



350mm+



5.0 - 8.0



Deep well drained



**PBR** 



AL or AgriCote

### **Segment**

- Dual purpose, grazing and/or hay systems
- Specialist hay production in cool winter environments

SARDI 7 Series 2 is the next generation in winter active lucerne. Versatility, broad adaptation and persistence make it a market leading variety. It has been bred specifically for adaption to the Australian climate and will perform well in both dryland and irrigated systems. SARDI 7 Series 2 is ranked higher for persistence than SARDI 7 and most other commercial cultivars in Australian trials.

SARDI 7 Series 2 will provide superior performance wherever SARDI 7 has been successful. This includes where persistent, high producing lucerne stands are required and in grazing situations where winter produced feed can be utilised. It is suited to direct grazing or hay and silage production and can be sown in pasture mixes or under-sown in cropping systems. In addition, SARDI 7 Series 2 will perform well in dairy, beef and sheep production systems in high rainfall zones where dormant or semi-dormant varieties have traditionally been grown. It will persist and produce more dry matter than winter or semi-winter dormant varieties delivering more feed during the winter months when feed is in demand. Through work conducted by Meat Livestock Australia (MLA), SARDI 7 Series 2 has shown improved tolerance to acid soils (pH >4.5Ca).

### **Key features**

- Winter Activity 7
- Highest disease/pest package
- Broad adaptability into all Australian lucerne growing regions.
- Shown to grow/persist in acidic soils down to pH 4.5Ca
- Improved tolerance to cool, wet environments
- Broad crowns and fine stems leading to high quality forage production

### **Key benefits**

- Superior performance wherever SARDI 7 has been successful
- Performs well in dairy, beef and sheep production systems in high rainfall zones
- Delivers more feed during the winter months
- Grazing tolerant due to 'in field' selection.

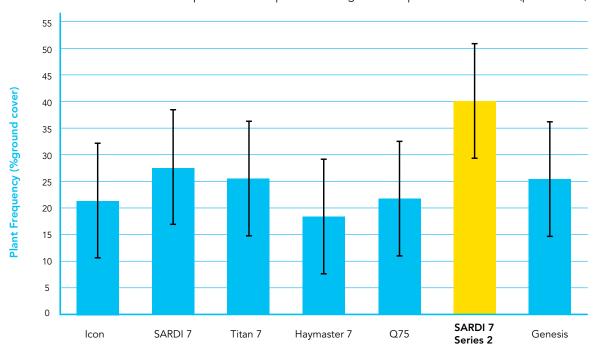


# **Breeding history**

SARDI 7 Series 2 was developed using multiple cycles of selection for persistence and yield on Australian commercial farms under a range of farming systems (cattle, sheep, hay, dryland and irrigation). This process was combined with intensive screening for reduced stem thickness and leafiness plus tolerance to bluegreen aphid, spotted lucerne aphid, anthracnose and phytophthora root rot. This makes SARDI 7 Series 2 produce high quality forage with greater persistence.

#### **Plot density**

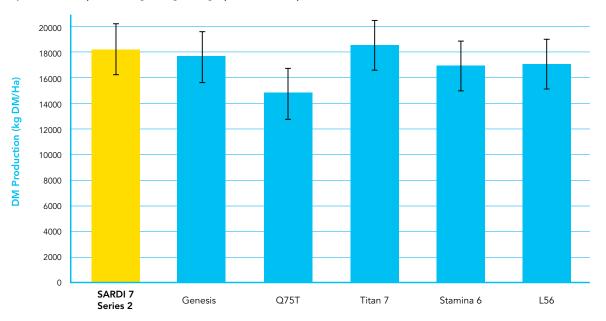
SARDI 7 Series 2 demonstrates superior 'in field' persistence against competitors in acid soils (pH < 4.8Ca).



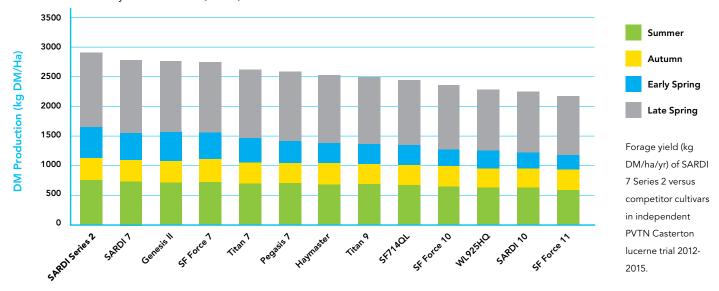
Plot density % of SARDI 7 Series 2 against competitor cultivars after 4.6 years on acidic soils at Avoca, Hamilton, Coleraine VIC, Culcairn and Coolac NSW. Varieties are in increasing order of winter activity class.

#### Forage yield

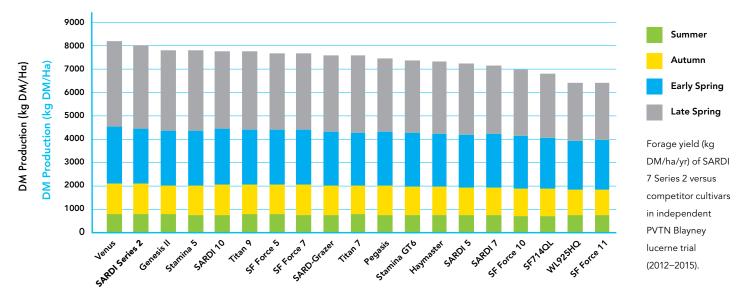
SARDI 7 Series 2 demonstrates similar forage production, to leading cultivars within the Wa 5–7 group under a 'cut' system not exposed to grazing or high pest/disease pressure.



Forage yield (kg DM/ha/yr) of SARDI 7 Series 2 versus competitor cultivars at Howlong Research Farm from 2011-2016. SARDI 7 Series 2 demonstrates superior forage production, in independent trials conducted at Casterton, VIC as part of the MLA Pasture Variety Trial Network (PVTN).



SARDI 7 Series 2 demonstrates superior forage production, in independent trials conducted at Blayney, NSW as part of the MLA Pasture Variety Trial Network (PVTN).



## Disease and pest resistance

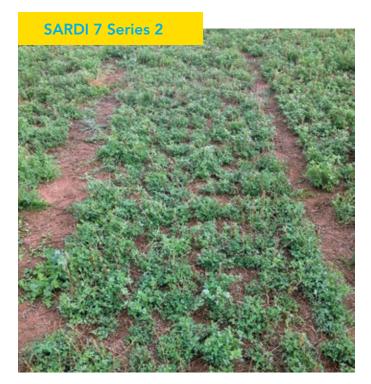
SARDI 7 Series 2 has very high levels of resistance to the pest and disease strains present in Australia. SARDI varieties are screened using new strains of virulent pathogens collected from field sites – this breeds resistance to the ever changing challenges that lucerne varieties will face. To deliver increased tolerance to cold, wet environments, the majority of the parentage comes from field selections in Victoria and New South Wales.

Spotted Alfalfa Aphid	Blue Green Aphid	Phytophthora Root Rot	Anthracnose
HR	HR	HR	HR



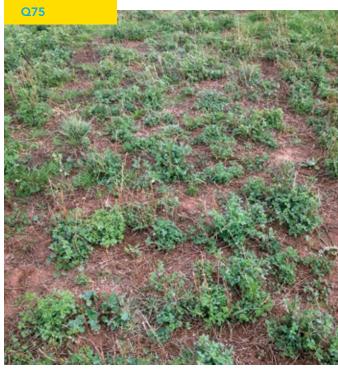
# **Superior persistence**

5 year old plots at Bendigo, Victoria sown 2009 demonstrating SARDI 7 Series 2's superior persistence compared to competitor varieties.











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enquiries@barenbrug.com.au

barenbrug.com.au

