Jumbuck
Perennial Ryegrass

Jumbuck is a mid-season, diploid perennial ryegrass bred for high input grazing systems.

Scientific Name

Lolium perenne

Ploidy

Diploid

Seed Size

500,000-600,000 seeds per kg

Source: Pasture varieties used in NSW 2006-2007, Bev Zurbo, 2006

Sowing Rate

20 – 25 kg/ha

Blend Rate

5 – 15 kg/ha

Maturity

Mid

Days to flowering relative to Nui (0) = +0

Jumbuck is a mid-season flowering variety designed to run later into the season than traditional diploid perennial types.

Key Features

- Rapid and vigorous establishment
- Maintains grazing value into summer
- Produces impressive liveweight gains
- Ideal component for perennial pasture blends

Plant Characteristics

- Diploid perennial ryegrass
- Designed to persist onwards of 5-7 years under suitable conditions

Where can I grow it?

- Medium to high rainfall and irrigation areas
- Best suited to regions with a cooler finish and reliable spring rainfall
- High temperatures can constrain summer growth

Product Information

Soil Type

Jumbuck is well adapted to a wide range of fertility levels and soil profiles, but performs best in a well-drained loam. Diploid perennials will cope with short-term water logging provided the growing tip is above water. To maximise stand productivity, soil testing is advisable. Analyse soil and neutralise deficiencies with fertiliser and/or lime.

Fertility

Good base rates of phosphorus are necessary for maximum DM production especially during establishment phase. DM production is directly related to nitrogen availability. Consult your UMS agronomist or fertiliser advisor for nitrogen application rates.

Sowing

Sow at 20-25kg/ha alone or 5-10kg/ha when a component of a pasture blend. Sow seed no deeper than 1cm in a fine but firm seed bed. Sow into bared ground if direct drilling. Lightly harrow and roll to improve germination. Suitable for oversowing into an established stand. Pasture productivity is directly related to successful plant establishment.

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Product Information

Disease and Pest Management

During emergence it is essential to monitor regularly for damage from insects such as RLEM and lucerne flea, and spray as required. Inspect during early stand life for populations of black-headed cockchafer and slugs. Contact your UMS agronomist for spray application rates.

Weed Control

Jumbuck seedlings germinate quickly and are very competitive once established. Always use a knockdown herbicide to ensure you are sowing into a clean seedbed. Monitor for post emergent weeds and spray as required. Use options such as spray-grazing for broadleaf weeds.

Grazing

Do not graze Jumbuck until the plant is well anchored and root depth is established. Carry out a quick in-paddock 'grab test' by hand to ensure stock cannot pull plants out of the ground. Jumbuck should be

rotationally grazed to maintain 2-3 leaves per tiller. If the stand is allowed to grow beyond the three-leaf stage, it may run to head earlier and there will be a proportional reduction in quality and productivity. Remove dry residues from established stands during autumn to encourage new tillers and reduce stocking rates during late spring to encourage seed set and provide summer feed. Perennial ryegrass should be rested if temperatures exceed 30˚C to reduce plant stress. Requires rotational grazing for persistence, high yields and to maintain nutritional quality.

Feed Quality

Mid-flowering diploid perennials provide good winter production extending well into spring. Jumbuck is an excellent base for any perennial pasture providing reliable DM production and hay production opportunities.

Animal Health

To optimise livestock weight gain and health, ensure livestock are vaccinated and drenched. To prevent nutritional problems, make gradual diet changes when introducing hungry stock to lush pastures.

Jumbuck contains some levels of wild endophyte and like any perennial ryegrass care must be taken grazing a short pick or mature seed heads. The high risk period is from late summer through to early autumn. Contact a UMS agronomist for more information.

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