

# Building resilience

Trust Germinal for expert advice and  
climate smart strategies for grassland  
management

Product Brochure  
2023

## Growing on-farm resilience

With high on-farm costs during 2022 and continuing pressure to implement sustainable farming practices, the financial and environmental advantages of producing high-quality homegrown forage have become even more important.

Last year also demanded resilience against changing weather patterns, with many areas seeing prolonged dry periods, emphasising the need to adapt.

Germinal is supporting farmers through these changes offering grass and forage seed varieties of the highest quality bred to fit today's requirements.

Germinal's grass seed range, highly rated for yield and silage performance, balances energy and protein to maximise meat and milk production, giving livestock farmers the edge.

Alongside high-quality grasses, interest in clovers and more diverse swards has never been greater. Their enhanced nutritional profile together with the environmental advantages of fixing nitrogen, drought tolerance and increasing soil nutrients mean they are an obvious choice for progressive farmers.

Germinal is at the forefront of research and development in this area, helping farmers take the guesswork out of establishing multi-species successfully, and more about our innovative clover breeding is found on pages 20/21.

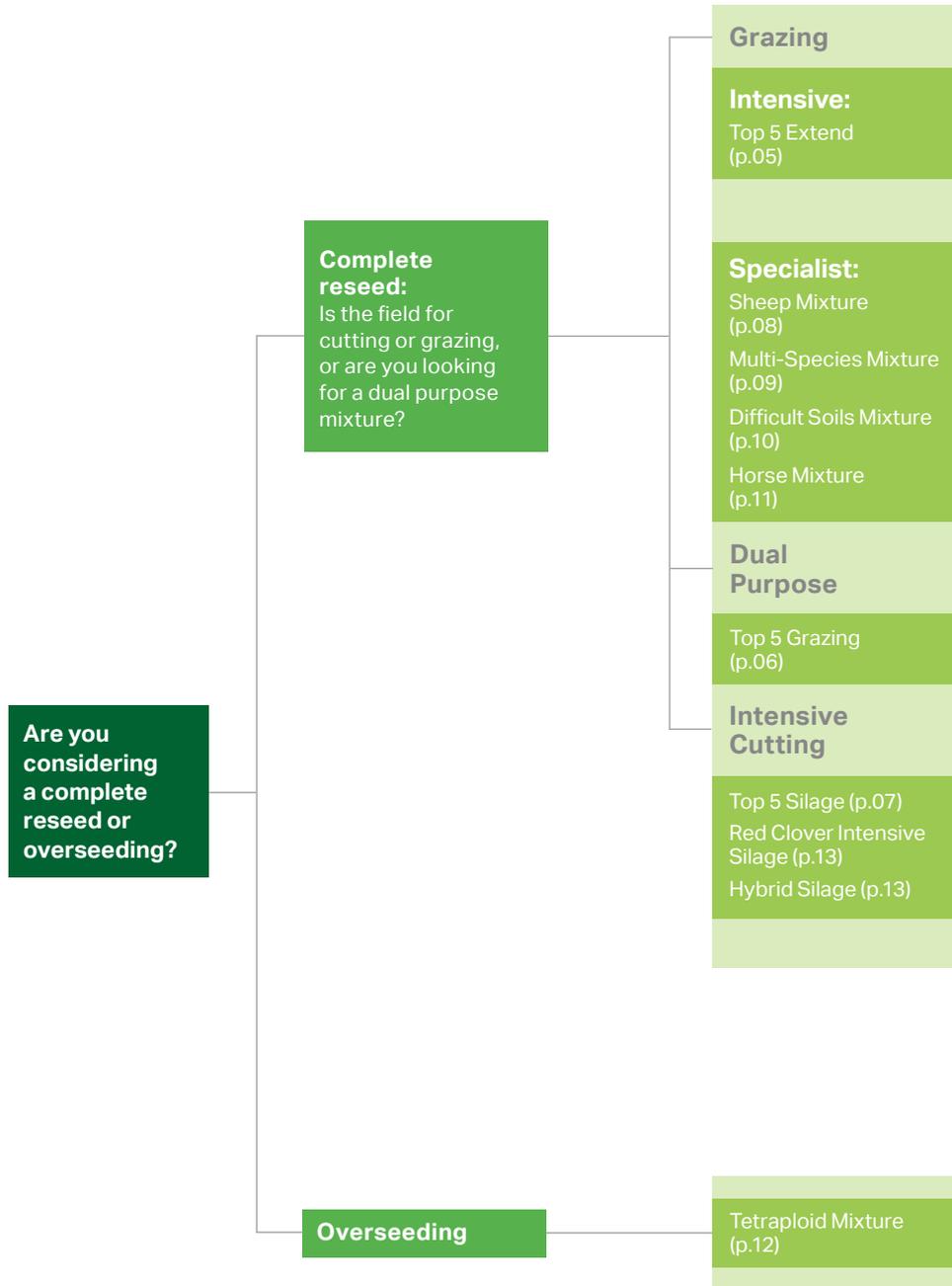
As well as this brochure detailing our latest varieties and specialist mixtures, farmers share how they're using Germinal products to support their business.

To connect with a Germinal expert and learn more about how Germinal's products can help your farm, visit: [germinal.ie](https://www.germinal.ie) or follow [@wearegerminal](https://www.facebook.com/wearegerminal) on Facebook or [@Germinal\\_Ire](https://twitter.com/Germinal_Ire) on twitter.

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# Planning your forage requirements



## Germinal mixtures

Germinal's grass seed range includes the most profitable varieties with the highest quality, yield and silage performance in the 2023 Teagasc Pasture Profit Index (PPI) and Irish Grass Recommended List. The varieties show outstanding performance across the most important traits for Irish grass-based production systems.

Our mixtures are formulated using these traits to produce high-quality, high-yielding, palatable swards tailored specifically to meet all your needs on farm.

<b>Intensive grazing</b>	Top 5 Extend
<b>Dual purpose – cut and graze</b>	Top 5 Grazing
<b>Specialist grazing</b>	Multi-Species Mixture Sheep Mixture Horse Mixture Difficult Soils
<b>Intensive silage</b>	Top 5 Silage Red Clover Intensive Silage Hybrid Silage
<b>Overseeding</b>	Tetraploid Mixture



A photograph of Alan Hughes, a man with short hair and a beard, wearing a dark blue jacket and trousers, standing in a grassy field. In the background, a black and white cow is visible, along with other cows grazing in the distance under a cloudy sky.

### Alan Hughes

Alan Hughes knows using only the highest quality grass seed is going to see him achieve his aim of producing 85-90% milk from forage on his Co. Carlow farm.

"In an ideal year we have cows at grass for 300 days, so grass quality is central to our productivity.

"I've spent time learning what goes into a grass mixture and have become far more selective about what I use, what works best in my soils and how to recognise quality seed varieties.

"Germinal mixes only contain the highest quality varieties recognisable from the PPI. I currently use Top 5 Extend, a mix of diploid and tetraploid perennial ryegrasses, which suits our grazing system and produces the silage yield we need."

### Farm details

- Dunleckney Farm, Bagnalstown, Co. Carlow
- 245 acres across one block
- 250 Holstein Friesians with Jersey cross
- Spring calving 90% over a six-week block
- Butterfat: 4.54%
- Protein: 3.8%

# Top5 Extend



AVAILABLE WITH OR WITHOUT WHITE CLOVER



HIGH CLOVER OPTION AVAILABLE

Top 5 Extend is a high-quality intensive grazing mix designed to meet the demands of intensive grassland farmers.

Top 5 Extend is a highly palatable mixture producing good quality forage for dairy and beef cattle, sheep and finishing lambs. Primarily a premium grazing mixture, Top 5 Extend also provides a high-yielding silage cut. It is best cut towards the end of May, 5-10 days before its heading date in early June.

### Benefits of Top 5 Extend

- Suitable for dairy, beef and sheep systems
- High palatability to drive dry matter intakes and animal performance
- Outstanding seasonal grazing yield and quality
- Suitable for intensive grazing, cut-and-graze or zero grazing systems

Fig 01.

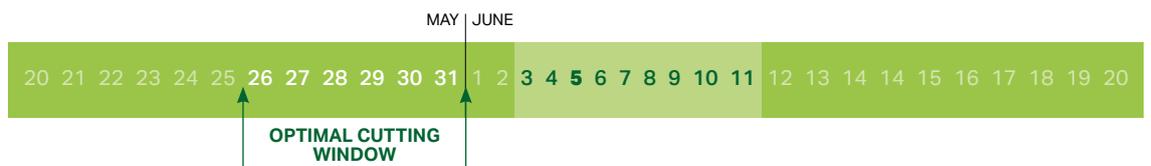
### Top 5 Extend:

T = Tetraploid  
D = Diploid

Kg / acre	Variety	Type	Heading Date
3.20	AberGain	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	04 June
3.00	Ballintoy	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	04 June
2.70	AberChoice	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	11 June
2.50	Ballyvoy	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	03 June
0.60	White Clover Blend		
<b>12.00</b>			

Fig 02.

Top 5 Extend:  
Spread of heading dates



## Top5 Grazing



AVAILABLE WITH OR WITHOUT WHITE CLOVER



HIGH CLOVER OPTION AVAILABLE

Top 5 Grazing is ideally suited to rotational grazing or set stocking, but also offers opportunity for a heavy silage cut in late May or early June.

The dense leafy sward produced by Top 5 Grazing makes it the best selection for intensive animal production systems. Its yield and quality are retained in both grazing or cut-and-graze systems.

### Benefits of Top 5 Grazing

- Suitable for dairy, beef and sheep systems
- High palatability to drive dry matter intakes and animal performance
- Supreme grazing yield and quality
- Suitable for intensive grazing or cut-and-graze
- Excellent spring and autumn growth

Fig 03.

### Top 5 Grazing:

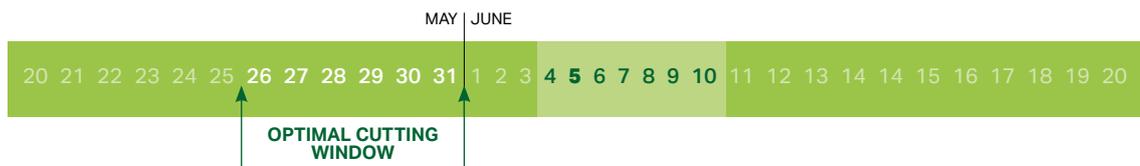
T = Tetraploid  
D = Diploid

Kg / acre	Variety	Type	Heading Date
2.50	Ballintoy	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	04 June
2.50	Gracehill	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	04 June
3.20	AberBann	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	10 June
3.20	Drumbo	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	05 June
0.60	White Clover Blend		
12.00			

Fig 04.

### Top 5 Grazing:

Spread of heading dates



## Top5 Silage



AVAILABLE WITH OR WITHOUT WHITE CLOVER

Top 5 Silage is a specialist grass mixture created specifically for the production of a superior quality silage with excellent aftermath grazing.

If you are looking for a first cut in late May, Top 5 Silage is ideal, while also offering a second cut about six weeks later.

### Benefits of Top 5 Silage

- Produces high-quality silage without compromising yield
- Mixture contains top PPI ryegrass varieties
- Optimum heading date range enables high-quality first cut silage late May
- Excellent spring and autumn growth
- Available without white clover on request

Fig 05.

### Top 5 Silage:

T = Tetraploid  
D = Diploid

Kg / acre	Variety	Type	Heading Date
2.90	AberClyde	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	25 May
2.50	Dunluce	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	29 May
3.20	AberMagic	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	28 May
2.80	AberWolf	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	30 May
0.60	Alice White Clover		
<b>12.00</b>			

Optimum spread of heading dates within mixtures for grazing and cutting results in better performance of the leys. When cutting for silage, aim to cut 5-10 days before average heading date for optimum quality.

Fig 06.

### Top 5 Silage:

Spread of heading dates



# Sheep Mixture



A specialist mixture for intensive sheep grazing systems.

Our Sheep Mixture offers grass and clover varieties specifically selected for sheep production systems. Its excellent spring and autumn growth supports grazing when feed demand is highest.

### Benefits of Sheep Mixture

- High palatability to drive intakes and animal performance
- Outstanding yield potential
- Dense and persistent sward
- Includes white clover ideal for sheep grazing

Fig 07.

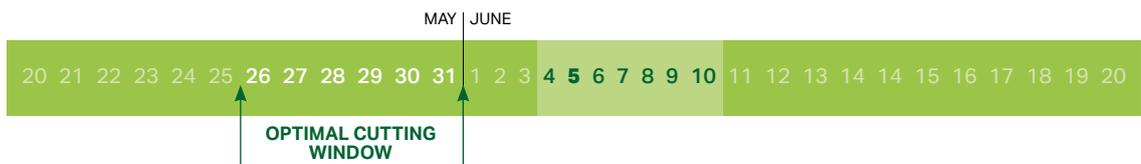
### Sheep Mixture:

T = Tetraploid  
D = Diploid

Kg / acre	Variety	Type	Heading Date
2.20	Ballintoy	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	04 June
2.30	Gracehill	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	04 June
2.80	AberBann	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	10 June
2.70	Drumbo	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	05 June
2.00	White Clover Blend		
12.00			

Fig 08.

### Sheep Mixture: Spread of heading dates



## Multi-Species Mixture

Multi-Species Mixture is a specialist mix for lower input systems where improving soil health is a priority.

Multi-Species Mixture contains high-quality grasses, legumes and herbs, providing multiple sources of protein, energy and minerals for grazing livestock. Soil health benefits from the plant species' different abilities to fix and lift nitrogen, reducing environmental impact.

### Benefits of Multi-Species Mixture

- Superior sward performance through complementary plant species
- Improved soil structure
- Increased drought tolerance
- Ideal for finishing lambs, cattle and dairy systems
- Reduced effect of internal parasites
- High-quality feed through the summer

Fig 09.

#### Multi-Species Mixture:

T = Tetraploid

D = Diploid

Kg / acre	Variety	Type	Heading Date
3.00	Ballintoy	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	04 June
3.60	AberBann	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	10 June
0.70	Comer	Timothy	
1.50	White Clover Blend	Legume	
1.50	Red Clover Blend	Legume	
1.00	Tonic	Plantain	
0.70	Puna II	Chicory	
12.00			



# Difficult Soils



AVAILABLE WITH OR WITHOUT WHITE CLOVER



AVAILABLE WITH OR WITHOUT TIMOTHY

The Difficult Soils mixture is ideal for challenging conditions where outstanding ground cover and persistency are required.

A specialist mix for wet, peaty or heavier soils, Difficult Soils contains timothy for its suitability in demanding ground but can be excluded on request.

### Benefits of Difficult Soils Mixture

- High sward density
- Good persistency
- Increased palatability to drive dry matter intakes
- Suitable for dairy, beef and sheep systems

Fig 10.

### Difficult Soils Mixture:

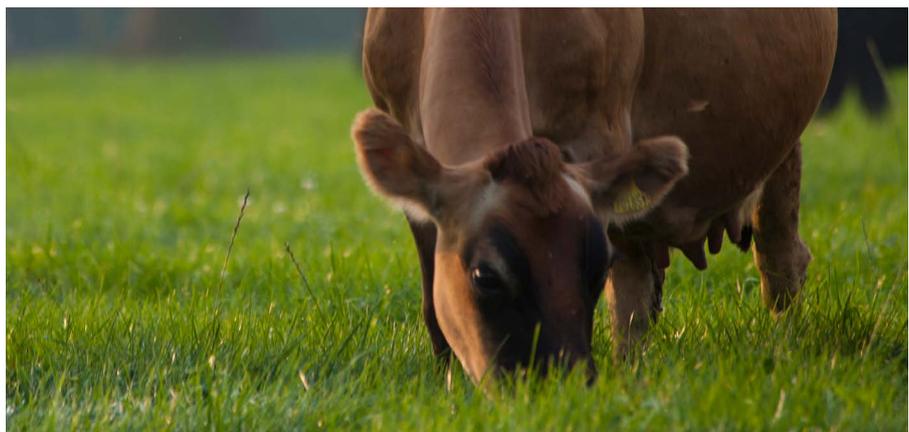
T = Tetraploid  
D = Diploid

Kg / acre	Variety	Type	Heading Date
3.60	Ballyvoy	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	03 June
3.10	Briant	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	03 June
3.70	Drumbo	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	05 June
1.00	Comer	Timothy	
0.60	White Clover blend		
<b>12.00</b>			

Optimum spread of heading dates within mixtures for grazing and cutting results in better performance of the leys. When cutting for silage, aim to cut 5-10 days before average heading date for optimum quality.

Fig 11.

### Difficult Soils Mixture: Spread of heading dates



## Horse Mixture



AVAILABLE  
WITH OR  
WITHOUT  
MIXED HERBS

Horse Mixture is a specialist mix for pastures supporting the grazing of horses and ponies.

Horse Mixture is ideal for horses and ponies because it creates a high fibre, low protein grass sward and tolerates tight grazing.

### Benefits of Horse Mixture

- Excellent yield performance for both cutting and grazing
- Produces a dense and persistent sward
- Minimal poaching due to the smooth-stalked meadow grass
- Available with or without mixed herbs high in trace elements

Fig 12.

### Horse Mixture:

Kg	Type
7.00	Perennial Ryegrass
3.00	Smooth Stalked Meadow Grass (Kentucky Bluegrass)
1.50	Timothy
0.50	Mixed Herbs
12.00	



## Tetraploid Mixture

The Tetraploid Mixture is a specialist mix for overseeding in intensive grazing systems.

Overseeding helps rejuvenate swards damaged by poaching with minimal time out of production. The heavier seeds of high-quality perennial ryegrass varieties contained within the mixture give it the ability to establish rapidly. The larger, more upright, leaves also make the swards easier to graze. The more open growth habit of these grasses, however, makes this mixture less suited to heavier soil types due to an increased risk of poaching.

### Benefits of Tetraploid Mixture

- Increased palatability driving higher intakes
- High-quality grasses giving superior animal performance
- Excellent sward utilisation
- Rapid establishment

Fig 13.

### Tetraploid Mixture:

T = Tetraploid

Kg	Variety	Type	Heading Date
3.80	AberGain	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	04 June
3.80	Ballintoy	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	04 June
3.80	Gracehill	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	04 June
0.60	White Clover Blend		
<b>12.00</b>			



### Tips to successfully overseed grass

- Overseed in the spring or after cutting silage
- Unsuitable for swards with a 'butt' as good seed-to-soil is required
- Scratch the surface with tines to create soil contact for the seed and help pull dead grasses from the sward
- Sow at a rate of 10 kg/acre by spreading or stitching in to ensure even distribution of seed
- Roll after sowing if ground conditions allow
- Requires rain immediately after sowing to aid germination and establishment
- Apply lime, P and K to correct deficiencies
- Graze frequently at low covers to control the existing sward

## 3 + Cut Intensive Silage Options: Red Clover Intensive Silage

A mix designed specifically for high-quality silage production.

Red Clover Intensive Silage is ideal for increasing on-farm protein production to reduce bought-in feed requirements and cut fertiliser costs. Aim for a first cut between red clover's early flower bud and 50% flowering stage, with subsequent cuts at five to six weekly intervals. The sward also provides excellent aftermath grazing for finishing lambs.

### Benefits

- Improved protein content of silage
- Reduces the need for artificial nitrogen
- Outstanding grazing yield and quality
- Suitable for aftermath grazing, but avoid overgrazing

Fig 14.

### Red Clover Intensive Silage

T = Tetraploid

D = Diploid

Kg / acre	Variety	Type	Heading Date
2.0	AberMagic	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	28 May
3.5	Barwave	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	22 May
2.0	AberWolf		
4.0	Red Clover		
0.5	Alice White Clover		
12.00			

## Hybrid Silage

A mix containing hybrid ryegrass to produce large quantities of high-quality silage during peak grass growth.

This mix meets the needs of farmers with a high demand for silage or trying to maximise yield potential from out-farms. If you aim for three or four cuts in the pit by mid-July onwards, Hybrid Silage is the best option for you, with first cut in mid-May. Sward quality allows grazing after the final cut towards the back end of the year.

### Benefits

- Three to four high quality, high yielding silage cuts
- Excellent spring and autumn growth, suited to an early or late grazing
- Option to include red clover for enhanced protein content

Fig 15.

### Hybrid silage

T = Tetraploid

Kg	Variety	Type	Heading Date
8.00	AberEcho	Hybrid Ryegrass (T)	18 May
8.00	AberEve	Hybrid Ryegrass (T)	22 May
16.00			



AVAILABLE  
WITH OR  
WITHOUT  
RED CLOVER



AVAILABLE  
WITH OR  
WITHOUT  
WHITE CLOVER

# Organic Mixtures

A range of mixtures designed specifically to perform on organic farms.

Our organic grass seed mixtures contain high-quality varieties featured on the Irish Grass Recommended List. They are all designed for organic systems, containing varieties with proven performance on Irish farms.

Fig 16.

## Organic Perennial Ryegrass:

T = Tetraploid  
D = Diploid

Kg / acre	Variety	Type	Heading Date
6.50	Organic AberChoice	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	11 June
6.50	Organic AberClyde	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	25 May
13.00			

Fig 17.

## Permanent Pasture:

T = Tetraploid  
D = Diploid

### 2. Permanent Pasture (77% Organic) \*

Kg / acre	Variety	Type	Heading Date
6.00	Organic AberChoice	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	11 June
4.00	Organic AberClyde	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	25 May
1.00	Comer	Timothy	
2.00	White Clover Blend		
13.00			

Fig 18.

## Red Clover Silage:

T = Tetraploid  
D = Diploid

### 3. Red Clover Silage (74% Organic) \*

Kg / acre	Variety	Type	Heading Date
4.80	Organic AberChoice	Perennial Ryegrass (D)	11 June
4.80	Organic AberClyde	Perennial Ryegrass (T)	25 May
3.40	Red Clover Blend		
13.00			

\* Organic farmers need a derogation before purchasing these mixture as they contain conventional and organic seed

# Mixtures for Anaerobic Digestion (AD)

Grass provides a cost-effective, environmentally sustainable feedstock for anaerobic digesters.

Compared to crops requiring annual cultivations, grass leys allow more opportunity to spread the liquid or solid waste product from digesters without the need to plough back in.

The Germinal mixtures for AD offer a distinct advantage over other grassland varieties with their high water-soluble carbohydrate (sugar) content generating a higher yield and rate of biogas production whether ensiled or a fresh crop.

## Mixtures for AD

Fig 19.

### AD Medium-term:

T = Tetraploid

Kg / acre	Variety	Type
5.00	AberEve	Hybrid Ryegrass (T)
7.00	AberWolf	Perennial Ryegrass
12.00		

Fig 20.

### AD Long-term:

T = Tetraploid

Kg / acre	Variety	Type
4.50	AberWolf	Perennial Ryegrass
3.00	AberMagic	Perennial Ryegrass
4.50	AberClyde	Perennial Ryegrass (T)
12.00		

**Colin Doherty**

Co. Limerick dairy farmer Colin Doherty is aiming to reduce his nitrogen use and be self-sufficient in feed by using red clover silage.

"We've used Germinal varieties ever since I switched to AberGain. It was such a standout success I've continued to use Germinal seeds, including clover. We chose red clover for its ability to fix nitrogen so we could reduce our use of nitrogen fertiliser but also because we're trying to grow all our own high-quality feed.

"Sown in 2021, our first cut of the red clover was in early May 2022 with the last in mid-October and a total yield of 15 tonnes DM/ha. The cows really like it, helping us achieve the high intakes we're after.

"And as we hoped, we've seen a massive reduction in our use of nitrogen fertiliser, saving us around €7,500 across 17 hectares.

"Get the quality right and red clover is an ideal feed for cows. I wouldn't go back now – I see red clover as part of our system for a long time to come."

**Farm details**

- Adare, County Limerick
- 280-acre grass-based system; 260-270 days at grass
- 220 Friesian X Jersey cows
- 430 kg milk solids

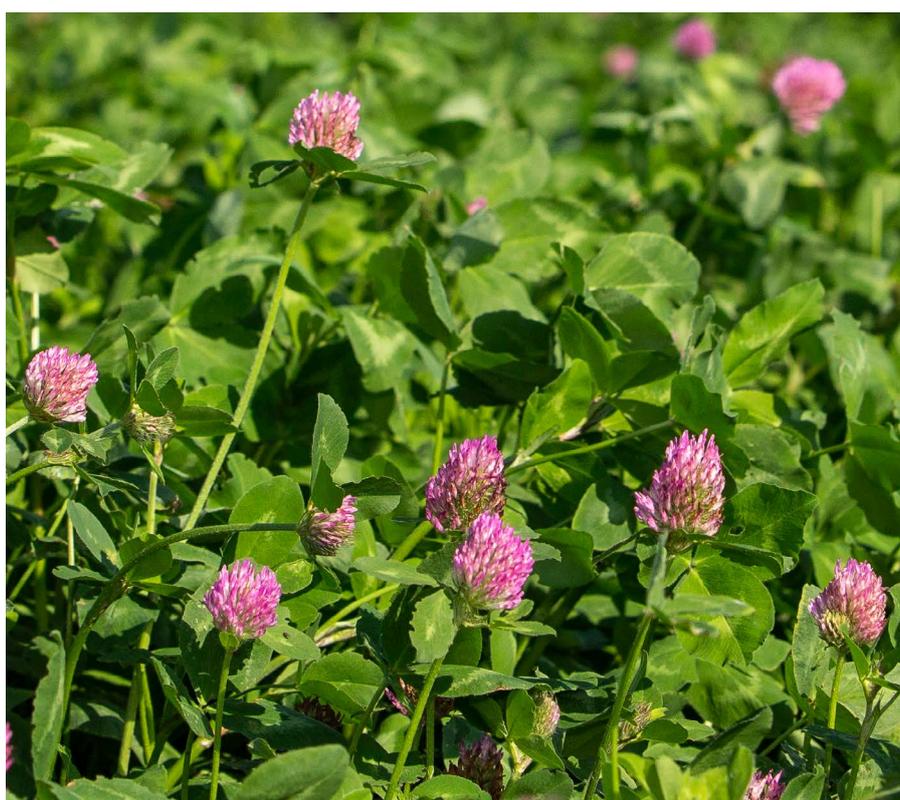
## Red clover

Red clover is a high-quality, cost-effective source of homegrown protein able to be grazed or cut and with the ability to fix nitrogen reducing the need for both bought-in feed and N fertiliser.

When cut, it typically has a dry matter (DM) percentage, metabolisable energy (ME) content and crude protein level above that of grass silage. With a protein content of 16-20% and containing an enzyme reducing protein breakdown in the clamp, it is an attractive option for feeding high-performing livestock.

Red clover also performs well in severe weather. Its long taproot increases its resilience to cold and drought as well as benefiting soil structure and fertility.

One of its shortcomings has been its relatively short persistence in the sward but the new generation Germinal red clovers, including AberClaret, have overcome this problem. Bred at Germinal Horizon in Aberystwyth, AberClaret lasts at least four years in a cutting sward and is significantly more tolerant of grazing. This longer productive life makes it more compatible with medium to long-term swards.



# White clover

White clover is good for production and the environment, offering many benefits to today's sustainable livestock farming systems.

Able to supply up to 150kg nitrogen/ha, white clover reduces the need for artificial fertiliser and cost of application without impacting grass yield. A high-quality and digestible plant, white clover also supports higher animal feed intakes and enhanced performance.

To gain the most from white clover, an established sward needs a clover content of 25-30%. Slower to establish than grass due to its smaller seed size, Germinal's white clover is coated to improve establishment and productivity. The larger seed size creates better soil-to-seed contact and the coating's beneficial ingredients promote faster germination and more energy for the seed. It can be used in a full reseed or oversown into an existing sward.

## Tips to successfully overseed with white clover

- Start by controlling weeds, checking the herbicide residue period - it can be up to four months before clover can be oversown safely
- Take a silage cut or graze tightly and remove any grass thatch to give good soil visibility and soil-to-seed contact
- Use Germinal's bigger and heavier coated clover seeds for better soil contact
- Oversow at 3-4kg coated clover/acre
- Don't begin oversowing if dry weather is forecast – moisture is important for germination

## Management post-sowing

- Start grazing oversown swards after about 10 days, at light covers of 900-1,100kg DM/ha and down to a 4 cm residual. This allows light to reach the sward base while the clover is establishing
- For the second grazing, graze again at a low cover of approximately 1,000kg DM/ha and a residual of 4cm
- Subsequently graze at 1,200-1,400kg DM/ha and to a residual of 4cm
- Reduce N fertiliser for two rotations to reduce grass growth

Derogation farms must sow a minimum 1kg coated clover/acre when reseeding or 0.6kg/acre uncoated clover.

# Reseeding

## Timing

### Spring reseed

- Improving temperatures aid germination and establishment of new sward
- Opportunity to take several grazings to help tiller the new sward
- Improved soil conditions will make it easier to apply a post-emergence spray
- The sward will be well "settled" in the following spring
- Easier to establish clover

### Autumn reseed

Autumn reseed may suit from a feed budget perspective, but there are some risks:

- Lower soil temperature can decrease seed germination
  - aim to sow seed by early September
- Poor weather may make it more difficult to graze a new reseed or apply a herbicide for weed control
  - grazing helps tiller the grass plants and creates a dense sward

Follow our 10-point plan when reseed.

- 1 Soil test. Target pH is 6.3, target P and K index is 3. If ploughing, wait until after ploughing to soil sample
- 2 Spray off the old sward with glyphosate
- 3 Cultivate to ensure a fine, firm seed bed is achieved. Ploughing will help level any rough fields. Apply lime as per soil test results
- 4 Select Irish Recommended List varieties suited to intended field use e.g. grazing or silage
- 5 Sow 14 kg seed/acre in good conditions (warm with rain forecast), no deeper than 10-15 mm. Farms in derogation must include 1 kg/acre coated clover (0.6 kg/acre uncoated clover seed) in their mixtures
- 6 Roll well to ensure good soil/seed contact
- 7 Apply N, P and K as per guidelines and soil test results
- 8 Monitor reseed for pest attack e.g. slugs, frit fly, leatherjacket, rabbits etc. Take immediate action where necessary
- 9 Post-emergence weed spray is essential, apply approx. 5-6 weeks after establishment, prior to first grazing. Where clover was sown, use a clover safe spray
- 10 Graze the new reseeds, frequently and at light covers to assist in tillering and to help create a dense sward

# Germinal Climate Smart Options

Germinal is harnessing the opportunities science brings to improve efficiencies in agriculture, making a positive contribution to the future of farming.

Germinal Horizon, our research and innovation team, has scientists at world-leading grassland research centre, the Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences (IBERS) at Aberystwyth University, and researchers on our own Germinal Horizon R&D farm sites.

This team of specialists are applying research through trials and education bridging the gap between pure science and real life on-farm application.

## Climate smart forage solutions

Germinal's extensive knowledge of forage seed development combined with science is allowing us to truly innovate in plant breeding and bring world-first climate smart products to farmers.

Climate smart seed varieties help farmers adapt to climate change and its impacts while remaining productive and profitable. These varieties are more efficient, require fewer inputs and reduce the impact on the land and water.

Climate smart options are high performance products with environmental and economic benefits.

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## Aber HSG

Our **High Sugar Grass** varieties are climate smart leaders scientifically proven to reduce livestock emissions. Over the last 20 years, High Sugar Grass varieties have been sown across 4.6 million acres.



## DoubleRoot

**DoubleRoot** is the first hybrid clover with improved persistency and resilience by combining the growing traits of white clover and Caucasian clover making them suitable for a wider range of climates and soils.

Joining weather resilient roots below the ground with the strength of stolons or 'runners' formed above ground, DoubleRoot clover varieties are more drought and cold tolerant than standard clover.

This novel root system also benefits soil health and structure and reduces the need for applied fertiliser due to clover's natural nitrogen-fixing ability.



## LandStrong

**LandStrong** mixtures increase soil fertility, boost biodiversity and reduce fertiliser inputs to support sustainable farming systems.

The range includes Germinal's multi-species and cover crop mixes carefully formulated to protect and restore wildlife habitats and the natural environment.

### In development

## DeepRoot

A performance ryegrass with a deeper taproot that resists cold and drought and gives additional spring growth.

## Grass quality

The quality of grass is a valuable attribute financially. Higher digestibility grasses drive dry matter intakes optimising animal performance through increased milk production and protein concentration.

Grass quality is defined by DMD or digestibility value. According to Teagasc, each unit DMD results in an extra 0.24 kg milk/cow/day. In financial value, this represents an additional 10c/cow/day. For a 100-cow herd grazing a high digestibility grass for 300 days, this is worth €3,000 in extra milk production compared to a herd grazing conventional grass varieties.

Geminal varieties are highest across all four categories for quality and economic value in Teagasc's Pasture Profit Index delivering increased farm profitability.



# Irish Grass Recommended List 2023

## Intermediate Varieties

Variety Name	Ploidy	Heading Date	Simulated Grazing (t DM/ha)				DMD g/kg DM	Silage (t DM/ha)		Ground Cover (1-9)
			Spring	Summer	Autumn	Total Yield		1 <sup>st</sup> Cut	2 <sup>nd</sup> Cut	
Moira	D	26-May	1.65	7.08	2.43	11.17	826.8	4.89	4.16	6.1
Astonconqueror	D	27-May	1.46	7.39	2.34	11.19	835.7	5.21	3.93	6.2
<b>AberMagic</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>28-May</b>	<b>1.19</b>	<b>7.69</b>	<b>2.62</b>	<b>11.51</b>	<b>844.9</b>	<b>4.64</b>	<b>4.09</b>	<b>6.2</b>
<b>AberWolf</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>30-May</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>7.45</b>	<b>2.35</b>	<b>11.12</b>	<b>840.9</b>	<b>4.85</b>	<b>4.45</b>	<b>6.7</b>
<b>AberGreen</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>31-May</b>	<b>1.23</b>	<b>7.82</b>	<b>2.55</b>	<b>11.60</b>	<b>842.2</b>	<b>4.31</b>	<b>4.13</b>	<b>6.5</b>
Gusto	D	31-May	1.30	7.37	2.50	11.18	838.9	4.32	4.04	5.8
<b>Barwave</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>22-May</b>	<b>1.56</b>	<b>7.62</b>	<b>2.45</b>	<b>11.64</b>	<b>836.0</b>	<b>4.98</b>	<b>4.51</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Fintona	T	24-May	1.30	7.40	2.35	11.05	839.1	5.22	4.01	5.4
<b>AberClyde</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>25-May</b>	<b>1.31</b>	<b>7.74</b>	<b>2.32</b>	<b>11.38</b>	<b>852.0</b>	<b>5.23</b>	<b>4.04</b>	<b>5.6</b>
<b>Dunluce</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>29-May</b>	<b>1.14</b>	<b>7.54</b>	<b>2.38</b>	<b>11.05</b>	<b>845.6</b>	<b>4.52</b>	<b>4.62</b>	<b>5.4</b>

## Late Varieties

Variety Name	Ploidy	Heading Date	Simulated Grazing (t DM/ha)				DMD g/kg DM	Silage (t DM/ha)		Ground Cover (1-9)
			Spring	Summer	Autumn	Total Yield		1 <sup>st</sup> Cut	2 <sup>nd</sup> Cut	
Oakpark	D	02-Jun	1.19	7.40	2.38	10.98	833.3	4.33	4.55	6.5
<b>Ballyvoy</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>03-Jun</b>	<b>1.39</b>	<b>7.24</b>	<b>2.34</b>	<b>10.97</b>	<b>843.1</b>	<b>4.14</b>	<b>4.32</b>	<b>6.2</b>
Callan	D	03-Jun	1.43	7.08	2.23	10.74	830.1	4.55	3.96	6.2
<b>Drumbo</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>05-Jun</b>	<b>1.14</b>	<b>7.19</b>	<b>2.29</b>	<b>10.62</b>	<b>842.6</b>	<b>4.19</b>	<b>4.36</b>	<b>6.2</b>
Astonking	D	05-Jun	1.37	7.34	2.24	10.95	828.3	4.36	4.29	5.8
<b>AberBann</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>10-Jun</b>	<b>1.03</b>	<b>8.11</b>	<b>2.59</b>	<b>11.74</b>	<b>832.2</b>	<b>4.46</b>	<b>5.36</b>	<b>5.9</b>
<b>AberChoice</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>11-Jun</b>	<b>1.09</b>	<b>7.73</b>	<b>2.44</b>	<b>11.26</b>	<b>844.8</b>	<b>4.18</b>	<b>4.93</b>	<b>6.0</b>
Bowie	D	16-Jun	1.11	7.43	2.40	10.94	838.7	3.63	5.22	6.4
AberBite	T	01-Jun	0.99	7.49	2.39	10.87	849.5	4.55	4.62	5.8
Astonenergy	T	01-Jun	1.03	7.27	2.30	10.60	854.1	4.33	3.95	5.5
Triwarwic	T	02-Jun	1.12	7.42	2.18	10.72	842.5	4.63	4.39	5.8
Nashota	T	03-Jun	1.32	7.51	2.26	11.09	845.7	4.68	4.54	6.0
Glenfield	T	03-Jun	1.36	7.68	2.28	11.31	841.1	4.74	4.55	5.7
Meiduno	T	03-Jun	1.27	7.50	2.33	11.10	848.8	4.41	4.31	5.2
<b>Briant</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>03-Jun</b>	<b>1.06</b>	<b>7.54</b>	<b>2.33</b>	<b>10.93</b>	<b>841.2</b>	<b>4.51</b>	<b>4.47</b>	<b>5.5</b>
Aspect	T	03-Jun	1.07	7.36	2.19	10.61	848.5	4.13	4.77	6.0
<b>AberGain</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>04-Jun</b>	<b>1.20</b>	<b>7.63</b>	<b>2.37</b>	<b>11.20</b>	<b>852.0</b>	<b>4.91</b>	<b>4.56</b>	<b>5.6</b>
<b>Gracehill</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>04-Jun</b>	<b>1.28</b>	<b>7.60</b>	<b>2.44</b>	<b>11.31</b>	<b>840.9</b>	<b>5.35</b>	<b>4.56</b>	<b>5.6</b>
<b>Ballintoy</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>04-Jun</b>	<b>1.22</b>	<b>7.59</b>	<b>2.30</b>	<b>11.11</b>	<b>846.6</b>	<b>4.59</b>	<b>4.44</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Anurad	T	05-Jun	1.33	7.40	2.28	11.01	846.7	4.64	3.82	5.6
Xenon	T	07-Jun	1.08	7.33	2.23	10.64	846.1	3.98	4.77	6.2
AberPlentiful	T	08-Jun	1.36	7.67	2.37	11.40	842.1	4.27	4.69	5.5

Rows in yellow indicate Germinal varieties

D= Diploid; T= Tetraploid

Source: 'Grass and White Clover Recommended List Varieties for Ireland 2023'.  
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

# Pasture Profit Index 2023

## Intermediate Tetraploids

Variety Details			TOTAL PPI (€/Ha/year)	PPI Sub-Indices (€/Ha/Year)						Teagasc Grazing Utilisation Trait (1-5 star)
Variety Name	Ploidy	Heading Date		Spring	Summer	Autumn	Quality	Silage	Persistence	
AberClyde	T	25-May	253	51	66	46	44	46	0	****
Barwave	T	22-May	244	93	61	59	-20	50	0	-
Fintona	T	24-May	190	49	52	49	-5	45	0	****
Dunluce	T	29-May	184	23	58	52	24	34	-6	****

## Intermediate Diploids

Variety Details			TOTAL PPI (€/Ha/year)	PPI Sub-Indices (€/Ha/Year)						Teagasc Grazing Utilisation Trait (1-5 star)
Variety Name	Ploidy	Heading Date		Spring	Summer	Autumn	Quality	Silage	Persistence	
AberMagic	D	28-May	215	31	64	78	18	24	0	***
AberWolf	D	30-May	209	54	54	48	11	43	0	**
Moira	D	26-May	209	108	39	57	-32	36	0	***
Astonconqueror	D	27-May	206	75	52	48	-10	42	0	****
AberGreen	D	31-May	193	38	69	70	5	11	0	*
Gusto	D	31-May	176	50	51	64	2	9	0	****

# Pasture Profit Index 2023

## Late Tetraploids

Variety Details			TOTAL PPI (€/Ha/year)	PPI Sub-Indices (€/Ha/Year)						<sup>1</sup> Teagasc Grazing Utilisation Trait (1-5 star)
Variety Name	Ploidy	Heading Date		Spring	Summer	Autumn	Quality	Silage	Persistence	
<b>AberGain</b>	T	04-Jun	241	34	61	50	47	49	0	****
<b>Gracehill</b>	T	04-Jun	241	46	60	58	10	67	0	**
Nashota	T	03-Jun	214	53	57	39	28	38	0	-
Glenfield	T	03-Jun	207	59	63	40	3	41	0	-
AberPlentiful	T	08-Jun	204	59	63	50	11	26	-6	**
<b>Ballintoy</b>	T	04-Jun	195	36	60	43	23	32	0	****
Meiduno	T	03-Jun	195	45	56	46	27	21	0	****
Anurad	T	05-Jun	191	54	52	41	31	19	-6	***
AberBite	T	01-Jun	175	-2	56	53	32	36	0	*****
<b>Briant</b>	T	03-Jun	156	10	58	46	13	29	0	***
Astonenergy	T	01-Jun	151	5	47	43	49	6	0	*****
Xenon	T	07-Jun	143	12	49	35	29	17	0	*****
Triwarwic	T	02-Jun	141	20	53	30	7	32	0	-
Aspect	T	03-Jun	136	11	50	30	27	23	-6	*****

## Late Diploids

Variety Details			TOTAL PPI (€/Ha/year)	PPI Sub-Indices (€/Ha/Year)						<sup>1</sup> Teagasc Grazing Utilisation Trait (1-5 star)
Variety Name	Ploidy	Heading Date		Spring	Summer	Autumn	Quality	Silage	Persistence	
<b>AberBann</b>	D	10-Jun	190	5	81	75	-25	54	0	***
<b>AberChoice</b>	D	11-Jun	190	15	65	58	22	30	0	***
<b>Ballyvoy</b>	D	03-Jun	186	65	46	47	19	10	0	*
Bowie	D	16-Jun	170	19	53	54	28	16	0	-
Oakpark	D	02-Jun	149	32	52	52	-12	25	0	*
<b>Drumbo</b>	D	05-Jun	146	23	44	42	24	13	0	*
Astonking	D	05-Jun	141	61	50	36	-25	18	0	***
Callan	D	03-Jun	126	71	39	35	-35	16	0	*****

Rows in yellow indicate Germinal varieties

D= Diploid; T= Tetraploid

<sup>1</sup>Grazing utilisation Trait. A hyphen "-" indicates no grazing data available

Source: 'Grass and White Clover Recommended List varieties for Ireland 2023',  
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

## Forage crop selection

Alternative forage crops play a valuable complementary role in grassland-based farming systems. They provide a cost-effective homegrown option for overwintering livestock and overcoming grass shortfalls during the summer.

There are three fundamental questions to ask when selecting forage crops:

1. **When do you want to use the crop?**
2. **When will the land become available to grow the crop?**
3. **How many animals does the crop need to feed?**

Use the table below to select the best crops to fit your requirements.

Fig 21.

### Forage crop selection and production guide:

Crop	Variety	Sowing Time	Seeding rate (per acre)	Time of Utilisation	Expected DM Yield (t DM/ha)	DM%	CP%	Metabolisable Energy (MJ/kg DM)
Kale	Maris Kestrel	May - June	2.5 - 3.0 kg*	November - February	10 - 12	14 - 16	16 - 18	12.5 - 13.5
Hybrid Brassica	Redstart	May - August	3.5 - 4.0 kg	June - February	6 - 8	12 - 14	18 - 20	10 - 11
Forage Rape	Stego	July - August	3.5 - 4.0 kg	October - February	4 - 6	12 - 14	18 - 20	10 - 11
Swede	Triumph	May - June	400 g	November - February	10 - 12	10 - 12	10 - 12	12.5 - 13.5
Leafy Turnip	Appin	April - September	2.0 - 3.0 kg	June - February	3 - 5	8 - 10	18 - 20	10 - 11

\*If broadcasting seed increase to 4.0 kg/acre seeding rate.



John Hannon

John Hannon grows Redstart to graze his Suffolk cross flock of 120 breeding ewes and 40 replacements, having begun using it seven years ago to reduce his bought-in feed costs.

"The lambs absolutely love the Redstart and their fast growth shows it. Since introducing it, our lambs finish with an extra 1kg of weight. I think the meat quality has improved too.

"Anecdotally, I've also found since using Redstart the sheep don't have any worms – I never have to dose them. They don't seem to pick any diseases up when out grazing now, and the only thing I've really changed is the Redstart.

"I find Redstart useful as a break crop and it seems to suit our sandy soils. It's easy to sow and after applying a bit of fertiliser two weeks in it takes off. It's a low cost reseed for me, gaining two or three grazes out of it with no weed problems."

**Farm details**

- Kiltoom Farm, Keadagh, Co. Roscommon
- 120 breeding ewes, 40 replacements
- Suffolk/Texel crosses
- All lamb sold to Irish Country Meats

## Kale

### Maris Kestrel

#### Maris Kestrel

Maris Kestrel is a high-quality, cost-effective winter feed for all classes of stock.

The leading kale variety in Ireland, it is high-yielding with a high leaf-to-stem ratio and its success lies in livestock being able to use the whole plant. Ideal for outwintering, it can also help overcome late season grazing deficits.

#### Benefits of Maris Kestrel

- High digestibility driving intakes
- Vigorous early growth
- Resistance to lodging
- Long utilisation period and good winter hardiness

Fig 22.

#### Maris Kestrel:

#### Variety

**Maris Kestrel** Sow at 2.5-3.0 kg/acre (4.0 kg/acre if broadcasting) from May to June. Feed from November to February. Yield 10-12t DM/ha

## Hybrid brassicas

### Redstart (Rape x Kale)

#### Redstart

Redstart is a high energy, high protein, versatile grazing crop combining rapid growth with good performance all year.

It grows fast like a typical forage rape while also tolerant of cold, frosty conditions like kale. Redstart offers grazing options through summer, autumn and winter, and is an ideal catch crop for countering late season grazing shortages.

#### Benefits of Redstart

- High energy and protein
- Good winter hardiness for outwintering
- Regrowth and late season yield potential
- Suitable for cattle and sheep

Fig 23.

#### Redstart:

#### Variety

**Redstart** Sow at 3.5-4.0 kg/acre from May to August. Earlier sowings offer potential for multiple grazings; later sowings can be used until February. Yield 6-8t DM/ha

## Forage rape

### Stego

## Stego

Stego is a fast-growing, high-yielding forage rape suitable for cattle and sheep.

This rape variety offers high energy grazing through the autumn and winter and is ideal for out-wintering.

#### Benefits of forage rape

- High energy and protein
- Fast, vigorous growth
- High leaf-to-stem ratio
- Outstanding whole plant D-value with minimal residual matter
- Excellent disease resistance, including mildew
- Regrowth potential

Fig 24.

#### Stego:

#### Variety

**Stego** Sow at 3.5-4.0 kg/acre from July to August. Feed from October to February. Yield 4-6t DM/ha

## Swede

### Triumph

## Triumph

Triumph is a high-yielding winter-hardy feed for cattle and sheep.

This well-shaped swede is an excellent autumn and winter feed ideal for out-wintering. A hectare of high energy Triumph swedes provides the equivalent yield and energy to 7-10 tonnes barley.

#### Benefits of Triumph

- Outstanding winter hardiness
- Excellent D-value
- Strong clubroot and mildew resistance

Fig 25.

#### Triumph:

#### Variety

**Triumph** Sow at 0.4 kg/acre from May to June. Feed from November to February. Yield 10-12t DM/ha

## Leafy turnip Appin

### Appin

Appin is a high-yielding cost-effective leafy turnip for cattle and sheep.

It is a versatile feed able to provide a catch crop to overcome summer shortfalls as well as autumn and winter grazing. It can also be a source of fresh and worm-free grazing for lambs.

#### Benefits of Appin

- Easily established by undersowing or scratching into stubbles
- Wide sowing window
- Fast growing with excellent regrowth potential

Fig 26.

**Appin:**

#### Variety

**Appin** Drill at 2-3 kg/acre from March to mid-September. Feed from May to December.

## Stubble turnip Vollenda

### Vollenda

Stubble turnip is another cost-effective feeding solution in summer, autumn or winter for sheep or cattle.

As well as providing a main crop, it can be used as a catch crop during summer grazing shortfalls.

#### Benefits of stubble turnip

- High energy and protein
- Suitable for cattle and sheep
- Easy establishment and quick growth
- Good clean grazing for lambs

Fig 27.

**Vollenda:**

#### Variety

**Vollenda** Drill at 2-3 kg/acre from May to the end of August. Feed from July to the following January.

Peter McGuinness is a young man with dark, curly hair and a light beard, wearing a dark blue hoodie and blue jeans. He is standing in a field of lush green Redstart brassica plants, with his arms crossed and looking towards the camera. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the field and some trees in the distance.

### Peter McGuinness

Peter McGuinness grows the hybrid brassica Redstart to support ewe performance over winter. It allows him double use out of the field and to build grass covers over winter to set up for lambing in spring. It also saves on winter housing and labour costs.

"Redstart is consistently good. Our ewes always perform well on it with scanning rates around 1.81. It fits well into our rotation and is cost-effective. We go in with the one pass and stitch it straight into the winter barley stubble. If you prepare well and have the necessary fencing it is simple to manage over winter.

"Redstart has always worked well for us and provides the ideal solution for overwintering ewes outdoors. The Germinal name really speaks for itself, representing both quality and strong technical knowledge."

### Farm details

- Trim, Co Meath
- 146 hectares (360 acres) including 14 hectares (36 acres) Redstart
- 800 Suffolk Texel cross ewes
- All ewes lambed outdoors starting mid-March
- Scanning rate 1.81
- Average liveweight 42 kg

# Growing and grazing brassicas successfully

Brassicas are popular crops for out-wintering but can also be ensiled and zero-grazed successfully.

## Sowing advice

- Selecting the best site for growing brassicas is vital to their success
- Choose flat or gently sloping sites with free-draining soil – avoid steep slopes and sites close to a watercourse or water supply (NB. cross-compliance is important if out-wintering stock)
- Leave a minimum of four years since last brassica crop to reduce risk of clubroot
- Soil test approximately eight weeks before sowing to check soil fertility. Aim for pH 6.0-6.7 and P&K indices of 3
- Spray off old sward with glyphosate. Graze hard or cut 7-10 days later to remove surface trash
- Sow seeds into a fine, firm seedbed at a maximum depth of 10mm. Can also be direct drilled or broadcast but increase seed rate if broadcasting. Roll well after sowing
- Spread two bags of granulated lime if broadcasting or direct drilling to counteract acidity of dying trash
- Apply lime, N, P and K as per soil test and crop recommendations
- Monitor closely for pests, diseases and weed ingress, particularly during establishment

## Successful grazing management:

- To avoid rumen upsets, introduce stock to brassicas gradually for 1-2 hours/day, building up to full access over 7-10 days
- Brassicas are highly digestible and low in fibre so livestock must have access to silage, hay or straw. Aim for 70% brassicas: 30% fibre
- Place bales in the field during summer to minimise machinery travelling when ground conditions are poor
- Provide unrestricted access to water
- Strip graze in long, narrow strips to maximise crop utilisation, ensure all animals have equal access and minimise trampling. Move the strip fence daily
- On sloping land, graze from top to bottom to reduce run-off
- Give bolus minerals to supplement the low selenium, copper, iodine and cobalt content of brassicas
- Monitor crop utilisation. Livestock should be content and the crop well utilised

A photograph of John Large, a farmer, working in a field of forage crops. He is wearing a dark jacket and blue gloves, and is looking down at the plants. The background shows a clear blue sky and a line of trees in the distance.

### John Large

Using catch crops provides County Tipperary farmer John Large with an efficient way to finish lambs during autumn and outwinter ewes.

"I grow forage rape, Redstart and Soil Booster Graze on my brother Denis' beef and tillage farm. This fits well with Denis' rotation and the catch crops' positive effect on soil structure benefits Denis in spring.

"We've found once the lambs start grazing brassicas their worm burden normally drops right down to almost zero. This is a big bonus for me. And we've started using Redstart because its vigorous regrowth means it offers multiple grazings. Our stock do well on it, with lambs finishing quickly and to weight.

"I also grow Germinal's Soil Booster Graze and move the ewes onto it when the forage rape starts to become a bit stemmy. The combination of forage rape and leafy turnip adds variety and our ewes perform well on it.

"Forage crops grow well but take the time to sow them in the right place at the right time for a good supply of valuable winter grazing."

#### Farm details

- County Tipperary
- 650-ewe flock of Suffolk, Texel, Vindéen, Charolais and Belclare crosses
- 80 hectares over three blocks
- Lambing early spring
- Finishing in late summer to early autumn

# Environmental schemes

Germinal produces a range of mixtures which comply with DAFM environmental schemes, including the new ACRES scheme.

We have outlined our most popular mixtures but if you require a different formulation, please do not hesitate to contact us.

**1. Catch Crops**

**2. Winter Bird Food**

**3. Grass Margins – arable**

The information given on these mixtures for ACRES is a guide only. We recommend you check the latest guidelines by contacting the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine or speak to your ACRES advisor to ensure compliance.



## Catch Crops

Also known as cover crops or green manure, catch crops play a role in the regulatory requirements for green cover under the ACRES scheme. The following specifications are relevant to farmers sowing these crops within ACRES.

- Catch crops must be sown before 15th September each year using non-inversion techniques (ploughing is not permitted)
- Seed mix must consist of at least two species from the list below. The minimum seed rates as outlined must be used for each species
- Catch crop must remain in situ from the date of sowing to 1st January annually
- After 1st January light grazing or incorporation is permitted

### Catch Crop Mixture Options

#### Soil Booster Pro

A quick-establishing catch crop mixture which suppresses weeds, improves soil structure and reduces nitrogen losses. It can be sown where oilseed rape is in the rotation as it does not contain radish or brassica.

#### Soil Booster Max

This mixture provides rapidly growing green cover to help condition the soil and reduce erosion. A good root structure increases air movement in the soil and improves drainage while scavenging nutrients from lower in the soil.

#### Soil Booster Plus

Offering the same benefits as Soil Booster Max, the nutrient-scavenging abilities of Soil Booster Plus makes nutrients available for the next cash crop.

#### Soil Booster Graze

Soil Booster Graze can be used for grazing animals after 1st January. It provides a valuable high energy feed for winter grazing of cattle and sheep. Always have fresh water and a fibre source, e.g. silage, available when grazing this mixture.

Fig 28.

**List of prescribed catch crops in ACRES and sowing rate (kg/ha):**

Crop	Sowing Rate (kg/ha)
Buckwheat	30 – 40
Crimson Clover	10 – 15
Berseem Clover	10 – 15
Forage/Fodder Rape	4 – 5
Mustard	8 – 10
Oats	60 – 75
Black Oats	30 – 40
Phacelia	4 – 5
Sunflower	10 – 15
Rye	60 – 75
Tillage Radish	4 – 6
Vetch	15
Leafy Turnip	4 – 6
Peas	40 – 50
Beans	70 – 90
Linseed	15
Red Clover	8 – 10

## Winter Bird Food

Winter bird food provides a tailored food source for farmland birds throughout autumn and winter.

- Establish a 6 or 8 m winter bird food strip along a field boundary
- Minimum payment area is 0.25 ha; maximum area is 3 ha
- Protect from livestock using a fence that is fit for purpose
- Establish the crop by 15th May using the following mix (see table for sowing rates)
  - At least one cereal: spring oats/triticale/wheat/barley
  - At least two of the following: linseed, oil-seed rape, phacelia, fodder radish, mustard, spring vetch, lucerne, chicory or birds-foot trefoil
- Once sown, only spot treatment of noxious and invasive weeds is allowed. Pesticides are not permitted.
- Harvesting of the crop is not permitted and it must remain in situ until 1st March the following year
- Fertiliser can be applied up to a maximum of half the N and P rate for spring oats (as described in Statutory Instrument Number 113 of 2022)

Fig 29.

### Winter Bird Food

Species	Monoculture seed rate kg/ha
Spring oats	150
Spring triticale	180
Spring wheat	180
Spring barley	160
Linseed	50
Spring oil-seed rape	6
Phacelia	8
Fodder Radish	10
Mustard	15
Spring Vetch	40
Lucerne	25
Chicory	10
Birdsfoot trefoil	12

Note: These monoculture rates should be adjusted according to the number of species in the chosen mix.

## Grass Margins - Arable

Arable grass margins provide a habitat for pollinators, support wider biodiversity including ground nesting birds and help protect water quality from nutrient and sediment run off.

- Establish a 3, 4, 6 or 8 m grass margin before 31st August 2023 by sowing a suitable seed mix (see Fig 29) at a rate of 15 kg/ha. Keep seed labels for duration of contract
- Soil cultivation must not be carried out within the margin once established
- The margin must be managed annually, by mulching or mowing after 31st August and before 15th January
- Do not apply chemical or organic fertiliser or lime to the margin
- Do not apply pesticides or herbicides. Only spot treatment of noxious/invasive weeds is permitted

Fig 30.

**Arable  
Grass Margin  
ACRES Grass Mix:**

Species	Inclusion Rate (kg/ha)
Cocksfoot	10
Timothy	4
Red Clover	1
	15

## Irish Native Wildflower Mixtures

Our wildflower mixtures contain native seed sourced from Ireland and suit a variety of soil conditions and individual requirements. They are designed to provide food sources for pollinators from late spring through to autumn and are ideal for increasing the biodiversity of your garden, roadside verge or local amenity area.

### Flowering Meadow

The outstanding colour of the flowering species provides a rich food source to encourage pollinators such as butterflies and bees. A blend of annual and perennial species selected to produce colour over several years, it produces an abundance of flowers ideal for gardens or any low maintenance areas.

- Contains 100% Irish Native Wildflowers
- Sowing rate: 1.5 g/m<sup>2</sup>
- Pack size: 500 g

### Acid/ Heavy soils

This mix of annual and perennial wildflowers with appropriate grasses produces a grassland meadow suited to heavy soils, with the flowering species benefitting pollinators such as bees and butterflies.

- Contains 60% Irish Native Wildflowers and 40% Ornamental Grasses
- Sowing rate: 2 g/m<sup>2</sup>
- Pack size: 1 kg

### Light Soils

This mixture of flowering species and grasses designed for light soil types, creates a natural meadow to benefit pollinators and improve biodiversity.

- Contains 60% Irish Native Wildflowers and 40% Ornamental Grasses
- Sowing rate: 2 g/m<sup>2</sup>
- Pack size: 1 kg

### Annual Meadow

This annual mix gives an outstanding display of colour in its first year. In subsequent years, an annual reseeding programme builds a strong seed bank to maintain a colourful display from seed regenerated through soil disturbance. It can be sown on its own or with any of the options above to supplement the perennial mixtures and increase colour in the first year.

- Contains 100% Irish Native Wildflowers
- Sowing rate: 1.5g/ m<sup>2</sup>
- Pack size: 1 kg



## Leisure® Lawn



Leisure Lawn is a quick-establishing lawn seed for landscaping and domestic lawns

Leisure Lawn forms a hardwearing lawn which maintains a healthy green colour all year. Suitable for sowing from scratch or lawn restoration after winter.

Fig 31.

### Leisure® Lawn:

Species	Mix %
Dwarf Perennial Ryegrass (2 varieties)	60%
Strong Creeping Red Fescue	35%
Chewings Fescue	5%

**Pack Size:** 1, 2, 5, 10 or 20 kg  
**Sow:** April to late August  
**Sowing rate:** 25-30 g/m<sup>2</sup> (100-120 kg/acre)



# Find out more

Should you require any more information or to request a selection of free brochures and technical guides, please visit our website:

germinal.ie  
ireland@germinal.com  
+353 (0) 504 41 100



@Germinal\_Ire



## Contacts:

### Diarmuid Murphy

Technical Sales Manager  
085 747 3865  
diarmuid.murphy@germinal.com



### Dr Mary McEvoy

Technical Development Manager  
087 962 2520  
mary.mcevoy@germinal.com



### Niall Laffan

Technical Sales Manager  
085 841 6477  
niall.laffan@germinal.com



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LandStrong® is a registered trademark of Germinal Holdings Ltd.

The mixtures in this brochure are correct at the time of going to press and the supplies of the varieties used in the mixtures should be adequate for this season. If, however, we do run short of some, they will be replaced by the next best available variety on the DAFM Recommended List.

In the eventuality of coated clover seed being unavailable, we will replace it a similar quantity of uncoated seed to maintain an equal proportion of clover in the mixture. From 1st January 2020, farms in derogation are required to sow 0.6 kg uncoated or 1.0 kg coated clover when reseeding. To ensure you are compliant speak to one of our sales reps.

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**Germinal Ireland Limited**

Horse & Jockey  
Thurles  
Co. Tipperary

+353 (0) 504 41100  
ireland@germinal.com

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