SRUC

grass & clover

varieties for Scotland

2026 - 2027

SRUC

Grass and Clover Varieties for Scotland

Grass Levy Scheme

The agricultural industry in Scotland is co-operating in a scheme to ensure the continuation of the SRUC List of Recommended Grasses and Clovers.

The scheme, with the support of NFUS, SSTA, AIC, FAC and BSPB involves a contribution of 4.1p per kg of herbage seed sold.

Merchants participating in the scheme, listed on the page opposite, have exclusive access to the detailed SRUC information on herbage varieties.

Participating merchants display the special SRUC logo on seed bags, invoices etc.

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List of merchants participating in the grass levy scheme (at 30/6/26)

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Advanced Agricultural Services
Agrii Scotland
Agrovista UK Ltd
Aspatria Farmers
Barenbrug UK Ltd.
Caithness Livestock Breeders Ltd.
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Introduction

The grass and clover varieties included in this publication are classified according to their potential usefulness for agricultural purposes under Scottish conditions. The classification is based on accumulated data from the variety evaluation programmes of SRUC and is reviewed annually. Where new information becomes available or older varieties become outclassed, merit ratings are adjusted accordingly. Assessment of some species is incomplete, but interim ratings are given where available.

The lists of varieties are based on the UK National Variety List for each species though a number of varieties now withdrawn from the National List but still marketed through the Common Catalogue are included. Varieties intended for export only and those not intended for fodder production are omitted. Information on other species not mentioned in this booklet may be available on application.

No indication is given of seed availability of individual varieties, as various factors govern seed production and demand. New varieties are often scarce until stocks are built up. Usually a satisfactory alternative of similar type is available, but in case of difficulty advice should be sought from SRUC.

Information Given in SRUC Varfile

The Index of Varieties (pp 10 - 18) lists varieties of the major species in alphabetical order with a summary of their ratings. First Choice varieties are highlighted by capitals. More detailed information on the First Choice varieties is presented in the Summary of Characters Tables to which page number the reader is referred in the last column of the Index.

In the Summaries perennial ryegrass varieties are divided into early, intermediate and late maturity groups according to REE (see page 3) and tetraploid varieties (indicated by (T) in the Index) are presented separately from diploid varieties. Maturity and ploidy types are tabulated together in all other species. In all cases varieties are listed in order of REE.

Information on the Seasonal Growth Patterns under appropriate management(s) for the species together with brief Descriptions outlining major strengths and weaknesses and the role for which they are best suited complete the information for the First Choice varieties.

Source of Variety

Code letters are used to indicate countries of origin in Table 1.

Table 1: Code letters for countries of origin of varieties

A	Austria	IRL	Ireland
B	Belgium	NL	Netherlands
CDN	Canada	NZ	New Zealand
D	Germany	S	Sweden
DK	Denmark	CH	Switzerland
F	France	CZ	Czech Republic
GB	Great Britain		

Maturity Groups of Grass Varieties

Within each grass species, varieties are arranged in maturity groups according to their date of heading or ear emergence. Mean dates are derived from spaced plant observations and are adjusted for growth in swards under Scottish conditions. This mean date, when ears can just be seen on fifty percent of the fertile tillers (even if only the tips are visible), is known as the 50% Ear Emergence date of a variety; it is then related to the number of days from the beginning of May and from it the Relative Ear Emergence (REE) value is obtained.

Ear emergence dates vary from year to year (see Table 2) depending on the season and are later in more northerly and in upland areas. However, in all but extreme seasons, differences between varieties are fairly constant. Thus, irrespective of year, latitude, altitude, management or manuring, the late perennial ryegrass Evocative (REE 55) reaches 50% EE about 30 days after Moyola (REE 25).

Mean heading dates of varieties Kilrea and Barwave (both REE 28) at the three Scottish Trial centres are shown in Table 2. The centre means are derived from observations over 15 years (2011 - 2025).

Table 2: Mean dates of 50% Ear Emergence of Kilrea/Barwave perennial ryegrass, 2011 to 2025

	Mean date					
Centre	2011-2025	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Aberdeen Latitude 57^0 11'N Altitude 107 m	22 May	13/05	19/05	23/05	14/ 05	03/06
Auchincruive Latitude 55^0 29'N Altitude 46 m	20 May	17/05	20/05	18/05	27/05	27/05
Edinburgh Latitude 55^0 53'N Altitude 198 m	17 May	11/05	13/05	16/05	12/05	19/05
All Centres	20 May					

Precise information on heading dates is important as a guide to cutting dates for silage and hay, because of the relationship between heading dates and herbage digestibility (a measure of feed quality often expressed as D-value). As ear emergence progresses, digestibility falls rapidly and delay in cutting will lead to a poorer quality conserved product. Knowledge of relative heading dates enables seeds mixtures for conservation to be chosen so that a succession of crops of the required digestibility can be harvested. Information on D-value for First and Second choice varieties at the main conservation cuts are included in Summary of Characters tables.

In the UK system of classification, the varieties of each species are grouped independently according to maturity. Perennial ryegrass and timothy extend over three groups, and cocksfoot over two. The groups are described in Table 3.

Table 3: REE values and maturity groups

Species	Early	Intermediate	Late
Perennial ryegrass	Up to 30	31-45	Over 45
Timothy	Up to 55	56-61	Over 61
Cocksfoot	Up to 28	-	Over 28

Italian and hybrid ryegrasses are each considered as a single maturity group.

Earliness

Although date of ear emergence of a variety within a particular species is closely associated with earliness of spring growth, each species has a distinctive seasonal growth pattern. Timothy has earlier spring growth than its time of heading suggests, while cocksfoot may have late spring growth associated with relatively early heading dates. Italian ryegrasses have earlier spring growth than perennial ryegrasses of corresponding dates of ear emergence.

Leaflet Size Grouping of White Clover

White clover varieties are classified by the size (length x breadth in mm) of the terminal leaflet, ranging from the small leaved AberAce (392) to the very large leaved Aran (1526). The groups are described in Table 4.

Table 4: Classification of white clover by leaflet size

S	Small	Varieties with leaflets smaller than Crusader (<819)
M	Medium	Varieties with leaflets equal to or larger than Crusader but smaller than or equal to Merwi (819-900)
L	Large	Varieties with leaflets larger than Merwi but smaller than Triffid (901-1220)
VL	Very Large	Varieties with leaflets equal to or larger than Triffid (>1220)

In the Summary of Characters tables (pp 47 – 50) white clover leaflet sizes are presented relative to that of Grasslands Huia.

The smaller leaved varieties tend to have a more prostrate, creeping growth habit and persist well under grazing. The more erect growing larger leaved varieties tend to be better suited to lenient grazing or cutting as they can compete better with the companion grass.

Maturity Groups of Red Clover

Red clover is classified into two groups based on flowering dates. The Early (E) group includes those varieties previously known as "broad leaved" while the Late (L) group includes varieties formerly termed "late flowering".

Varieties in the early group are earlier in spring growth and flower about two weeks earlier than those in the late group. Early varieties bulk up fast and produce 40 - 50% of total annual yield at the first cut compared with 50 - 60% for the lates. Varieties in the late group are more persistent.

Performance Characteristics

Varieties are classified according to their performance in relation to standard varieties. Data for each management from all three centres is combined to achieve a single SRUC Rating for the whole of Scotland. Differences in performance between centres or between managements are noted within the variety descriptions.

SRUC Rating

The main characteristics in determining SRUC Rating are total annual dry matter yield and its seasonal distribution under conservation and simulated grazing management systems, ground cover, quality as indicated by D-value, winter hardiness and susceptibility to disease.

Table 5: Interpretation of Ratings

1.	First choice
2.	Second choice - slightly poorer than Class 1 varieties in one or more characteristics.
3.	Poorer varieties acceptable only when Class 1 or 2 varieties are not available.
4.	Poor varieties considered unsuitable.

First choice recommended varieties are regularly retested with ratings subject to review.

First choice ratings may be qualified as follows:

(P) **Provisional rating**. Further trials currently in progress.

(*) **Downgrading**. Where a variety appears to be less valuable than its original rating, an asterisk is added which indicates that it will probably be downgraded in a later edition.

(+) **Variety under retest.** Changes in the delineation between maturity groups or varieties on the border between groups have sometimes resulted in varieties being tested in the adjacent group. These varieties have been rated but are currently in retest in the correct group. No D-value information is presented for these varieties.

Annual and Seasonal Yields

For perennial ryegrass and timothy species the Summary of Characters tables give total mean Annual DM Yields. Data are presented both for Conservation and Grazing managements derived from an Alternating management with Conservation in harvest years 1 and 3 and Grazing in year 2.

Conservation management comprises 4-5 cuts/year (cutting height 6 cm), cuts 1 and 2 being taken as the main silage cuts at estimated 67 D-value.

Grazing management comprises cuts taken at three week intervals during the April-June period followed by monthly cutting after 1st July (cutting height 3 cm).

For Italian and hybrid ryegrasses the Combined Management comprises an early grazing cut followed by two main silage cuts, then autumn growth measured by grazing cuts. Yield information in the year of sowing is given for these species, where available.

In white clover yields of total herbage and of clover are presented for Harvest Years 2 and 3, no harvesting of Year 1 being carried out.

For all First Choice varieties differences in Seasonal Growth Distribution may be identified by reference to growth patterns presented in chart form.

Both annual and seasonal yields are expressed as a percentage of a standard variety within the maturity group. The standard varieties chosen are Kilrea, Premium and Pastour for diploid perennial ryegrasses and AberTorch, Aubisque and Twymax for tetraploids. Ligrande is the standard for Italian and hybrid ryegrasses.

Clover yields are presented for total herbage DM production and for clover yield expressed as a percentage of the standard varieties Kent Wild White, Grasslands Huia and Alice.

Ground Cover

Maintaining a good ground cover indicates the ability of a variety to survive and contribute to total yield. The ratings are based on measurement of both persistency (change in ground cover from establishment year onwards) and overall sward density. Ground cover is expressed on an A-E scale, A being highest. Each species is graded separately.

White clover ratings are given for light defoliation (5-6 cuts/year at cutting height 3 cm) and hard defoliation (17-18 cuts/year at cutting height 2 cm).

Winterhardiness

Winterhardiness is an important characteristic in hill and upland areas, particularly in the north. Winter damage is most common among the ryegrasses; other species, such as cocksfoot, may also be affected but to a lesser degree. There is a marked variation in varietal susceptibility and care should be taken in selection of varieties for areas where winter damage is prevalent.

Special trials conducted at an upland site in Banffshire (300 m above sea level), together with observations collected during routine variety testing at the three Scottish Centres, have enabled most ryegrasses to be classified. Five categories, from "A" hardiest to "E" least hardy are used. Each species is graded separately and since Italian is generally less hardy than perennial ryegrass an "A" perennial is considerably hardier than an "A" Italian. Hybrid ryegrass is assessed with Italian.

Mildew Resistance

Powdery mildew (Erysiphe graminis) mainly affects ryegrasses, especially Italian ryegrass, and is the most common disease of established grass in Scotland. A fungal disease, mildew takes time to develop so its characteristic white powdery pustules are mainly of importance in crops set up for conservation. Resistance is expressed on an A-E scale, A being most resistant.

D-value

Previously discussed on page 4, D-values at the main conservation cuts in the ryegrasses are expressed relative to the Control, a positive value indicating a higher D-value and a negative value lower. D-value under grazing management is also given, derived from the early August cut.

Breeder / UK Agent

The variety descriptions within the Varfile present a brief pen picture of the variety highlighting particular strengths or weaknesses.

The description also contains the breeder, country of origin and UK Agent or Maintainer of the variety. The addresses of the UK agents/Maintainers are listed on page 57.

SRUC Varfile

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Perennial Ryegrass

Table 6

Name	Source	Maturity		SRUC rating	Ground cover	Winter hardiness	See page
		REE	Group				
ABERAVON	GB	47	L	1(*)	B	B	30
ABERBANN	GB	51	L	1	A	B	30
ABERBITE (T)	GB	50	L	1	C	B	36
ABERCHOICE	GB	55	L	1	A	A	30
ABERCLYDE (T)	GB	37	I	1	C	A	27
ABERDON	GB	58	L	1	A	-	30
ABERESK	GB	46	I	1(P)	B	-	30
ABERFORTH (T)	GB	46	L	1(P)	C	-	36
ABERGAIN (T)	GB	49	L	1	C	A	36
ABERGREEN	GB	43	I	1	A	B	22
ABERLEE	GB	55	L	1	A	A	30
ABERLIFFEY	GB	53	L	1(P)	A	-	30
ABERMAGIC	GB	42	I	1	A	B	22
ABERMERSEY	GB	42	I	1(P)	A	-	22
ABERPLENTIFUL (T)	GB	53	L	1	C	B	36
ABERSEVERN	GB	45	L	1(P)	A	-	30
ABERSPEY (T)	GB	44	I	1	B	A	27
ABERTEST	GB	47	L	1	-	-	30
ABERTORCH (T)	GB	20	E	1	C	A	19
ABERTWEED	GB	43	I	1(P)	A	-	22
ABERWOLF	GB	40	I	1	A	B	22
ABERZEUS	GB	40	I	1	A	B	22
AGASKA	DK	43	I	1	B	B	22
Agrikal	F	43	I	3	B	-	-
Alecto	DK	42	I	2	B	-	-
ALFONSO (T)	GB	47	L	1	B	A	36
ANGLOR (T)	GB	51	L	1(P)	B	-	36
ANGORAT	DK	47	L	1(P)	A	-	30
ARDRESS (T)	GB	47	L	1(P)	B	-	36
ASPECT (T)	NL	49	L	1	C	A	36
ASTON CHIEFTAIN	GB	52	L	1	C	-	30
ASTON EMPIRE (T)	GB	50	L	1(P)	B	-	36
Aston Energy (T)	GB	45	I	3	C	-	-
Aston Glory (T)	GB	50	L	2	B	-	-

(P) Provisional rating
(*) Downgrading *See page 6*

Name	Source	Maturity		SRUC rating	Ground cover	Winter hardiness	See page
		REE	Group				
Aston Vision(T)	GB	40	I	3	B	-	-
ASTRIAN (T)	DK	38	I	1(P)	C	-	27
BALLINTOY (T)	GB	46	L	1	C	A	36
BALLYGOWAN (T)	GB	37	I	1(P)	C	-	27
BALLYVOY	GB	47	L	1	B	A	30
BANBRIDGE (T)	GB	35	I	1(P)	C	-	27
BANDON	IRL	48	L	1(P)	C	-	30
Bartui	NL	38	I	2	A	-	-
BARWAVE (T)	GB	28	E	1(P)	C	-	19
BELVEDERE	IRL	37	I	1(P)	C	-	22
BIJOU (T)	F	46	L	1	C	B	36
BOMIUM	DK	47	L	1(P)	B	-	30
BOWIE	DK	62	L	1(*)	A	-	30
BOYNE	DK	33	I	I	B	C	22
CALEDON (T)	GB	44	I	1	C	A	27
Calibra (T)	DK	38	I	2	C	A	-
CALLAN	GB	46	L	1	B	B	30
CASTLEWELLAN (T)	GB	39	I	1 (P)	C	-	27
Chatsworth (T)	IRL	43	I	2	B	-	-
Convey (T)	DK	43	I	2	C	-	-
CRAIGOWEN	IRL	49	L	1(P)	B	-	30
Crossgar	GB	50	L	2	A	-	-
DELICADIO (T)	GB	53	l	1(P)	C	-	36
Delika	B	53	L	2	A	-	-
DIORAMA (T)	DK	44	I	1(*)	B	-	27
DRIFT (T)	NL	47	L	1	C	A	36
DRUMBO	GB	50	L	1(*)	B	B	30
DUNDROD	GB	47	L	1	B	B	30

(P) Provisional rating
(*) Downgrading *See page 6*

Name	Source	Maturity		SRUC	Ground	Winter	See
		REE	Group	rating	cover	hardiness	page
DUNLUCE (T)	GB	43	I	1	C	A	27
Elysium (T)	IRL	41	I	2	B	-	-
EVOCATIVE	DK	55	L	1(*)	B	A	30
Explosion (T)	D	42	I	3	C	-	-
Farmington	DK	43	I	3	A	-	-
FERMOY	IRL	51	L	1(P)	B	-	30
FINTONA (T)	GB	32	I	1	C	B	27
FROGMORE	IRL	48	L	1(P)	B	-	30
Futural (T)	F	41	I	2	B	-	-
GALGORM	GB	36	I	1	B	B	22
GENESIS	IRL	23	E	1	B	B	19
Glasker	IRL	31	E	2	B	-	-
Glenariff	GB	39	I	2	B	C	-
Glenarm	UK	49	L	2	B	-	-
GLENFIELD (T)	IRL	47	L	1(*)	-	-	36
GLENROCK	IRL	52	L	1	B	B	30
GOLDWELL	D	38	I	1(P)	B	-	22
GOSFORD	GB	42	I	1	B	B	22
GRACEHILL (T)	GB	47	L	1	C	B	36
GRAPHIC	DK	48	L	1(P)	A	-	30
Gusto	D	44	I	2	B	-	-
Hurricane (T)	F	48	L	2	B	-	-
Isca (T)	DK	50	L	2	B		
Kanaveral (T)	F	51	L	3	C	-	-
Kendal	F	44	L	2	A	-	-
KILKEEL (T)	GB	37	I	1(P)	C	-	27
KILLYLEA (T)	GB	49	L	1	C	-	36
LAURELVALE	GB	34	I	1(P)	A	-	22
MAASLAND (T)	DK	40	I	1(P)	C	-	27
MEIDUNO (T)	NL	47	L	1	C	C	36
MOIRA	GB	38	I	1	B	B	22
MOYOLA	GB	25	E	1	B	C	19
Nabesna	DK	40	I	2	A	-	-
NASHOTA (T)	DK	49	L	1	B	A	36
NIFTY	DK	38	I	1	A	A	22

(P) Provisional (*) Downgrading

See page 6

Name	Source	Maturity		SRUC	Ground	Winter	See
		REE	Group	rating	cover	hardiness	page
Nirmal	F	40	I	2	A	-	-
Oakpark	IRL	48	L	2	A	-	-
OPTIMUS (T)	DK	49	L	1(P)	C	-	36
Oxonium	DK	44	I	3	A	-	-
PORTADOWN (T)	GB	41	I	1(P)	A	-	27
PENSEL (T)	NL	44	I	1	C	A	27
Raccoon	DK	35	I	2	A	-	-
Reagill (T)	DK	46	L	2	C	-	-
RICHHILL (T)	GB	46	L	1(P)	B	-	36
Ritchie (T)	DK	38	I	2	B	-	-
Roar (T)	DK	49	L	2	C	-	-
Saqui	DK	49	L	2	A	-	-
SCARTOP	DK	47	L	1(P)	B	-	30
SEAGOE (T)	GB	35	I	1	C	B	27
SPECTRE (T)	DK	48	L	1(P)	B	-	36
STRANGFORD	GB	35	I	1	B	B	22
SWAN	DK	52	L	1(*)	A	-	30
TajMahal	F	50	L	2	B	-	-
THEGN	DK	30	L	2	B	-	-
TIMUCO	DK	54	L	1	B	-	30
TODDINGTON	DK	49	L	1 (*)	A	B	30
TOLLYMORE (T)	GB	34	I	1	C	-	27
TWYMAX (T)	GB	51	L	1	B	A	36
WETHERBY	DK	45	L	1	A	B	30
Weldone (T)	DK	47	L	2	B	-	-
Xenon (T)	NL	52	L	2	B	-	-
Zorgue	DK	51	L	3	A	-	-

(P) Provisional rating
(*) Downgrading *See page 6*

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Italian Ryegrass

Table 7

Name	Source	Maturity REE	SRUC rating	Ground cover	Winter hardiness	See page
ALAMO	NL	34	1	A	D	41
Ascari	DK	38	2	A	-	-
BARIMAX (T)	NL	34	1	C	D	41
BIGDYL	F	33	1	B	-	41
Barmultra II (T)	NL	30	2	C	-	-
CROCODYL	F	33	1	B	-	41
DOLORES	GB	36	1	A	-	41
DORIKE (T)	NL	29	1	C	-	41
Doluga	D	32	2	B	-	-
EMOTION (T)	D	32	1	B	-	41
EXOTYL (T)	F	35	1	C	B	41
Fabio (T)	NL	28	2	B	-	-
GEMINI (T)	B	30	1	B	D	41
GIACOMO	DK	35	1	A	-	41
Hunter (T)	D	30	2	B	-	-
Itaka	DK	33	2	B	-	-
Itarzi	DK	28	3	B	-	-
Jaccar	F	34	2	B	-	-
Kigezi (T)	DK	30	3	B	-	-
MELPRIMO	B	36	1	A	C	41
Melsprinter (T)	B	33	2	C	-	-
MERIBEL	B	32	1	A	C	41
MESSINA (T)	B	34	1	C	C	41
Muriello	B	32	2	B	-	-
Pepsyl	F	34	2	B	-	-
Pinaco	F	34	2	B	-	-
Rotor (T)	D	32	2	B	-	-
Shakira	D	29	3	B	-	-
Steel	FR	32	3	B	-	-
TOREADOR	D	34	1	B	-	41
Udine (T)	DK	29	3	B	-	-

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Hybrid Ryegrass

Table 8

Name	Source	Maturity REE	SRUC rating	Ground cover	Winter hardiness	See page
ABERECHO (T)	GB	27	1	A	B	43
ABEREDGE (T)	GB	34	1	B	C	43
ABEREVE (T)	GB	34	1	A	B	43
AberImage (T)	GB	39	2	B	-	-
AberOpal (T)	GB	35	2	C	-	-
Amalgam (T)	NL	37	3	A	-	-
Aston Crusader (T)	GB	32	1	A	-	43
Bahial (T)	F	34	3	A	-	-
BARCLAMP	NL	39	1	A	E	43
Barlaunch	NL	32	2	B	-	-
HYMER (T)	B	33	1	A	A	43
Kirial (T)	F	34	3	A	-	-
LOUCAMA (T)	F	33	1	B	-	43
Novial (T)	F	31	3	A	-	-
Olicana (T)	DK	31	2	B	-	-
Perkins (T)	D	33	2	B	-	-
PIROL	D	33	1	A	-	43
RGT Cordial (T)	F	35	2	A	-	-
Utopial (T)	F	32	2	B	-	-

Festulolium*

Table 8a

Name	Source	Maturity REE	SRUC rating	Ground cover	Winter hardiness	See page
AberNiche	GB	37	2	B	-	-
AberRoot	GB	35	3	C	-	-
Perseus (T)	DK	37	3	A	-	-
Melsago (T)	B	49	3	B	-	-

* Festulolium (= crosses between Tall/Meadow Fescues & Perennial/Italian Ryegrasses)

Timothy

Table 9

Name	Source	Maturity REE	Group	SRUC rating	Ground cover	See page
BARONAISE	NL	58	I	1	A	45
Cantal	F	55	E	2	B	
COMER	B	53	E	1	A	45
COMTAL	NL	55	E	1	B	45
DOLINA	B	53	E	1	B	45
PROMESSE	NL	54	E	1	A	45
SCOTS	GB	51	E	1	C	45
TATY	F	49	E	1	B	45
Winnetou	DK	56	I	3	A	-

Cocksfoot

Table 10

Name	Source	Maturity REE	Maturity Group	SRUC rating	Ground cover	First listed
Ludovic	F	-	L	-	-	2003
SPARTA	DK	29	L	1	A	1982

No further information is presented for cocksfoot varieties.

Index of Varieties

White Clover

Table 11

Name	Source	Leaflet size	SRUC rating	Ground cover		See page
				L	H	
AberAce	GB	S	2	B	A	-
ABERDAI	GB	M	1	A	B	47
ABERHERALD	GB	M	1	A	C	47
ABERPEARL	GB	S	1	A	A	47
AberSirius	GB	L	2	A	B	-
ABERSWAN	GB	M	1	A	B	47
ABERYSTWYTH S184	GB	S	1	B	A	47
ALICE	GB	L	1	A	C	48
ARAN	IRL	VL	1	B	C	48
Asgard	F	M	2	B	C	-
BARBLANCA	NZ	L	1	B	C	48
BUDDY	IRL	M	1	A	B	47
BRIANNA	DK	VL	1	B	B	48
CLODAGH	IRL	L	1	A	B	48
CRUSADER	NZ	M	1	A	B	47
DUBLIN	IRL	L	1	A	B	48
DUNGLOE	IRL	L	1(P)	A	B	48
Edith	S	L	3	B	C	-
EMMA	IRL	L	1(P)	B	B	48
Grassland Bounty	NZ	M	2	A	B	-
GRASSLANDS DEMAND	NZ	S	1	A	A	47
Grasslands Huia	NZ	M	2	B	B	-
IONA	IRL	M	1	A	B	47
Kakariki	NZ	VL	2	B	C	-
KATY	NZ	L	1	B	B	48
MERWI	B	M	1	B	C	47
MUNIDA	CH	L	1(P)	B	B	48
RIVENDEL	DK	S	1	B	B	47
RURU	NZ	L	1(P)	B	C	48
Quartz	NZ	L	3	A	B	-
VIOLIN	DK	L	1	A	B	48

(P) Provisional rating, see *p6*

Index of Varieties

Red Clover

Table 12

Name	Source	Group	Rating	First listed
Altaswede	CDN	L	2	1978
MERVIOT	B	E	1	1980

The following varieties comprise a Descriptive List

Name	Source	Group	Status	see page
AberClaret	GB	E	DL	53
Amos (T)	CZ	E	DL	53
Atlantis (T)	D	E	DL	53
Diplomat	D	E	DL	53
Fearga	IRL	E	DL	53
Ganymed	DK	E	DL	53
Global	B	E	DL	53
RGT Javva	F	E	DL	53
Kallichore	DK	E	DL	53
Merula	CH	E	DL	53
Milvus	CH	E	DL	53
Sinope	DK	E	DL	53

PRG - First choice early diploids - *Summary of Characters*

Variety		Genesis	Moyola
REE		23	25
Conservation yield (*%Kilrea*)			
Year1		108	105
Year3		113	112
Mean 1+3		110	108
Grazing yield (%*Kilrea*)			
Year2		109	114
GroundCover		B	B
Winterhardiness		B	C
Mildew Resistance		A	A
Dvalue	cut 1	-2.7	-2.7
+/- Kilrea	cut 2	+0.1	-0.8
	grazing	+0.7	+0.8
Source		IRL	GB
First listed		2009	2009

PRG - First choice early tetraploids - *Summary of Characters*

Variety		AberTorch	Barwave
REE		20	28
Conservation yield (% *AberTorch*)			
Year1		100	110
Year3		100	105
Mean 1+3		100	108
Grazing yield (% *AberTorch*)			
Year2		100	112
GroundCover		C	C
Winterhardiness		A	
Mildew Resistance		B	-
Dvalue	cut 1	=	1.6
+/- AberTorch	cut 2	=	'+0.1
	grazing	=	+0.4
Source		GB	NZ
First listed		2000	2022 (P)

Perennial ryegrass First Choice Early Diploids

Seasonal Growth under Conservation

	1st cut	D value	2nd cut	D value	3rd cut	Aftermath	Total yield % Kilrea
Kilrea	*6.0 t*	*66.3*	*3.0 t*	*70.7*	*2.9 t*	*2.5 t*	*14.6 t DM/ha*
Genesis	116	63.4	106	70.8	107	103	110
Moyola	112	63.6	101	69.9	107	109	108

Seasonal Growth under Grazing

	-May	May/June	July/Aug	Sept-	D value	Total yield % Kilrea
Kilrea	*2.0t*	*3.8t*	*2.5t*	*1.1 t*	*73.1*	*9.5t DM/ha*
Genesis	121	105	107	105	73.8	109
Moyola	123	104	117	121	73.9	114

Perennial ryegrass First Choice Early Tetraploids

Seasonal Growth under Conservation

	1st cut	D value	2nd cut	D value	3rd cut	Aftermath	Total yield %AberTorch
AberTorch	*6.7 t*	*65.9*	*3.1 t*	*71.4*	*2.9 t*	*2.2 t*	*14.9 t DM/ha*
AberTorch	100	65.9	100	71.4	100	100	100
Barwave (P)	102	67.5	107	71.5	113	122	108

Seasonal Growth under Grazing

	-May	May/June	July/Aug	Sept-	D value	Total yield % AberTorch
AberTorch	*2.3t*	*3.7t*	*2.5t*	*1.1 t*	*74.4*	*9.6t DM/ha*
AberTorch	100	100	100	100	74.4	100
Barwave (P)	114	110	120	125	76.4	115

Variety Descriptions - Early Varieties

Diploid

Genesis ***Teagasc (IRL) / DLF Seeds***
Exceptionally high yielding under both managements with very good early spring growth. Will require cutting early to achieve good quality silage.

Moyola ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Again exceptionally high yielding under both managements with very good growth both early and late in the season. Will require cutting early to achieve good quality silage.

Tetraploid

AberTorch (T) ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
In a group with limited choice provides excellent yields under both managements. Outstanding spring growth under grazing and good first conservation cut of good quality. Slightly susceptible to mildew.

Barwave (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Towards the later end of the Early group this variety provides very good yields for grazing throughout the year and for conservation at 2nd and 3rd cuts.

Perennial Ryegrass - First choice intermediate diploids - *Summary of Characters*

Variety		Boyne	Laurelvale	Strangford	Raccoon	Galgorm	Belvedere	Nifty	Goldwell	Moira	AberWolf	AberZeus	Portadown	AberMagic	AberMersey	Gosford	Agaska	AberGreen	AberTweed
REE		33	34	35	35	36	37	38	38	38	40	40	41	42	42	42	43	43	43
Conservation yield ***(% Premium)***																			
Year1		106	109	112	104	109	111	103	102	105	104	108	110	104	103	100	105	106	111
Year3		108	109	108	105	109	109	102	107	108	102	105	109	105	101	106	104	104	109
Mean 1+3		107	109	110	105	109	110	102	105	106	103	107	109	104	102	103	105	105	110
Grazing yield ***(% Premium)***																			
Year2		105	107	112	106	115	110	108	114	107	110	109	111	109	111	106	111	108	112
Ground Cover		A	A	B	A	B	C	A	B	B	A	A	A	A	A	B	B	A	A
Winterhardiness		C	-	B	-	B		A	-	B	B	B	-	B	-	B	B	B	-
Mildew Resistance		A	-'	-	-	-	-	B	-	A	A	B	-	B	-	B	-	B	-
Dvalue	cut 1	-1.8	-3.0	+2.9	-2.2	-0.1	+0.6	+1.3	-0.1	-0.9	+1.8	+2.5	-0.9	+2.6	+4.6	+3.8	+1.3	+3.7	+4.8
+/- Premium	cut 2	-2.4	3.8	+1.2	-1.8	+2.6	+0.1	=	+0.6	+0.6	+2.0	+1.3	+1.9	-1.0	+4.6	+0.8	-1.2	+1.4	+3.6
	grazing	-1.0	-1.1	-0.4	-0.8	+2.0	+1.9	+0.9	+2.8	=	+2.5	+2.9	+0.4	+2.5	+5.1	+2.7	+0.9	+1.9	+4.6
Source		DK	GB	GB	DK	GB	IRL	DK	D	GB	GB	GB	GB	GB	GB	GB	DK	GB	GB
First listed		2010	2026 (P)	2020	2022 (*)	2018	2025 (P)	2014	2023 (P)	2014	2014	2016	2026 (P)	2008	2026 (P)	2016	2018	2011	2024 (P)

Perennial ryegrass First Choice Intermediate Diploids

Seasonal Growth under Conservation

	1st cut	D value	2nd cut	D value	3rd cut	Aftermath	Total yield % Premium
Premium	*6.7 t*	*67.5*	*3.0 t*	*73.3*	*3.2 t*	*2.2 t*	*15.1 t DM/ha*
Boyne	108	65.8	111	70.9	102	104	107
Laurelvale (P)	112	64.5	99	77.1	108	116	109
Strangford	111	70.4	98	74.5	106	122	110
Raccoon (P)	104	65.3	106	71.5	106	104	105
Galgorm	104	67.4	109	75.9	113	118	109
Belvedere (P)	104	68.1	119	73.4	108	116	110
Nifty	99	68.8	103	73.3	102	110	102
Goldwell (P)	99	67.4	108	73.9	114	96	105
Moira	105	66.6	101	73.9	109	114	106
AberWolf	99	69.4	110	75.3	103	106	103
AberZeus	102	70.0	111	68.3	110	110	107
Portadown (P)	104	66.6	109	75.2	111	124	109
AberMagic	100	70.1	111	72.3	102	113	104
AberMersey (P)	92	72.1	115	77.9	104	111	102
Gosford	97	71.3	110	74.1	106	108	103
Agaska	101	68.8	114	72.1	100	107	105
AberGreen	98	71.3	115	74.7	104	113	105
AberTweed (P)	106	72.3	116	76.9	108	116	110

Perennial ryegrass First Choice Intermediate Diploids

Seasonal Growth under Grazing

	-May	May/June	July/Aug	Sept-	D value	Total yield % Premium
Premium	*2.0t*	*3.8t*	*2.6t*	*1.1 t*	*75.2*	*9.5t DM/ha*
Boyne	109	102	107	105	74.2	105
Laurelvale (P)	111	100	111	115	74.1	107
Strangford	114	103	116	119	74.8	112
Raccoon (P)	113	101	106	112	74.4	106
Galgorm	114	110	120	125	77.2	115
Belvedere (P)	109	104	114	123	77.1	109
Nifty	102	106	114	115	76.2	108
Goldwell (P)	104	113	119	124	78.0	114
Moira	110	102	108	114	75.3	107
AberWolf	102	107	116	115	77.8	110
AberZeus	102	107	114	113	78.2	109
Portadown (P)	107	106	118	124	75.6	109
AberMagic	98	107	118	118	77.7	111
AberMersey (P)	107	110	108	121	80.3	110
Gosford	101	101	114	114	77.9	106
Agaska	110	109	115	115	76.1	111
AberGreen	96	105	117	114	77.1	108
AberTweed (P)	108	110	115	124	79.8	112

Variety Descriptions - Intermediate Diploid Varieties

Boyne ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / DLF Seeds***
Very good yields under both managements with very good early spring growth and over the grazing season as a whole. Will require cutting early to maintain quality at 1st Cut.

Laurelvale ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK*** ***NEW***
Particularly good early and mid-season conservation yields.

Strangford ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Very good yields in year 1 conservation associated with high D value. High grazing values throughout the season. Particularly good grazing at Aberdeen and Edinburgh centres.

Raccoon ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / Limagrain UK***
Consistent good yielding variety throughout the year for both conservation and grazing.

Galgorm ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
High yields under grazing and particularly good yield in second conservation year with a high D value at second cut.

Belvedere ***Teagasc (IRL) / Goldcrop Ltd.***
High annual yields under both conservation and grazing. Yields fairly consistent throughout the growing season, with good late grazing yield.

Nifty ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK)/ DLF Seeds***
Good grazing yields throughout the season

Goldwell ***DSV (D) / DSV (UK)***
Particularly good for mid to late season grazing in terms of yield and quality

Moira ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Good yields under both cutting and grazing. Good early spring growth under grazing and good first cut yields under conservation.

AberWolf ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Good yields under cutting. Very good yields under grazing throughout the season coupled with good grazing quality.

AberZeus ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Excellent yields under both managements , particularly late season grazing. Also showing very good D- value under grazing.

Portadown ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK*** ***NEW***
Both annual conservation and grazing yields are large with 1st cut conservation yield being notably high.

AberMagic ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***

Very good variety for yield and quality under both cutting and grazing. Later heading within the group so first silage cut is moderate though of high quality. Excellent second and later cuts. Good autumn grazing growth with high quality and ground cover.

AberMersey ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd*** ***NEW***
Overall annual grazing yield is large, along with an exceptionally high grazing D-value.

Gosford ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Generally good all round yields with particularly good mid to late season grazing productivity.

Agaska ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK)/ DLF Seeds***
Grazing yield is particularly high and is consistently so throughout the season

AberGreen ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
A broadly similar variety to AberMagic, good conservation and grazing yields especially mid season onwards. Good quality and ground cover.

AberTweed ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
A variety showing very good over season yields for both conservation and grazing. . These are produced in conjunction with high quality values.

Perennial Ryegrass - First choice intermediate tetraploids - *Summary of Characters*

Variety	Fintona	Tollymore	Banbridge	Seagoe	AberClyde	Ballygowan	Kilkeel	Astrian	Castlewellan	Maasland	Dunluce	AberSpey	Caledon	Diorama	Pensel
REE	32	34	35	35	37	37	37	38	39	40	43	44	44	44	44
Conservation yield *(% Aubisque)*															
Year1	110	107	107	108	107	110	112	112	111	111	103	102	105	102	104
Year3	110	109	108	108	103	112	118	107	114	107	102	99	106	103	101
Mean 1+3	110	108	108	107	105	113	115	110	113	109	102	101	106	103	103
Grazing yield *(% Aubisque)*															
Year2	111	110	108	107	109	114	115	108	114	108	108	110	107	106	105
GroundCover	C	B	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	B	C	C	C
Winterhardiness	B	-	-	B	A	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	A	-	A
Mildew Resistance	A	-'	-	A	A	-	-	-	-	-	A	A	A	-	A
Dvalue cut 1	-1.6	-0.2	+0.5	-1.4	+0.6	-1.2	-2.1	-0.6	-0.9	+1.3	+3.2	+4.0	+1.6	+1.6	+2.2
+/Aubisque cut 2	+2.1	-0.2	-0.1	=	+2.1	-4.0	+0.2	-0.5	+0.3	-2.7	-0.5	+0.8	-0.9	+0.5	-1.7
grazing	-1.0	+0.4	-0.6	-0.5	-0.6	-0.9	-0.8	-0.2	=	+0.3	+1.1	+2.3	-0.7	1.9	-1.3
Source	GB	GB	GB	GB	GB	GB	GB	DK	GB	DK	GB	GB	GB	DK	NL
First listed	2014	2022	2023 (P)	2011	2013	2026 (P)	2026 (P)	2024 (P)	2025 (P)	2026 (P)	2005	2017	2015	2021 (*)	2016

Perennial ryegrass First Choice Intermediate Tetraploids

Seasonal Growth under Conservation

	1st cut	D value	2nd cut	D value	3rd cut	Aftermath	Total yield % Aubisque
Aubisque	*7.1 t*	*68.1*	*3.3 t*	*73.4*	*3.1 t*	*2.1 t*	*15.6 t DM/ha*
Fintona	106	66.4	108	75.2	112	120	110
Tollymore (P)	108	67.9	107	73.2	105	115	108
Banbridge (P)	108	68.6	109	73.3	106	108	108
Seagoe	110	66.7	102	73.3	104	110	107
AberClyde	106	68.7	104	75.3	103	103	105
Ballygowan (P)	109	66.9	125	69.4	103	106	115
Kilkeel (P)	109	66.0	111	73.6	121	134	113
Astrian (P)	112	67.5	105	72.9	109	112	110
Castlewellan (P)	110	67.2	109	73.7	114	124	113
Maasland (P)	106	69.4	114	70.7	106	119	109
Dunluce	90	70.4	116	72.6	110	113	102
AberSpey	92	72.1	107	74.2	104	113	101
Caledon	100	69.7	113	72.5	105	107	106
Diorama (*)	98	69.7	110	73.9	103	107	103
Pensel	100	70.3	110	71.5	101	103	103

Seasonal Growth under Grazing

	-May	May/June	July/Aug	Sept-	D value	Total yield % Aubisque
Aubisque	*1.9t*	*4.0t*	*2.9t*	*1.1 t*	*76.0*	*9.9t DM/ha*
Fintona	116	109	110	114	75.0	111
Tollymore (P)	113	109	108	114	76.4	110
Banbridge(P)	109	106	108	114	76.4	108
Seagoe	111	100	110	107	75.4	107
AberClyde	111	109	108	107	76.7	109
Ballygowan (P)	109	117	112	116	75.1	114
Kilkeel (P)	112	110	120	129	75.2	115
Astrian (P)	106	106	107	119	75.8	108
Castlewellan(P)	113	109	117	131	76.0	114
Maasland (P)	100	107	110	121	76.3	108
Dunluce	97	109	114	112	77.1	108
AberSpey	106	107	107	113	78.3	110
Caledon	99	108	109	108	75.3	107
Diorama (*)	98	109	104	114	77.9	109
Pensel	101	103	112	102	74.7	105

Variety Descriptions - Intermediate Tetraploid Varieties

Fintona (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Exceptional performance under both cutting and grazing, setting new standards in this group.

Tollymore (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Particularly good yield in third year conservation.

Banbridge (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Consistent over season yields along with good 1st cut herbage quality.

Seagoe (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Good conservation yields especially at first cut and in the first harvest year. Very good grazing yields for an intermediate tetraploid variety.

AberClyde (T) ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Very good yields under both cutting and grazing throughout the season.

Ballygowan (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK*** ***NEW***
Annual yields for both conservation and grazing are very good. Second cut conservation yield is very high but with low D-value. Good early summer grazing yield.

Kilkeel (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK*** ***NEW***
Large annual yields for conservation and grazing. Both 3rd cut conservation and late season grazing yields are particularly high .

Astrian (T) ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / Limagrain UK***
Very good conservation yields , particularly at first cut.

Castlewellan (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Particularly good yielding variety for both conservation and grazing. Outstanding in the later part of the season.

Maasland (T) ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK)/ DLF UK*** ***NEW***
Overall annual yields for conservation and grazing not exceptional, but good consistent over-season yields.

Dunluce (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Good yields under both managements with good quality under grazing. Excellent in late summer and autumn though tends to be open in growth habit.

AberSpey (T) ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Excellent later season yields for both cutting and grazing. Herbage quality very good, particularly at first cut conservation. Also shows good ground cover for tetraploid variety.

Caledon (T) ***AFBI (GB)/ Barenbrug UK***
Good yields under both cutting and grazing.

Diorama (T) ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK)/ Limagrain UK***
Particularly good late grazing variety.

Pensel (T) ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / Limagrain UK***
Good early season growth under both cutting and grazing for a variety heading at the end of the group. Good quality at first cut.

Perennial Ryegrass - First choice late diploids - *Summary of Characters*

Variety		AberSevern	AberEsk	Wetherby	Callan	Ballyvoy	AberTest	Dundrod	AberAvon	Angorat	Bomium	Scartop	Bandon	Frogmore	Graphic	Craigowen	Toddington
REE		45	46	46	46	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	48	48	48	49	49
Conservation yield ***(% Pastour)***																	
Year1		108	108	110	104	107	107	105	97	109	108	105	108	104	101	103	101
Year3		107	104	106	104	104	101	105	95	107	110	99	110	102	104	105	101
Mean 1+3		107	106	108	104	106	105	105	96	108	109	102	109	103	102	104	101
Grazing yield ***(% Pastour)***																	
Year2		118	115	106	105	100	109	105	104	106	109	103	115	108	103	106	99
Ground Cover		A	B	A	B	B	A	B	A	A	B	B	C	B	A	B	A
Winterhardiness		-	-	B	B	A	B	B	B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	B
Mildew Resistance		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	A
Dvalue	cut 1	+2.7	+1.9	+0.9	+1.1	+1.5	+2.6	+1.9	+2.7	+1.1	+2.7	+1.3	+2.7	+2.5	+0.3	+4.3	+0.4
+/- Pastour	cut 2	+4.6	+4.8	+1.4	+1.9	+2.8	+4.4	+0.4	+1.6	+0.7	+2.2	+0.1	+2.5	+1.5	+1.1	+0.6	+0.9
	grazing	+5.3	+4.6	+1.8	+0.4	+1.9	+3.1	+0.3	+3.2	+1.4	+1.3	+0.6	+1.8	+3.1	+0.8	+2.2	-1.0
Source		GB	GB	DK	GB	GB	GB	GB	GB	DK	DK	DK	IRL	IRL	DK	IRL	DK
First listed		2023 (P)	2025 (P)	2021	2018	2020	2020	2019	2001 (*)	2025 (P)	2024 (P)	2025 (P)	2023 (P)	2025 (P)	2023 (P)	2025 (P)	2012 (*)

Perennial Ryegrass - First choice late diploids - *Summary of Characters*

Variety	Drumbo	AberBann	Fermoy	Aston Chieftain	Swan	Glenrock	AberLiffey	Timuco	AberChoice	AberLee	Evocative	AberDon	Bowie
REE	50	51	51	52	52	52	53	54	55	55	55	58	62
Conservation yield *(% Pastour)*													
Year1	97	100	105	103	100	101	106	104	102	95	102	101	94
Year3	95	101	102	101	96	101	109	101	98	96	100	99	96
Mean 1+3	96	100	104	102	98	101	107	103	100	95	101	100	95
Grazing yield *(% Pastour)*													
Year2	99	106	109	104	104	104	116	102	108	107	104	117	102
Ground Cover	A	A	B	A	A	B	A	B	A	A	B	A	A
Winterhardiness	B	B	-	C	-	B	-	-	C	A	A	-	-
Mildew Resistance	B	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	A	A	A	-	-
Dvalue cut 1	+3.4	+4.0	+3.3	+0.2	+2.3	+2.4	+3.4	+1.7	+5.2	+4.5	+4.0	+5.8	+5.1
+/- Pastour cut 2	+3.9	+1.3	+2.1	+0.9	+0.5	+0.9	+0.5	+1.1	+1.2	+4.7	+0.6	+2.3	-1.2
grazing	+1.9	+2.0	+1.9	-1.0	-0.8	+0.6	+2.3	+1.2	+1.3	+4.0	+0.2	+2.6	-0.1
Source	GB	GB	IRL	GB	DK	IRL	GB	DK	GB	GB	DK	GB	DK
First listed	2009 (*)	2018	2026 (P)	2013	2020 (*)	2017	2025 (P)	2022	2009	2017	2017 (*)	2022	2018 (*)

Perennial ryegrass First Choice Late Diploids

Seasonal Growth under Conservation

	1st cut	D value	2nd cut	D value	3rd cut	Aftermath	Total yield % Pastour
Pastour	*6.7 t*	*68.9*	*3.4 t*	*70.8*	*3.1 t*	*2.2 t*	*15.3 t DM/ha*
AberSevern (P)	99	71.6	112	75.4	112	115	107
AberEsk (P)	105	70.8	101	75.6	106	115	106
Wetherby	113	70.8	97	72.2	105	106	107
Callan	109	70.0	96	72.7	101	104	104
Ballyvoy	111	70.4	101	73.6	103	102	106
AberTest (P)	110	71.5	91	75.2	108	107	105
Dundrod	111	70.8	96	71.2	104	107	105
AberAvon (*)	97	71.5	94	72.4	100	97	96
Angorat (P)	112	70.0	105	71.5	104	105	108
Bomium (P)	109	69.7	111	73.0	106	109	109
Scartop (P)	106	70.2	100	70.9	104	95	102
Bandon (P)	109	71.6	108	73.3	110	111	109
Frogmore (P)	99	71.4	105	72.3	109	105	103
Graphic (P)	106	69.2	104	71.9	99	97	102
Toddington (*)	104	69.3	98	71.7	100	97	101
Drumbo (*)	93	72.3	100	74.8	100	97	96
Crossgar (P)	102	70.6	99	72.2	105	103	102
AberBann	94	72.9	107	72.1	102	103	100
Fermoy (P)	100	72.2	110	72.9	108	103	104
AstonChieftain	99	69.1	105	71.7	106	103	102
Swan (*)	88	71.2	111	71.3	102	102	98
Glenrock	98	71.3	104	71.7	104	102	101
Timuco (P)	101	70.6	102	71.9	107	103	103
AberChoice	95	74.0	111	72.0	101	100	100
AberLee	88	73.4	100	75.5	102	100	95
Evocative (*)	96	72.9	105	71.4	106	103	101
AberDon (P)	82	74.7	117	73.1	110	111	100
Bowie (*)	75	74.0	120	69.6	98	105	95

Perennial ryegrass First Choice Late Diploids

Seasonal Growth under Grazing

	-May	May/June	July/Aug	Sept-	D value	Total yield % Pastour
Pastour	*1.6t*	*4.1t*	*2.9t*	*1.3 t*	*73.9*	*9.9t DM/ha*
AberSevern (P)	120	115	125	113	79.2	118
AberEsk (P)	122	100	103	106	78.5	115
Wetherby	116	100	104	104	75.7	105
Callan	126	99	101	100	75.3	105
Ballyvoy	113	98	96	100	75.8	100
AberTest (P)	127	108	104	101	77.0	109
Dundrod	122	98	100	108	74.2	105
AberAvon	104	105	102	110	77.1	104
Angorat (P)	106	105	105	110	75.3	106
Bomium (P)	108	105	108	108	75.2	109
Scartop (P)	115	107	100	99	74.5	109
Bandon (P)	115	113	119	111	75.7	115
Frogmore (P)	103	109	111	110	77.0	108
Graphic (P)	118	104	98	91	74.7	103
Toddington	97	100	100	95	73.5	99
Drumbo	97	98	100	103	75.8	99
Crossgar (P)	101	98	101	101	75.9	100
AberBann	106	108	106	101	75.9	106
Fermoy (P)	102	108	114	112	75.8	109
AstonChieftain	106	106	103	101	73.5	104
Swan (*)	102	106	106	101	73.1	104
Glenrock	96	107	105	103	74.5	105
Timuco (P)	94	104	106	103	75.1	102
AberChoice	109	108	107	109	75.3	108
AberLee	99	110	108	106	77.9	107
Evocative (*)	108	107	99	103	74.1	104
AberDon (P)	101	119	128	110	76.5	117
Bowie (*)	82	107	107	103	73.8	102

Variety Descriptions – Late Diploid Varieties

AberSevern ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Exceptional grazing yields throughout the season along with significant 2nd cut conservation yield

AberEsk ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Good for both condervation and grazing yields. Very high D values for 2nd cut silage and for grazing.

Wetherby ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / DLF Seeds***
Particularly good early and late season growth for both for conservation and grazing

Callan ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Early season productivity is good both for conservation and grazing.

Ballyvoy ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Overall, a good variety for conservation, with good yields throughout the year.

AberTest ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Very good variety for early season growth and quality in both conservation and grazing.

Dundrod ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Good conservation yield, particularly second cut.

AberAvon ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Outstanding high quality yields under grazing with excellent spring growth. Silage cuts only average but of very high D-value.

Angorat ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / Limagrain UK***
Very good through-season yields for both conservation and grazing along with high residual ground cover.

Bomium ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / Limagrain UK***
Very good conservation yield, particularly at the second cut.

Scartop ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / DLF Seeds***
More advantageous for conservation yields than grazing..

Bandon ***Teagasc (IRL) / Goldcrop Ltd***
Consistent, high conservation yields through the season along with outstanding grazing yields. Ground cover low for a diploid.

Frogmore ***Teagasc (IRL) / Goldcrop Ltd***
Consistent, good growth for both conservation and grazing. Shows a markedly high D value for grazing.

Graphic ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / Limagrain UK***
Good grazing yields, particularly in early season.

Toddington ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / DLF Seeds***
Good yields under both conservation and grazing with good quality. Good second cut yields under conservation and good late summer growth under grazing.

Drumbo ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Good yields under grazing coupled with very good quality under both grazing and conservation. Good late season growth. Good yields at second cut but first cut yields are modest.

Crossgar ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Generally good yielding for both grazing and conservation. In particular it shows a good first cut conservation yield.

AberBann ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Fairly good yield for grazing but conservation yields are not remarkable. However, it shows a very good D value at first cut in conservation.

Fermoy ***Teagasc (IRL)/ Goldcrop Ltd*** ***NEW***
Good overall annual conservation and grazing yields with notably high yields at 2nd cut conservation and at late season grazing.

AstonChieftain ***DSV (GB) / DSV***
Good yields under both cutting and grazing. First cut yields under conservation are relatively good for a later heading variety within this Group. Good seasonal production under grazing.

Swan ***DLF Seeds A/S / DLF Seeds***
Good mid-season growth for grazing

Glenrock ***Teagasc (IRL)/ Goldcrop Ltd***
Good grazing variety, particularly in mid-season.

Timuco ***DLF Seeds A/S / DLF Seeds***
Good conservation yields throughout the season.

AberChoice ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Good yields and quality under both conservation and grazing with very good quality at first cut. Good growth both early and late in the season under grazing.

AberLee ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Very good yields under grazing, and very good quality under both cutting and grazing.

Evocative ***DLF Seeds A/S / DLF Seeds***
Good overall conservation and grazing yields with relatively good herbage quality under conservation.

AberDon ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Mid season yields under grazing are exceptional and are combined with very good herbage quality.

Bowie ***DLF Seeds A/S / DLF Seeds***
Very late heading variety which may be a factor in the relatively low conservation yields.

Perennial Ryegrass - First choice late tetraploids - *Summary of Characters*

Variety	AberForth	Ballintoy	Bijou	Richhill	Ardress	Drift	Glenfield	Gracehill	Alfonso	Meiduno	Spectre	AberGain	Killylea	Aspect	Nashota	Optimus	AberBite	Aston Empire	Anglor	Twymax	AberPlentiful	Delicadio
REE	46	46	46	46	47	47	47	47	47	47	48	49	49	49	49	49	50	50	51	51	53	53
Conservation yield *(% Twymax)*																						
Year1	105	108	104	110	107	100	102	102	104	97	103	104	100	97	101	102	99	106	102	100	97	101
Year3	105	108	101	106	108	104	99	102	100	102	103	110	104	101	101	103	102	106	102	100	106	104
Mean 1+3	105	108	103	108	107	102	101	102	102	99	103	107	102	99	101	103	100	106	102	100	101	102
Grazing yield *(% Twymax)*																						
Year2	110	107	98	105	101	99	104	103	101	102	103	107	101	100	102	102	106	111	111	100	105	104
GroundCover	C	C	C	B	B	B	C	C	A	C	C	C	C	B	B	C	C	B	B	B	C	C
Winterhardiness	-	A	B	-	-	A	B	B	A	C	-	B	-	B	A	-	B	-	-	A	B	-
Mildew Resistance	-	A	A	-	-	A	-	-	A	A	-	A	-	A	-	-	B	-	-	A	A	-
Dvalue cut 1	+0.5	-2.1	-2.6	-1.2	-0.9	+0.1	-0.8	-1.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.9	=	+0.3	+0.8	+1.9	-1.8	+1.0	+1.5	+1.6	=	+0.5	+0.6
+/- Twymax cut 2	+3.9	-0.8	+1.0	-0.2	-1.0	-1.4	+1.7	+1.0	+1.0	-0.8	+0.5	+1.0	+0.1	-0.8	+0.2	-1.0	+0.4	-0.9	-0.7	=	-0.1	+0.5
grazing	+1.8	-0.3	-0.9	-0.1	-0.3	-1.9	-0.1	-0.4	-1.6	-0.9	=	2.2	+0.6	+0.4	-0.7	+0.3	+0.6	+1.4	-0.1	=	+0.3	-0.8
Source	GB	GB	F	GB	GB	NL	IRL	GB	GB	NL	DK	GB	GB	NL	DK	DK	GB	D	DK	GB	GB	GB
First listed	2024 (P)	2017	2014	2024 (P)	2025 (P)	2011	2020 (*)	2020	2013	2014	2023 (P)	2012	2019	2011	2018	2023 (P)	2009	2026 (P)	2026 (P)	2004	2012	2023 (P)

Perennial ryegrass First Choice Late Tetraploids

Seasonal Growth under Conservation

	1st cut	D value	2nd cut	D value	3rd cut	Aftermath	Total yield % Twymax
Twymax	*6.3 t*	*71.9*	*3.6 t*	*72.1*	*3.1 t*	*2.2 t*	*15.3 t DM/ha*
AberForth (P)	109	72.4	97	76.0	106	105	105
Ballintoy	110	69.8	106	71.3	106	109	108
Bijou	107	69.3	98	73.1	99	102	103
Richhill (P)	115	72.4	96	71.9	109	108	108
Ardress (P)	117	71.0	98	71.9	99	105	107
Drift	106	72.0	98	71.1	100	97	102
Glenfield (*)	99	71.1	103	73.8	101	102	101
Gracehill	101	70.8	99	73.1	102	109	102
Alfonso	109	71.7	93	73.1	98	103	102
Meiduno	104	71.8	98	71.3	100	97	99
Spectre (P)	102	71.0	98	72.6	105	110	103
AberGain	112	69.3	99	71.7	104	110	101
Killylea	104	72.2	95	73.7	104	104	102
Aspect	96	72.7	99	71.4	100	105	99
Nashota	100	73.8	102	72.3	100	105	101
Optimus (P)	103	70.1	103	71.1	101	104	103
AberBite	96	72.9	99	72.5	104	109	100
Aston Empire (P)	100	73.4	107	71.2	110	119	106
Anglor (P)	98	73.5	109	71.4	101	103	102
Twymax	100	71.9	100	72.1	100	100	96
AberPlentiful	95	69.8	100	70.9	107	113	105
Delicadio (P)	93	72.5	109	72.6	108	111	102

Perennial ryegrass First Choice Late Tetraploids

Seasonal Growth under Grazing

	-May	May/June	July/Aug	Sept-	D value	Total yield % Twymax
Twymax	*1.7t*	*4.4t*	*2.9t*	*1.1 t*	*75.9*	*10.1t DM/ha*
AberForth (P)	119	101	110	128`	77.7	110
Ballintoy	120	101	107	111`	75.6	107
Bijou	100	95	99	105	75.0	98
Richhill (P)	112	96	109	120`	75.8	105
Ardress (P)	110	94	103	111`	75.6	101
Drift	103	94	104	97	74.0	99
Glenfield (*)	112	94	108	117	75.8	104
Gracehill	101	95	111	119	75.5	103
Alfonso	108	93	105	108	74.3	101
Meiduno	97	100	100	95	75.0	102
Spectre (P)	105	97	108	108	75.9	103
AberGain	122	98	109	115	76.5	107
Killylea	105	100	102	104	76.5	101
Aspect	95	99	102	108	76.4	100
Nashota	111	98	103	102	75.2	102
Optimus (P)	114	95	104	100	76.2	102
AberBite	100	103	111	115	76.5	106
Aston Empire (P)	106	110	115	122	77.3	111
Anglor (P)	98	100	113	108	75.8	103
Twymax	100	100	100	100	75.9	100
AberPlentiful	103	99	111	121	74.6	105
Delicadio (P)	99	102	109	110	75.1	104

Variety Descriptions – Late Tetraploid Varieties

AberForth (T) ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Particularly good grazing yields throughout the season. associated with high herbage quality value.

Ballintoy (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Exceptional, very high yields under cutting and grazing throughout the season.

Bijou (T) ***R2N (F) / RAGT***
Good yields under both cutting and grazing. Good early spring growth under grazing and good first cut yields under conservation.

Richhill (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Very good conservation yield values, especially at the first cut.

Ardress (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Good conservation yield values, especially at the first cut.

Drift (T) ***DLF Seeds A/S (NL) / Limagrain UK***
Very good first cut yields under conservation coupled with good quality at both first and second cuts. Good yields under grazing with very good early spring growth.

Glenfield (T) ***Teagasc (IRL) / Goldcrop Ltd***
Particularly good early and late season grazing**.**

Gracehill (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Particularly good mid and late season grazing. Conservation yields relatively greater at Ayr centre.

Alfonso (T) ***DSV (GB) / DSV***
Very good yields under both cutting and grazing overall. Very good first cut yields under conservation and very good early spring growth under grazing. Good ground cover for a tetraploid variety.

Meiduno (T) ***DLF Seeds A/S (NL) / Limagrain UK***
Good conservation yields at first cut. Good autumn growth under grazing.

Spectre (T) ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / DLF Seeds***
Fairly good yields at mid and late season, both for conservation and grazing.

Killylea (T) ***AFBI (GB) / Barenbrug UK***
Good yielding variety for both early and late season.

AberGain (T) ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***

An outstanding addition to the recommended list. Very good yields and quality under both conservation and grazing, with very good first cut yields and remarkably good early spring growth under grazing. Ground cover rather open but good vigour

Aspect (T) ***DLF Seeds A/S (NL) / Limagrain UK***

Good first cut yields under conservation coupled with very good quality at both first and second cut. Good performance sustained throughout the season under grazing coupled with good quality.

Nashota (T) ***DLF Seeds A/S (NL) / DLF Seeds***

Fairly good productivity for both grazing and conservation along with a relatively good conservation first cut D value.

Optimus (T) ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / DLF Seeds***

Consistent, good yielding variety throughout the season with good early growth under grazing.

AberBite (T) ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***

Good first cut yields and very good yields under grazing with a good seasonal pattern of growth over the grazing season.

Aston Empire (T) ***DSV (D) / DSV*** ***NEW***

Very good overall annual yields for both conservation and grazing. Showing particularly good yield for 3rd cut silage wth consistent high over-season grazing yields

Anglor (T) ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / DLF Seeds*** ***NEW***

Good overall annual yield for grazing with particularly strong growth at late season grazing.

Twymax (T) ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / Limagrain UK***

Excellent variety, particularly under grazing management with good early growth. Good ground cover and midseason digestibility.

AberPlentiful (T) ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***

Broadly very similar to AberBite although slightly later heading with good first cut yields and quality and a good seasonal pattern of growth under grazing.

Delicadio (T) ***DSV (D)) / DSV (GB)***

Good for both grazing and conservation, particularly at 2nd cut and later

Italian ryegrass - First choice varieties - ***Summary of Characters***

Variety	Dorike (T)	Gemini (T)	Emotion (T)	Meribel	Bigdyl	Crocodyl	Barimax (T)	Alamo	Messina (T)	Toreador	Exotyl	Giacomo	Melprimo	Dolores
REE	29	30	32	32	33	33	34	34	34	34	35	35	36	36
Conservation yield *(%Ligrande)*														
Year1	103	103	104	104	99	104	103	102	102	101	102	103	101	101
Year 2	103	104	110	103	108	105	105	101	104	105	110	109	106	103
Mean 1+2	103	103	107	104	103	105	104	102	103	103	106	105	103	102
Sowing year	104	102	-	102	-	-	103	105	102	-	-	-	102	105
Ground Cover	C	B	B	A	B	B	C	A	C	B	B	A	A	A
Winterhardiness	-	D	-	C	-	-	D	D	C	-	-	-	C	-
Mildew Resistance	A	A	-	A	-	-	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dvalue														
+/Ligrande cut 2	+1.3	+2.7	+1.4	+1.8	-2.0	+0.2	+1.7	+0.6	+2.0	+1.5	+0.4	+0.7	+1.6	+0.6
cut 3	+1.5	+3.5	+0.8	+0.7	+1.8	+1.6	+2.2	+3.0	+2.0	+2.0	+1.6	+1.9	+0.9	+1.3
Source	NL	B	D	B	F	F	NL	NL	B	D	F	DK	B	NL
First listed	2007	2000	2026	1991	2024	2026	2018	2001	2017	2024	2024	2026	2018	2018

Italian ryegrass Seasonal Growth

	Early grazing	**Main cut**	D value	**2nd cut**	D value	**Aftermath**	**Total yield % Ligrande**
Ligrande	*1.4 t*	*5.7 t*	*67.4*	*3.4 t*	*65.3*	*4.9 t*	*15.4 t DM/ha*
Dorike (T)	109	105	68.7	101	66.8	102	103
Gemini (T)	95	102	70.1	109	68.8	105	103
Emotion (T)	116	106	68.9	109	66.1	104	107
Meribel	85	101	69.2	103	66.0	110	103
Bigdyl	99	104	65.4	102	67.1	106	104
Crocodyl	106	99	67.6	103	66.9	111	105
Barimax(T)	97	103	69.1	104	67.5	107	104
Alamo	97	100	68.0	103	68.5	105	102
Messina (T)	110	100	69.4	104	67.3	106	103
Toreador	95	103	68.9	106	67.3	103	103
Exotyl	109	102	67.8	104	66.9	111	106
Giacomo	108	103	67.1	104	67.2	108	105
Melprimo	107	97	69.0	104	66.2	108	103
Dolores	99	100	68.0	99	66.6	106	102

Variety Descriptions - Italian Ryegrass

Dorike (T) ***DSV (NL) / DSV***
Excellent spring growth and an outstanding main silage cut of good D-value for the heading date.

Gemini (T) ***ILVO (B) / Limagrain UK***
Excellent tetraploid variety with good seasonal distribution of yield. High D-values at both main silage cuts.

Emotion (T) ***DSV (D)/ DSV*** ***NEW***
High yielding in second year with good early grazing growth..

Meribel ***ILVO (B) / Limagrain UK***
High yielding in first and second harvest years, with very good late summer and autumn growth. Good D-values. Very good ground cover, but may be prone to winter damage.

Bigdyl ***RAGT (F) / RAGT UK***
Overall a good yielding variety particularly in the second year.

Crocodyl ***RAGT (F) / RAGT UK*** ***NEW***
Good yielding variety over both first and second years

Barimax (T) ***Barenbrug (NL) / Barenbrug UK***
Good yielding variety in both main growing years.

Alamo ***Innoseeds BV (NL) / DLF Seeds***
Good all round variety with good yields in year of sowing. Good second cut D-value.

Messina (T) ***ILVO (B) / Limagrain UK***
High yield value for early grazing with good quality at first, main conservation cut.

Toreador ***DSV (D) / DSV***
Good yields in both first and second years in conjunction with relatively good D values.

Exotyl ***RAGT (F) / RAGT UK***
Overall a good yielding variety particularly in the second year.

Giacomo ***DLF (DK) / DLF Seeds*** ***NEW***
Good second year yielding variety.

Melprimo ***ILVO (B) / Limagrain UK***
Shows relatively good total yield in second main harvest year.

Dolores ***DSV(NL)/ DSV***
Fairly good growth in both main growing seasons along with relatively high productivity in sowing year.

Hybrid ryegrass - First choice varieties - *Summary of Characters*

Variety	AberEcho (T)	Aston Crusader (T)	Hymer (T)	Loucama (T)	Pirol	AberEdge (T)	AberEve (T)	Barclamp
REE	27	32	33	33	33	34	34	39
Annual yield *(% Ligrande)*								
Year1	101	94	93	93	101	97	97	99
Year 2	106	103	104	105	105	103	100	100
Year 3	100	99	98	104	98	100	93	100
Mean 1 + 2	103	98	98	98	103	99	98	100
Sowing year	92	101	99	-	100	91	99	95
Ground Cover	A	A	A	B	A	B	A	A
Winterhardiness	B	B	A	-	C	B	B	E
Mildew Resistance	A	-	A	-	B	-	A	-
Dvalue								
+/- Ligrande cut 2	+2.9	+0.7	+3.0	+1.9	+0.7	+2.2	+1.0	+1.1
cut 3	+5.1	+4.6	+1.4	+5.7	+1.4	+5.8	+5.3	+1.7
Source	GB	GB	B	F	D	GB	GB	NL
First listed	2003	2014	2002	2026	2005	2017	2005	2017

Hybrid ryegrass Seasonal Growth

	Early grazing	**Main cut**	D value	**2nd cut**	D value	**Aftermath**	**Total yield % Ligrande**
Ligrande	*1.4 t*	*5.7 t*	*67.4*	*3.4 t*	*65.3*	*4.9 t*	*15.4 t DM/ha*
AberEcho (H)(T)	97	109	70.3	97	70.4	103	103
AstonCrusader(H)(T)	83	112	68.1	87	69.9	93	98
Hymer (H)(T)	82	113	70.4	84	67.3	96	98
Loucama (H)(T)	84	106	69.3	89	71.0	102	98
Pirol (H)	98	100	68.1	109	66.7	104	103
AberEdge (H)(T)	89	108	69.6	89	71.1	99	99
AberEve (H)(T)	74	109	68.4	90	70.6	100	98
Barclamp	100	97	68.5	100	67.6	103	100

Variety Descriptions - Hybrid Ryegrass

AberEcho (H) (T) ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Outstanding variety with no apparent weaknesses. Excellent spring and autumn growth with high yield of good quality at main silage cut.

AstonCrusader (H) (T) ***DSV (GB) / DSV***
Like Hymer, good yields at the first conservation cut leading to good yields overall. Good second cut D value.

Hymer (H) (T) ***ILVO (B) / Limagrain UK***
Yields particularly well at the first silage cut, giving excellent production overall. Good spring growth, though more open than some.

Loucama (H) (T) ***RAGT (F)/RAGT*** ***NEW***
Particularly good yield shown in third year.

Pirol (H) ***Steinach (D) / DSV***
Good spring growth. Moderate first cut but good second cut and aftermath.

AberEdge (H) (T) ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Good yields at the first conservation cut. Very good herbage quality.

AberEve (H) (T) ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Slow in spring but good main silage cut of moderate D - value. Good second cut D - value.

Barclamp (H) ***Barenbrug (NL) / Barenbrug UK***
Later heading in the group and relatively consistent performance across the season.

Timothy - First choice varieties - *Summary of Characters*

Variety	Taty	Scots	Dolina	Comer	Promesse	Comtal	Baronaise
REE	49	51	53	53	54	55	58
Conservation yield *(% Erecta RvP)*							
Year1	107	106	98	107	98	107	100
Year3	115	110	107	111	104	103	105
Mean 1 + 3	111	108	102	109	101	105	103
Grazing yield (*% Erecta RvP*)							
Year 2	109	103	104	105	102	109	109
Ground Cover	B	B	B	A	B	B	A
Source	F	GB	B	B	NL	NL	NL
First listed	2026	1973	2003	2001	1990	1988	2020

Seasonal Growth under Conservation

	1st cut	2nd cut	3rd cut	Aftermath	Total yield % Erecta RvP
Erecta RvP	*5.0 t*	*2.7 t*	*2.4 t*	*1.3 t*	*11.4 t DM/ha*
Taty	113	117	99	112	111
Scots	111	106	105	104	108
Dolina	101	106	99	104	102
Comer	113	113	97	107	109
Promesse	103	99	94	110	101
Comtal	108	106	95	110	105
Baronaise	104	110	89	117	103

Seasonal Growth under Grazing

	-May	May/June	July/Aug	Sept-	Total yield % Erecta RvP
Erecta RvP	*1.6t*	*3.1t*	*3.0t*	*0.6 t*	*9.5t DM/ha*
Taty	148	97	102	107	109
Scots	116	100	103	86	103
Dolina	113	98	105	102	104
Comer	122	100	101	99	105
Promesse	99	103	100	107	102
Comtal	114	108	106	114	109
Baronaise	123	103	100	142	109

Variety Descriptions - Timothy Varieties

Taty ***RAGT (F)/RAGT***
Exceptional early yielding variety under both conservation and grazing management.

Scots ***STSGA (GB) /STSGA***
Yields well under conservation in early years after establishment but only moderate ground cover and persistence.

Dolina ***ILVO (B) / DLF Seeds***
Good spring and autumn growth in plot trials especially under grazing management.

Comer ***ILVO (B) / Limagrain UK***
Good yields under both managements. Good early spring growth under grazing and good ground cover.

Promesse ***Innoseeds BV (NL) / DLF Seeds***
Similar yields and growth distribution to Erecta, but better autumn growth.

Comtal ***DLF Seeds A/S (NL) / Limagrain UK***
Excellent variety in plot trials under both managements. Very good spring and autumn growth under grazing. Average ground cover.

Baronaise ***Barenbrug (NL) / Barenbrug UK***
Very good yields in second cut conservation with higher late season growth in both conservation and grazing.

White Clover - First choice small leaf varieties

Summary of Characters

Variety	Aber S184	Grassland Demand	AberPearl	Rivendel
Leaflet size (% Gr.Huia)	70	77	80	82
Total Yield ***(% Kent WildWhite)***				
Year 2	106	106	110	113
Year 3	103	107	113	107
Mean 2+3	105	107	112	110
Clover Yield				
Year 2	131	144	173	147
Year 3	131	162	177	145
Mean 2+3	131	153	175	146
GroundCover				
Lightdefoliation	B	A	A	B
Harddefoliation	A	A	A	B
Source	GB	NZ	GB	DK
First listed	1973	1994	2004	1983

White Clover - First choice medium leaf varieties

Summary of Characters

Variety	Crusader	AberHerald	Iona	AberDai	AberSwan	Buddy	Merwi
Leaflet size (% Gr.Huia)	85	89	92	99	100	103	104
Total Yield ***(% Gr. Huia)***							
Year 2	107	103	103	105	106	107	106
Year 3	104	105	104	106	107	108	106
Mean 2+3	106	104	103	105	106	107	106
Clover Yield							
Year 2	133	126	123	129	135	138	115
Year 3	134	137	135	134	139	131	129
Mean 2+3	134	131	129	131	137	134	122
GroundCover							
Lightdefoliation	A	A	A	A	A	A	B
Harddefoliation	B	C	A	B	B	B	C
Source	NZ	GB	IRL	GB	GB	IRL	B
First listed	2002	1994	2011	1983	2018	2013	1990

White Clover - First choice large and very large leaf varieties

Summary of Characters

Variety	Katy	Ruru	Violin	Alice	Barblanca	Emma	Dublin	Dungloe	Munida	Aran	Clodagh	Brianna
Leaflet size (% Gr.Huia)	110	119	119	124	125	126	127	134	144	159	163	191
Total Yield ***(% Alice)***												
Year 2	103	106	105	100	98	111	102	101	100	100	104	100
Year 3	101	104	101	100	101	99	103	104	98	99	106	101
Mean 2+3	102	105	103	100	99	105	102	103	99	99	105	101
Clover Yield												
Year 2	112	107	112	100	89	120	109	110	100	105	112	105
Year 3	99	111	103	100	98	91	102	124	114	102	114	103
Mean 2+3	106	109	107	100	93	106	106	116	107	104	113	104
GroundCover												
Lightdefoliation	B	B	B	A	B	B	A	A	B	B	A	B
Harddefoliation	B	C	C	C	C	B	B	B	B	C	B	B
Source	NZ	NZ	DK	GB	NZ	IRL	IRL	IRL	CH	IRL	IRL	DK
First listed	2012	2025 (P)	2009	1985	2001	2026 (P)	2016	2024	2025	1981	2022	2015

White Clover First Choice Varieties

Seasonal Growth - Grass and Clover

	Early	Mid	Late	Total yield % Grasslands Huia
Grasslands Huia	*1.9 t*	*6.8 t*	*1.0 t*	*9.7 t DM/ha*
Small leaf				
Aber S184	102	101	95	100
Grasslands Demand	101	103	102	102
AberPearl	106	107	105	107
Rivendel	103	107	98	105
Medium leaf				
Crusader	107	103	123	106
AberHerald	102	104	106	104
Iona	100	103	106	103
AberDai	103	106	108	105
AberSwan	105	106	111	106
Buddy	109	109	108	107
Merwi	102	108	105	106
Large/ V.large leaf				
Katy	102	109	100	107
Ruru (P)	101	110	125	110
Violin	104	108	116	108
Alice	102	105	110	105
Barblanca	101	103	116	104
Emma (P)	103	109	125	105
Dublin	104	106	114	103
Dungloe (P)	104	107	118	108
Munida (P)	96	104	110	103
Aran	100	104	116	104
Clodagh	104	110	123	110
Brianna	99	107	109	106

White Clover First Choice Varieties

Seasonal Growth - Clover only

	Early	Mid	Late	Total yield % Grasslands Huia
Grasslands Huia	*0.3 t*	*1.8 t*	*0.4 t*	*2.5 t DM/ha*
Small leaf				
Aber S184	102	97	79	96
GrasslandsDemand	116	111	107	112
AberPearl	136	129	105	128
Rivendel	108	110	84	107
Medium leaf				
Crusader	145	126	149	134
AberHerald	127	134	128	131
Iona	127	130	126	130
AberDai	134	132	118	131
AberSwan	135	137	124	137
Buddy	151	140	94	134
Merwi	121	123	110	122
Large/ V.large leaf				
Katy	117	154	95	141
Ruru (P)	124	143	144	142
Violin	145	144	132	144
Alice	130	133	122	133
Barblanca	129	119	137	124
Emma (P)	126	137	144	138
Dublin	138	140	131	141
Dungloe (P)	143	153	147	152
Munida (P)	121	144	126	139
Aran	139	134	145	137
Clodagh	139	134	145	148
Brianna	136	147	143	138

Variety Descriptions - White Clover Varieties

Small

Aberystwyth S 184 ***IGER (GB) / Barenbrug Holland***
Persists and yields well under hard sheep grazing.

Grasslands Demand ***AgResearch (NZ) / Limagrain UK***
A good variety with good yields of grass and clover. Good ground cover under both light and hard defoliation.

AberPearl ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Good early and mid-season growth with good ground cover.

Rivendel ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / DLF Seeds***
Useful variety but no outstanding attrbutes.

Medium

Crusader ***AgResearch (NZ) / Barenbrug UK***
A very good clover variety with very good performance both early and late in the season.

AberHerald ***IGER (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Gives high clover yields and good overall production but is less persistent under hard defoliation.

Iona ***Teagasc (IRL) / DLF Seeds***
Useful addition to the Medium Leaf Size Group showing good ground cover under rotational grazing.

AberDai ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
A good variety with good clover content. Better suited to light defoliation.

Aber Swan ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Shows good total yields in grass mixture. A high clover component is maintained in the third year.

Buddy ***Teagasc (IRL) / DLF Seeds***
Good grass and clover yields through much of the season but more modest autumn growth.

Merwi ***ILVO (B) / Limagrain UK***

A productive variety better suited to light defoliation

Large

Katy ***AgResearch (NZ) / Barenbrug UK***
Very good mid-season growth. Ground cover typical of many in this group.

Ruru ***Agriseeds (NZ) / Barenbrug UK***
Good variety growth with particularly good later season growth

Violin ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / Limagrain UK***
An excellent variety showing good clover yields throughout the season coupled with good persistence especially under light defoliation.

Alice ***IGER (GB) / Barenbrug UK***

Remains a good benchmark variety in the large leaved group.

Barblanca ***AgResearch (NZ) / Barenbrug UK***
A useful variety in the large leaved group. Good spring and autumn growth.

Emma ***Teagasc (Ire)/ Teagasc*** ***NEW***
Both total herbage and clover-only yields in second year are high.

Dublin ***Teagasc (Ire)/ DLF Seeds***
Maintains very good cover under both light and hard defoliation. Good yielding variety, particularly in the second year.

Dungloe ***Teagasc (Ire) / Teagasc***
Very high clover content in sward over the whole growing season

Munida ***Agroscopa (CH) / DSV***
Greater growth towards mid and late season.

Very Large

Aran ***Teagasc (IRL) / Germinal GB Ltd***

A very large leaved variety, Aran is high yielding but best suited to cutting as its height allows it to compete with tall grass canopies. Poor persistence under hard grazing.

Clodagh ***Teagasc (IRL) / Barenbrug UK***
Provides good grass and clover herbage yields during mid and late season.

.Brianna ***DLF Seeds A/S (DK) / DLF Seeds***

A very large leaved variety with consistently good yields and good tolerance of hard grazing for its leaf size.

RED CLOVER - Descriptive List of Early Flowering Types

Summary of Characters

Variety	AberClaret	Fearga	Merula	Milvius	Amos (T)	Diplomat	Global	Magellan (T)	Atlantis (T)	Ganymed	Harmonie	RGT Java	Kallichore	Sinope
Year 1 13.3 t DM/ha	97	98	98	95	102	97	104	101	99	95	97	98	102	106
Year 2 11.7 t DM/ha	99	107	96	99	101	98	105	113	98	102	104	104	106	104
Mean 1+2	98	102	97	97	102	98	105	107	99	98	100	101	104	105
Year 3 9.0 t DM/ha	122	116	104	107	93	91	105	(126')	100	123	106	118	119	116
Mean 1+2+3	105	106	99	100	99	96	105	(111')	99	112	102	107	106	108
GroundCover	A	A	C	C	C	C	B	A	A	C	A	A	A	C
Source	GB	IRE	CH	CH	CZ	D	B	D	D	GB	D	F	DK	DK
First listed	2011	2018	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2015	2012	2022	2013	2025	2026	2018

Red Clover - Descriptive List

Seasonal Growth under Conservation

Mean Years 1+2	**1st cut**	**2nd cut**	**3rd cut**	**Aftermath**	**Total yield % Merviot**
Merviot	*7.0 t*	*4.0 t*	*1.7 t*	*0.4 t*	*13.1 t DM/ha*
AberClaret	88	105	123	97	98
Fearga	93	117	111	161	102
Merula	90	104	114	84	97
Milvus	88	108	108	86	97
Ganymed	100	114	109	145	106
Amos (T)	101	102	104	79	102
Diplomat	98	100	91	77	98
Global	104	104	109	106	105
Magellan (T)	110	102	107	88	107
Atlantis (T)	98	99	104	-	99
Harmonie	105	93	101	-	100
RGT Javva	100	96	109	114	101
Kallichore	104	104	105	92	104
Sinope	106	108	97	96	105

Year 3	**1st cut**	**2nd cut**	**3rd cut**	**Aftermath**	**Total yield % Merviot**
Merviot	*5.2 t*	*3.5 t*	*1.4 t*	*0.3 t*	*10.4 t DM/ha*
AberClaret	114	127	142	-	122
Fearga	112	118	129	76	116
Merula	94	110	123	104	104
Milvus	96	116	124	107	107
Ganymed	128	115	127	115	123
Amos (T)	93	98	90	36	93
Diplomat	91	95	84	36	91
Global	102	105	110	132	105
Magellan (T)	(130)	(122)	(127)	79	(126)
Atlantis (T)	107	97	92	79	100
Harmonie	116	101	92	88	106
RGT Javva	115	122	121	112	118
Kallichore	116	110	98	89	110
Sinope	127	102	115	68	116

Variety Descriptions - Early Flowering Red Clover

AberClaret ***IBERS (GB) / Germinal GB Ltd***
Very good persistence and very good yields in the third harvest year.

Fearga ***Teagasc/ Goldcrop Ltd***
Very good yielding, particularly at 1st and 2nd cut.

Merula ***ART Reckenholz (CH) / Feldsaaten Freudenberger GmbH***
More modest first cut yields, better performance later in the season and in the third harvest year.

Milvus ***ART Reckenholz (CH) / DSV***

More modest first cut yields, better performance later in the season and in the third harvest year.

Amos (T) ***Slechtitelska Stanice (CZ) / DLF Seeds***

Good yields under cutting in years 1 and 2.

Diplomat ***P H Peterson (D) / DSV***
Average yields in years 1 and 2.

Global ***ILVO (B) / Feldsaaten Freudenberger GmbH***
Excellent variety. Good yields under cutting in years 1, 2 and 3.

Magellan (T) ***NPZ Lembke((D)/ LSPB***
Very high yielding variety showing good growth in the third year for a tetraploid type.

Merviot ***ILVO (B) / Limagrain UK***
Remains a very good benchmark variety.

Atlantis (T) ***NPZ Lembke (D) / DSV***
A tetraploid variety with good persistence and good first cut yields in the third harvest year.

Ganymed ***DLF (DK)) / DLF Seeds***
High yielding variety with particularly strong growth in third year.

Harmonie ***NPZ Lembke (D) / DSV***
Good yields in the second and third harvest years. Good yields at the first cut especially in the third harvest year.

RGT Javva ***RAGT (F)) / RAGT***
Overall good yield performance, particularly in the third year.

Kallichore ***DLF (DK)) / DLF Seeds*** ***NEW***
Third year growth very strong particularly towards late summer

Sinope ***DLF (DK)) / DLF Seeds***
Yields over three years are consistently high with a particularly high relative yield in the third year.

Variety Descriptions of Second Choice Varieties added in 2026.

Perennial ryegrass

Futural (T) ***RAGT (F) / RAGT*** ***REE 41 (I)***
Fairly good late season growth for both conservation and grazing.

Isca (T) ***DLF (DK)/Limagrain*** ***REE 50 (L)***
Fairly good conservation yield values.

TajMahal ***RAGT (F) / RAGT*** ***REE 50 (L)***
Good late season grazing yields.

Italian ryegrass

Rotor (T) ***DSV (D)/ DSV*** ***REE 32***
Fairly good yielding variety over first and second years

White clover

Asgard ***RAGT (F)) / RAGT*** ***Medium Leaf***
Fairly good total grass-clover yield.

Addresses of UK Agents / Maintainers

Barenbrug Holland BV	Postbus 1338, 6501 BH Nijmegen, Netherlands
Barenbrug UK Ltd	33 Perkins Road, Rougham Industrial Estate Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP30 9ND
Germinal GB Ltd	Camp Road, Witham St.Hughs, Lincoln, Lincolnshire LN6 9QJ
DLF Seeds Ltd	Thorn Farm, Evesham Road, Inkberrow, Worcestershire WR7 4LJ
DSV	Weissenburger Strasse 5, 59557 Lippstadt, Germany
Feldsaaten Freudenberger GmbH	Madgeburger Strasse 2, D-47800 Krefeld, Germany
KWS UK Ltd	Church Street, Thriplow, Nr Royston Herts SG8 7RE
Limagrain UK Ltd.	Camp Road, Witham St Hughs, Lincoln LN6 9TW
LSPB	North Barn, Manor Farm, Milton Road, Impington, Cambridge CB24 9NF
RAGT Seeds Ltd.	Grange Road, Ickleton, Essex CB10 1TA
STSGA	Broomhall, Inchture, Perth PH14 9QP

For further information

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