

Forage Focus



Southern Green forage ryecorn is a high yielding, quick winter feed option that can be ready for grazing 3 weeks before oats, especially when sown late into cold conditions.

Cultivar

Cereal

Southern Green

Hombre® film coat seed recommended

Key Uses



- Ready to graze in 30 – 55 days
- Excellent yield when blended with annual ryegrass
- Can be sown with Italian ryegrass to extend spring growth

For further information visit
pggwrightsonseeds.com.au or
call us on 1800 619 910

Description

Southern Green is an earlier maturing forage ryecorn compared to common ryecorn that can deliver an additional 30% of dry matter (DM) production in 90-100 days after sowing.

Highly palatable whilst in the vegetative stage, Southern Green is grazed preferentially before oats in early winter but can become unpalatable in spring because stems are more fibrous than those of other cereals.

Southern Green doesn't require vernalisation to trigger the change from vegetative growth to reproductive growth. Vernalisation is the plants mechanism to survive cold periods thereby triggering the plant into the reproductive phase which in turn will produce seed heads.

Grazing Management

Early grazing is very important to ensure that you get the maximum value and return from Southern Green forage ryecorn.

Southern Green has extremely quick growth which is a result of it looking to produce seed as soon after germination as it can. It is important that Southern Green is lightly grazed as soon as it is able to withstand pulling. This will encourage the plants to grow more tillers, therefore adding extra growth, extending its growing period beyond one grazing. If the initial grazing is left too late, the potential for follow up grazing will be very minor due to the growing point being eaten leading to a reduction in secondary tillers.

Photo 1



PGG Wrightson Seeds Research Farm, Ballarat

Winter Feed Trial (sown 21st April 2008). Southern Green forage ryecorn on left, Wintaroo Oats on right. (Photo taken 45 days after planting). Southern Green forage ryecorn is ready to be grazed where Wintaroo would be damaged by grazing at this early development stage

Photo 2



PGG Wrightson Seeds Research Farm, Ballarat

Winter Feed Trial (sown 21st April 08) – Fresh cuts taken from 1m rows of Southern Green forage ryecorn (left) and Wintaroo Oats (right) at same time as photo 1 (above) - 45 days after planting.

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Breeding

Southern Green forage ryecorn was selected from a range of cereal trial lines that were tested at the PGG Wrightson Seeds Research Farm in Ballarat, Victoria. The trialling of the first lines of forage ryecorn was first conducted in 2006 during the extended drought that parts of Australia were experiencing at the time.

Southern Green was selected due to its early vigorous growth habit which is superior to that of forage oats, commonly seen as the basis of quick feed.

Southern Green has excellent resistance to Cereal Cyst Nematode (CCN) which can be a significant problem in lighter soils around Australia. Southern Green if used in these soil types offers a great break crop due to this resistance.

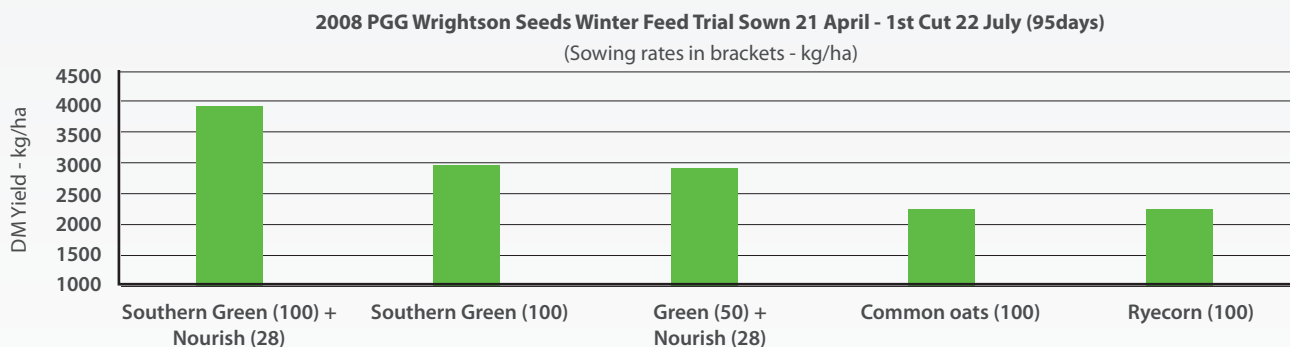
Southern Green is also resistant to Take-all disease, *Gaeumannomyces graminis* spp. which is widespread across many of the broadacre cropping zones of Australia.

Southern Green has not shown any susceptibility to Rust, *Puccinia* spp. and if managed correctly, rust should not present an issue due to the canopy of the Southern Green being minimal or non-existent at the time when the rust would become present.

Trial Results

Figure 1 shows the significant increase in DM yield per kg/ha when comparing a variety of PGG Wrightson Seeds and common mix and straight options. Data from PGG Wrightson Seeds Winter Feed Trial (2008) showing total growth in 95 days from planting. Southern Green as a standalone crop or mixed with ryegrass tops the dry matter production over oats and common ryecorn.

Figure 1: 2008 PGG Wrightson Seeds Winter Feed Trial



Note: The following products listed in Figure 1 are PGG Wrightson Seeds proprietary cultivars; Southern Green forage ryecorn, Nourish® Italian Ryegrass

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Sowing and Establishment

Southern Green will establish best when sown at a depth of 10-25mm. If sown any deeper than this it will affect the rate of emergence and therefore potential yield in winter. Southern Green is a good companion to sow with an annual or Italian ryegrass as they both have the same sowing depth requirements.

Southern Green offers flexibility as to where it can be grown as well as what it can be grown with. It is suitable for areas where annual rainfall is as low as 400mm up to the high rainfall areas; it can also be sown into a range of different soil types while still offering quick winter feed.

Trial work has demonstrated Southern Green can produce excellent yields when mixed with an annual or an Italian ryegrass, extending the growing period as well as offering a cut of hay or silage.

To ensure that you get the greatest value and return when using cereals we recommend you consider using Southern Green in a programme with oats. A paddock of Southern Green with at least one paddock of Cooe® Oats will deliver increased feed over a longer period.

Fast Facts - Southern Green Ryecorn

Class of Stock	Dairy, Beef, Sheep	Treatment recommended	Hombre®
Sowing Rates	60 – 120kg/ha	Flower Heading Dates	N/A
When will feed be available	Early Autumn through winter into early spring	Ploidy	N/A
How can it be used	Grazing, Silage and Hay	Endophyte	Nil
Rainfall guide	Minimum 400mm rainfall per annum unless irrigated		

Icon Legend

The following icons have been developed to highlight the individual on-farm uses of PGG Wrightson Seeds products. When icons appear in blue in the listings they are relevant to the product.



Beef



Sheep



Dairy



Winter Feed



Summer Feed



Hay



Silage

Lets Grow Together

Planning your forage and seed requirements in advance can make a big difference to your productivity. For over 75 years PGG Wrightson Seeds have been working with farmers to get the balance right.

To discuss your growth plans call your Pasture Specialist now on 1800 619 910.