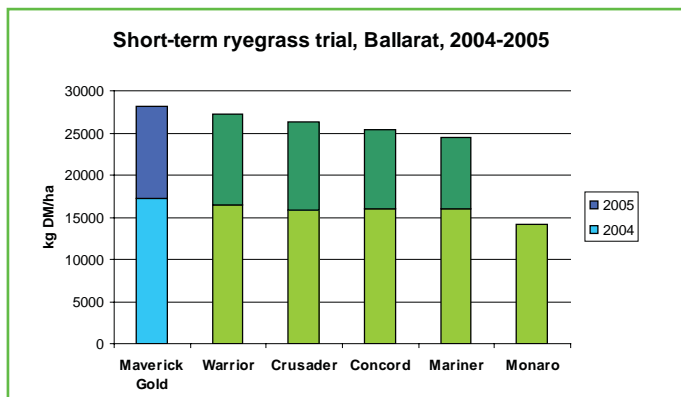
- High winter production
- High forage quality, particularly in late spring/summer
- Improved persistence over other Italians

Combines the productivity benefits of an Italian with the quality benefits of later maturing perennial ryegrass.

MAVERICK GOLD is a persistent, hybrid ryegrass with extremely high forage quality in the late spring and summer period. It has no perennial ryegrass endophyte and therefore will not have any adverse animal production effects.

Where summer rainfall is reliable it will provide good production for a number of years. It can outyield other earlier maturity Italian ryegrass cultivars in late districts or under irrigation. Its quality for late silage, hay and summer grazing is far superior to other Italian ryegrass due to its very leafy re-growth.

Yield



Animal performance

In a beef finishing trial at Gundagai (sown 4/5/99), the cattle grazing MAVERICK GOLD produced a total of 1388 kg LWG/ha or 116 kg/ha (9%) more liveweight gain than those grazing Flanker (1272 kg LWG/ha) over a 13 month period.

At a beef price of \$1.85/kg, this would result in an extra \$215/ha gross return.

This result was similar to a lamb finishing trial in New Zealand, where MAVERICK GOLD (972 kg LWG/ha) produced 11% more lamb liveweight gain than Flanker (867 kg LWG/ha) over 3 seasons in 2000-01.

BEEF LIVELWEIGHT GAIN TRIAL, GUNDAGAI MAY 1999 - JUNE 2000			
Liveweight gain	Flanker	Maverick Gold	Benefit
Winter	162	181	+ 12%
Spring	715	707	- 1%
Summer	235	328	+ 40%
Autumn	160	172	+ 8%
Total LWG kg/ha	1272	1388	+116
Gross income @\$1.85/kg lwg	\$2353	\$2568	+\$215
Variable costs	\$1077	\$1082	+\$5
Gross margin	\$704	\$861	+22%



What the producers say...

Stephen Randall, Bamawm Vic

Stephen, who confesses that he and his Holstein Friesians are "big ryegrass fans", has been using Maverick Gold for at least 5 years as part of this strategy.

"We like it for its heat tolerance," he said. "Anyone around here can grow ryegrass in the spring but getting it to grow in summer, with temperatures often reaching the low forties, can be difficult because with these clay loam soils it's hard to keep the moisture in the soil."

"Maverick Gold hangs on better into the summer than any ryegrass I've seen."

Anthony Guerra, dairy producer, Waaia Vic

"The Maverick Gold has worked well - we had our first grazing in 6-7 weeks," said Anthony. "We had 2 winter grazings and 4 spring grazings."

"When the cows came off the Maverick Gold area back onto old pastures they dropped 200 litres over 230 cows for the first milking".

Peter Bischoff, dairy producer, Beaudesert Qld

"Maverick Gold is absolutely excellent...There is no sense planting a lesser ryegrass, because by the end of spring it would be all stalks and seed heads. But the Maverick Gold was still performing here in mid December. It hangs on the longest and produces high quality feed."

Noel and Jennifer van Rijthoven, dairy producers, Mt Gambier SA

"The cows just love Maverick Gold - it is a beautiful textured grass and whether it is flowering or not, the cows will still eat it. I have a lot of different grasses growing and it has to be one of the favourites".

David Hewlett, wool and lamb producer, Yass NSW

A star performer on the Hewletts' property has been Maverick Gold hybrid ryegrass which has quite simply astounded David.

"We saw Maverick Gold on a trip to New Zealand a few years ago and were so impressed with it that we decided to put in 20 ha. It has been extraordinary - in terms of the way it has grown and what we have been able to carry on it".

