

Cheap Seed will Cost you More in the long run

With the time fast approaching to plant grazing oats for winter feed, varietal performance is a key factor all growers should be looking at when it comes time to buy seed.

While some varieties of oats are cheaper, over the course of a season they can end up costing you far more than any savings made on planting seed. For example, Pacific Seeds, Taipan oats can not only be planted into warmer soils than most oat varieties allowing for earlier feed production, but it will also maintain vegetative growth well into late spring.

This can mean at least one more cutting or grazing than cheaper varieties.

THIS IS WORTH MONEY TO YOU

If the dry matter production during this extra month is only 1.5 mt/ha it will provide 156 grazing days of feed to a 400 kg animal. With an ME of 10 this will produce 1kg/day live weight gain or 156 kg/ha.

At a dress out percentage of 55% that is 86 kg of meat. The EYCI (Eastern Young Cattle Indicator) is currently around \$3.48/kg carcass weight.

So the extra feed will produce 86kg X \$3.48/kg = \$299/ha extra over any other oat.

If you planted at 50 kg/ha a difference in seed price of 40 cents/Kg or \$ 400/mt will cost you \$20/ha.

So to save \$20/ha on seed costs and forego \$299/ha in production is not very good economics.

The bottom line is basically your bottom line.

Short term saving can often mean long term costs.

For further information contact a Pursehouse Rural Agronomist.

Malcolm Pursehouse Receives the Prestigious Maize Industry Award

Quirindi agribusiness identity Malcolm Pursehouse has received the Maize Association of Australia award of Merit at the 6th Australian Maize Conference held in Griffith, NSW on the 23rd February 2006.

The award was made by DMN Hutchins, President of the Maize Association in Griffith and presented to Malcolm Pursehouse at the Liverpool Plains Maize Industry Field day held at Eric and Steve Rutters property on Monday 27th February.

The award made special mention of the contribution made by Mr Pursehouse to maize growers and end users by selecting and marketing speciality maize varieties most suitable for industry processing.

Accepting the award Mr Pursehouse said his first district maize growing relationships started in 1965. This involvement continued while working as an agronomist in the district between 1967 and 1970. Then

again as an agronomist and company executive from 1973 up to today with the grain marketing company Agracom which still services many of the same growers and markets. The demand was for suitable performing, higher yielding, disease resistant varieties that would yield grits, be the right colour when cooked and taste suitable to the manufacturer and consumer specifications. Malcolm Pursehouse said today the maize markets are somewhat more diverse across human consumption and stock feed but the demand is even more specific for the right article at the delivery point.

Mr Pursehouse gained close maize production and variety selection experience while working as an agronomist in Southern Africa and then the USA between 1971 and 1973. This experience gave a background of the genotypes most suitable to suit the manufacturer and consumer requirements. This knowledge along with local industry experiences has assisted in facilitating a well recognised local demand

for high quality maize over many years.

Mr Pursehouse now joins a national list of well renowned maize industry leaders that have made significant contributions to the production of maize in Australia.



Malcolm Pursehouse receiving his Award from Rob McCarron, Maize Association.

Don't Sow Too Early – Forage Oats

Well it has reached that time of year again where people are considering their forage source for winter with oats still being a popular option.

Oats are adapted to a wide range of soils with performance being proportional to soil fertility and available moisture. When sown early, oats can outperform other cereals in winter forage production, however growers should be wary of sowing too early.

Last season, very early sowings on false breaks, and then lack of follow up rain, resulted in some forage oat crops not reaching their full potential. The dry summer that we have had so far in some areas may be an indication that the same thing could happen again, so please be aware that while earlier sown oats may mean quicker forage production the risk of a poorer plant stand due to dry/hot weather and a long term loss of production is still a possibility.

Roundup CT v's Generic glyphosate

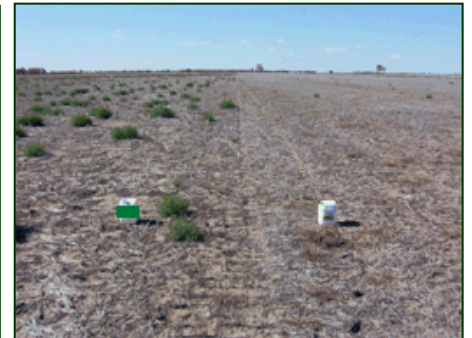
With the patent ending on Roundup CT, there has been an influx of generic glyphosates entering the market.

Analysis done on cheap glyphosates often uncovers much lower active ingredient levels and importantly much lower surfactant levels in the formulation. Roundup CT consistently contains 450g/L glyphosate (present as the isopropylamine salt).

The photograph shows a farmer-conducted trial presenting Roundup CT's superior performance to an imported generic glyphosate used at the same rate, under the same conditions. The photo was taken 66 days after application.

Pursehouse Rural endeavours to maintain an affiliation with research and development companies because of the high level of technical support offered to growers and advisers.

For more information on Roundup CT or any chemical issue please contact your local Pursehouse Rural agronomist.



Source: Nufarm 2005

Pursehouse Rural Tours

On Monday, 20 February Pursehouse Rural's trainee agronomists, accompanied by Troy Richards (Pursehouse Rural's senior pasture agronomist) traveled to the head office of Auswest seeds in Forbes.

While there they learnt about AusWest seeds and their products and services. The group had a tour of the facilities including the modern coating and seed grading plants and storage facilities. They then travelled to Premier where they inspected a seed crop of Lucerne on leading grower Mark Green's property.

Auswest seeds main functions are:

- Seed distribution
- Seed sales
- Seed marketing
- Industry training
- Extension & field days
- Seed cleaning.

AusWest seeds supply all pasture, pulse, turf and birdseed varieties suitable for Australian conditions through domestic seed retailers.

For more information on AusWest seeds vast product range contact your local Pursehouse Rural Agronomist.

Erik's Humour...

- Many years ago in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled "Gentlemen Only...Ladies forbidden". And thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.
- It is impossible to lick you elbow.
- $111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$
- In Olde English pubs, ale was ordered by pints and quarts, and when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them "Mind your pints and quarts and settle down". It's where we get the phrase "mind your P's and Q's".
- AND FINALLY.....At least 75% of people who read this will try and lick their elbow!!
- Did you?????



This Months Specials

- Thunderbird 2km Solar Energisers - \$199.00 plus GST, limited stock so hurry
- Thunderbird Portable Fence Energiser - \$109.00 plus GST, one only
- Thunderbird 5km Solar Energiser - \$299.00 plus GST, two only