Abuzz TETRAPLOID ANNUAL RYEGRASS

Information & Performance Guide



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Abuzz TETRAPLOID ANNUAL RYEGRASS

NEW ZEALAND BRED

FARM TYPE Without Endophyte

SOWING RATE
STANDARD **25+ kg/ha**
UNDERSOWING **14+ kg/ha**

LIGHT YEARS AHEAD

Abuzz is the next generation tetraploid annual ryegrass replacing the legendary cultivar, Winter Star II. Plant breeders have selected a new cultivar with superior dry matter production and disease tolerance relative to its predecessor, Winter Star II.

Abuzz has the ability to provide valuable feed from late autumn into spring and early summer. It has excellent recovery from grazing, holds on till summer, and can also be used for silage.

- Fast establishment
- Late summer/autumn sown option for high quality and quantity autumn, winter and spring feed
- Ideal between maize crops
- Quick early feed for grazing animals or silage production
- Offers flexibility into a system

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Waikato trial results

In a central Waikato trial, Abuzz demonstrated its rapid establishment and strong cool season growth.

Sown on the 29th of April 2020 at Ruakura, Abuzz produced the greatest dry matter yield over the trial period from autumn to late spring compared to Hogan, Zoom, Dash and Sultan varieties.

When continued through to the 1st of December, Abuzz showed its high spring production potential, producing the most dry matter during late spring with Abuzz plots growing over 3 tDM/ha.

Seasonal and annual dry matter accumulation of annual ryegrass relative (%) to trial mean (kg DM/ha). Sown on 29th April 2020 at Ruakura, Waikato. Trial Mean (kg DM/ha) = 100

Entry	Autumn	Winter	Early Spring	Late Spring	Total Yield 1st Oct	Total Yield 1st Dec
Abuzz	**128**	**112**	**119**	**119**	**118**	**118**
Hogan	110	111	97	114	99	104
Zoom	85	89	102	95	99	98
Winter Star II	118	103	101	85	104	97
Dash	99	99	95	96	96	96
Sultan	59	86	86	91	83	86
Trial Mean	219	1,246	3,284	2,548	4,711	7,259
LSD (5%)	21	13	16	33	16	19

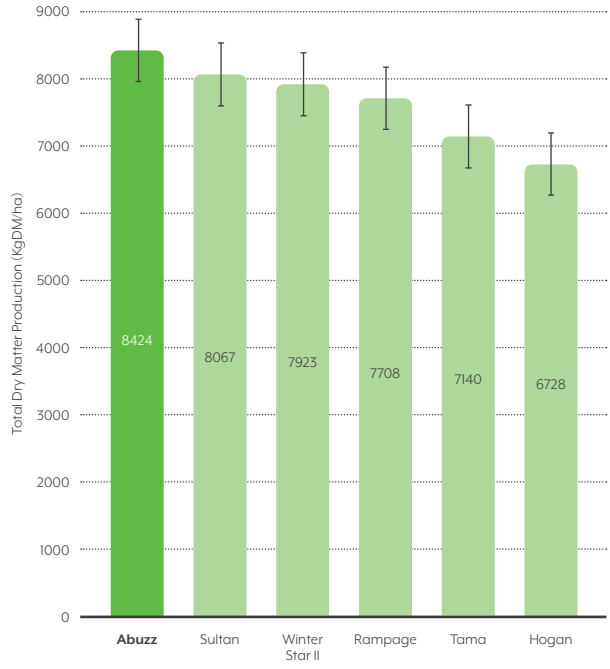
Hawke's Bay trial results

In a trial conducted near Waipukurau, Hawke's Bay, Abuzz demonstrated strong performance across all seasons.

From sowing on 18 March through to final harvest on 18 November, Abuzz recorded the highest total dry matter yield of all cultivars evaluated, leading production in the autumn, winter, and early spring periods.

At the completion of the trial, Abuzz achieved a 7% higher total dry matter yield compared with Winter Star II.

Total dry matter production (kg DM/ha) of annual ryegrass cultivars in Waipukurau, Hawke's Bay, 2025.



LSD (5%) = 925kg DM/ha
Differences between varieties must exceed LSD to be statistically significant.

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Taranaki trial results

The Hawera, Taranaki trial was drilled on the 2nd April 2024. Results showed that Abuzz was a top dry matter yield (kg DM/ha) performer over the duration of the trial.

Relative seasonal and annual dry matter accumulation of annual ryegrasses sown on the 2nd of April 2024 at Hawera, Taranaki. Trial Mean (kg DM/ha) = 100

Entry	Autumn	Winter	Early Spring	Total Yield 1st Oct
Abuzz	**98**	**103**	**112**	**107**
Hogan	120	106	97	102
Rampage	96	101	102	101
Winter Star II	107	100	100	100
Sultan	98	97	98	98
Moata	89	96	99	98
Tama	93	97	92	94
Trial Mean	592	2,022	2,553	5,168
LSD (5%)	19	11	11	8

Canterbury trial results

At the Lincoln, Canterbury trial Abuzz demonstrated strong early season performance. Abuzz produced the highest early and late spring dry matter yields leading to the greatest dry matter production at both the start of October and December final harvest dates.

For farmers in spring looking to delay their cropping plans, Abuzz offers excellent spring production potential.

Relative seasonal and annual dry matter accumulation of annual ryegrasses sown on 22nd March 2024 at Lincoln, Canterbury. Trial Mean (kg DM/ha) = 100

Entry	Autumn	Winter	Early Spring	Late Spring	Total Yield 1st Oct	Total Yield 1st Dec
Abuzz	**98**	**103**	**110**	**106**	**107**	**106**
Winter Star II	87	106	104	104	103	104
Rampage	101	93	99	102	97	99
Hogan	95	101	96	96	97	97
Tama	120	97	92	92	96	95
Trial Mean	751	2,861	5,418	7,076	9,010	16,138
LSD (5%)	20	4	7	5	4	4

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Abuzz sowing rate trial

In this trial the impact of sowing rate on dry matter production of Abuzz was evaluated in Lincoln, Canterbury.

- Three sowing rates were chosen: 20 kg/ha, 30 kg/ha and 40 kg/ha
- Dry matter yields of all three treatments were measured from sowing in March to the end of September.

Sowing rate only had an influence on dry matter production at the first two cuts (autumn) with the 30 and 40 kg/ha rates producing 399 kgDM/ha and 554 kgDM/ha more than the 20 kg/ha sowing rate.

To assess which sowing rate provided the best return on investment a feed value analysis was performed. After dry matter was valued at $0.25/kg and the additional seed cost was considered, **the sowing rate of 30 kg/ha produced the greatest return on investment.**

Impact of sowing rate on the performance of Abuzz.

Sowing Rate (kg/ha)	Seed Cost ($/ha)	Autumn Yield (KgDM/ha)	Feed Value ($/ha)	Gross Profit ($/ha)
20	$106	2,238	$560	$454
30	**$159**	**2,637**	**$659**	**$501**
40	$212	2,792	$698	$486

Calculations based on an on farm price of bare Abuzz seed at $5.29/kg and feed value of $0.25 kgDM



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Economic comparison

At the Waipukurau, Hawke's Bay trial site, Abuzz was compared to Tama annual ryegrass

During this trial period from March to mid November, Abuzz produced 1284kg DM/ha more than Tama, highlighting the advancements the breeders behind Abuzz have made over older material.

An economic comparison between varieties showed the value of Abuzz on farm. After differences in seed cost and dry matter production were accounted for **Abuzz produced an economic advantage of $247/ha over Tama annual ryegrass.**

Performance and economic evaluation of Abuzz and Tama in Waipukurau, Hawke's Bay.

Cultivar	Autumn (kgDM/ha)	Winter (kgDM/ha)	Early Spring (kgDM/ha)	Late Spring (kgDM/ha)	Total Yield (kgDM/ha)
Abuzz	**975**	**2373**	**2647**	**2408**	**8424**
Tama	939	1974	2305	2086	7140

Cultivar	Cultivar Price ($/kg)	Seed Cost ($/ha)	Feed Value ($/ha)	Gross Profit ($/ha)
Abuzz	**$5.47**	**$164**	**$2,106**	**$1,942**
Tama	$2.99	$90	$1,785	$1,695
			Abuzz advantage over Tama ($/ha)	**$247**

Trial drilled 18th March 2025. Late Spring season includes cut data up to 18th November. Feed valued at $0.25/kgDM. Seed cost represented as an estimated North Island retail price for bare Abuzz and Tama seed. Seed sowing rate 30kg/ha.

Testimonial

Waikato and King Country contractor John Austin has been a big fan of Winter Star II and after several years of replicated trials and demonstrations on his home block likes what he sees with Abuzz.

"We've done a lot of trial work, particularly on our home block, comparing the different varieties of grass and we've been really confident that we've been getting great performance out of Winter Star and Winter Star II, so it was really a no brainer to have a look at Abuzz. In the trial work it looked promising to us and in the field here its showing its worth".



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Supported by a team of technical experts

Have a question or an enquiry? Get in touch with our team.



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