

- High yielding tetraploid annual ryegrass
- Quick producer of winter feed
- Low rust for northern climates
- Improved late season quality over Tetila

Annual ryegrass benchmark for fast winter feed and high winter/spring production.

WINTER STAR is a tetraploid annual ryegrass selected under northern Australian growing conditions at Gatton QLD. It establishes very quickly in either broadcast or sown situations and in trials to date has always been one of the highest winter producing cultivars.

It has excellent rust tolerance and will provide one extra grazing over Tetila with improved late season quality.

WINTER STAR offers an ideal sowing option for early feed.



Sam and Fleur Tonge

What the producers say...

Sam and Fleur Tonge, dairy farmers, Casino NSW

"The Winter Star is very quick out of the ground, competes with kikuyu well and allows the kikuyu to regrow back through in late October. We have found some denser varieties actually knock-out our kikuyu based pasture.

You really can't compare Winter Star with Tetila. We saw some figures from the trial at Muddapilly research station, and it put Tetila so far behind we can't understand why people continue to use it!"

Lucas and Mandy Kennedy, dairy farmers, Conondale Qld

"I've used Tetila before and a bit of Flanker over the years. Those ryes are good from August on but that's not when I need the feed. I want that ryegrass early and to keep going if you get a few frosts. Winter Star seems to do that quite well.

Winter Star does get away quick after grazing and produces good feed through the winter. Next year I'm planning to sow Winter Star again."

Charlie and Lizzie de Fegely, Ararat Vic

"The Winter Star allows us to lamb later which means we can run more ewes and increase the number of lambs we produce per hectare - and then we've got these fantastic pastures to finish them on.

Last year (2004), we weaned the lambs on to the Winter Star on December 7, and we had them growing at 350 grams per day right up until January 7, which was fantastic,"

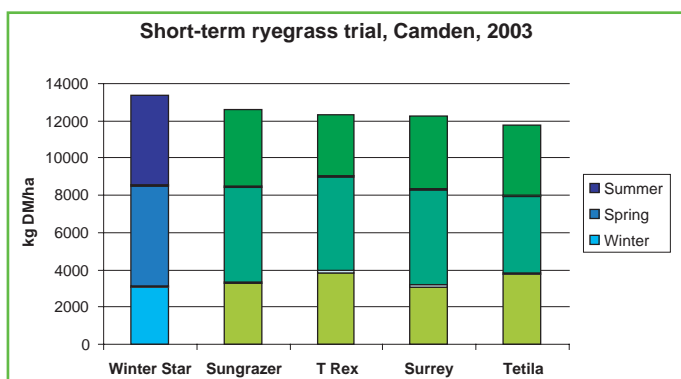
It took lambs that weren't quite right in terms of market specifications to being well over the specified weight in a month - that's worth a fortune to us."

Richard and Leonie Banks, Kojunup WA

"It's so far in front of the other pastures it's not funny. By early December after cutting and grazing it was still 300 mm high."

Richard intended utilising the Winter Star regrowth to finish off calves, contracted interstate, either side of Christmas. "And once the calves come off, I'm considering putting the 2005 drop lambs on the Winter Star for 2 or 3 days."

Yield



Animal performance

WINTER STAR vs OATS TRIAL RESULTS

Option	Seasonal liveweight gain			Gross income \$/ha	Variable costs \$/ha	Gross profit \$/ha	Extra profit \$/ha
	Winter kg/ha	Spring kg/ha	Total kg/ha				
Coolabah Oats	335	259	594	1069	289	780	
Winter Star	433 (+29%)	325 (+25%)	758 (+28%)	1364	352	1012	232

Results from a beef liveweight gain trial at Gundagai NSW indicated that WINTER STAR ryegrass is a superior feed option when compared with oats.

WINTER STAR was sown at 25 kg/ha, the oats at 100 kg/ha, and each sown with a 3 kg/ha mix of Haifa white and Bolta balansa clovers.

Under rotational grazing the WINTER STAR managed 9 grazings at 4 steers/ha, where the oats could only be grazed 5 times during the same period (effectively 2.7 steers/ha).

MANAGEMENT TIPS

Sowing Winter Star ryegrass into kikuyu based pastures can boost winter production and maximise year round pasture production.

- Kikuyu produces little or no dry matter during the cooler months of the year, often when pasture is needed most.
- Kikuyu winter dormancy provides an opportunity to undersow Winter Star into existing kikuyu pastures, so to provide bulk high quality feed during the winter and spring.
- Kikuyu based pastures undersown with Winter Star have demonstrated consistently high dry matter production without compromising the usual kikuyu summer production.
- Undersowing into kikuyu requires good agronomic management for optimum results. More information on undersowing Winter Star into established kikuyu pastures is now available on the website.

