



DRIVING PRODUCTIVITY - SOILS, LIVESTOCK & FARM

DESCRIPTION

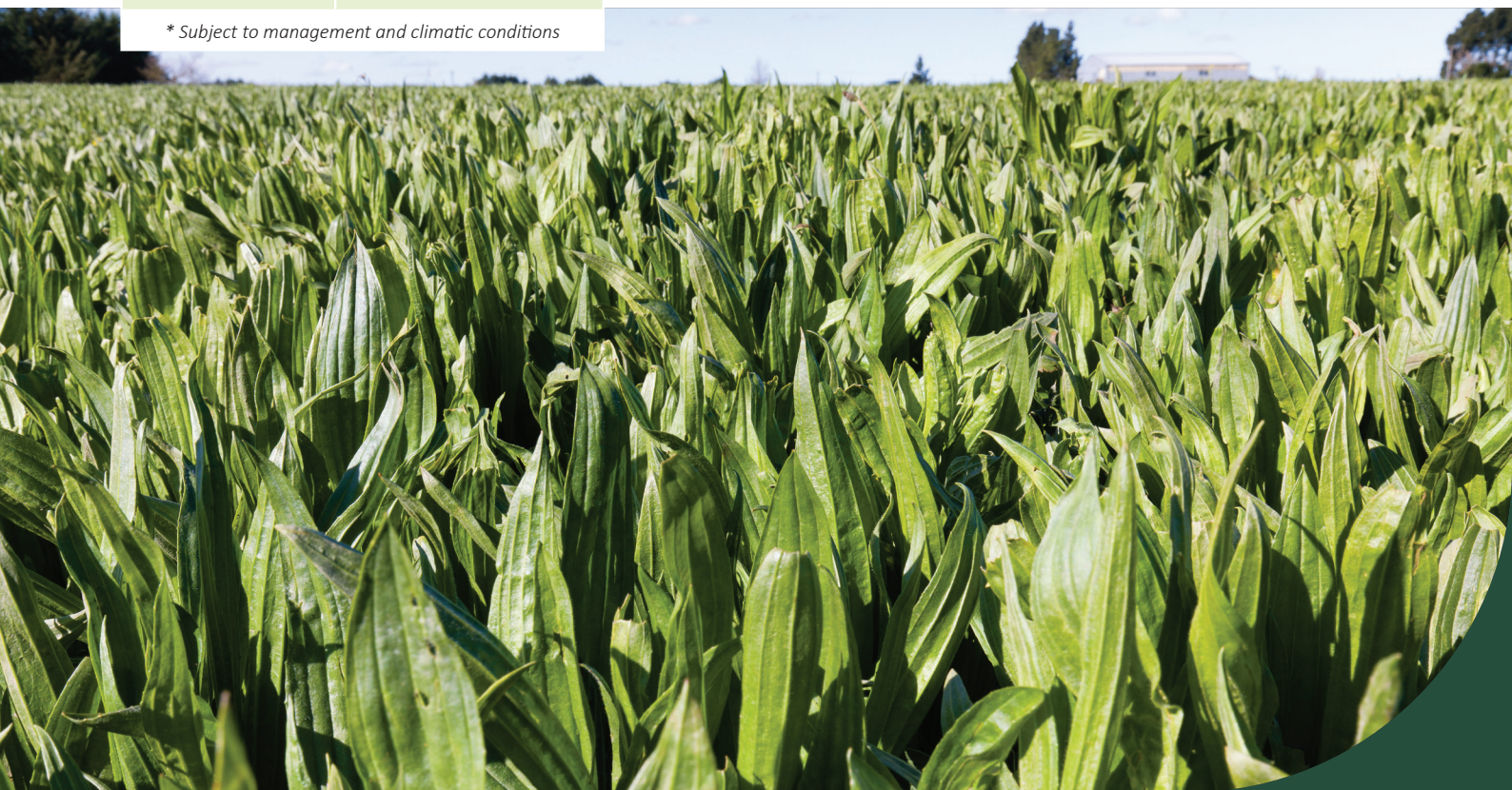
A late heading New Zealand bred plantain selected for high forage yields under grazing. Has very strong year-round growth, especially over late spring, summer and autumn, with high forage quality. Good heat and drought tolerance.

AGRONOMIC TRAITS	
SOWING RATE (KG/HA)	SOWING RATE (KG/HA)
AS FORAGE CROP	IN PASTURE MIXES
8 - 10	1 - 2
HEADING DATE	FORAGE QUALITY
LATE	HIGH
DROUGHT TOLERANCE	PERSISTENCE
VERY GOOD	2-3+ YEARS *

** Subject to management and climatic conditions*

BENEFITS

- A new high performance broadleaf plantain
- Higher overall dry matter yields
- Late heading for carrying quality longer into spring
- Higher forage quality and mineral content
- Good drought and heat tolerance
- Ideal for use as a specialist forage crop, or inclusion in permanent mixtures
- suitable for all livestock types





PERFORMANCE

Oracle exhibits fast establishment with strong year-round growth, especially spring, summer and autumn as displayed in the following trial conducted on farm in Canterbury.

**CROPMARK SEEDS PLANTAIN CULTIVAR YIELD TRIAL, CANTERBURY 2016/17 -
% YIELD RELATIVE TO MEAN OF TRIAL**

Plantain cultivar	Establishment	Autumn	Winter	Early Spring	Late Spring	Summer	Total (kgDM/ha/yr)	Total (%)
Oracle	103*	124*	127	95	107*	113*	14,647*	112*
Tonic	97	129*	194	99	84	109*	13,985*	108*
Boston	98	80	65	114*	106*	97	12,532	97
Hercules	94	86	59	91	106*	98	12,402	96
Endurance	85	76	53	86	102*	84	11,394	88
Tuatara	110*	66	47	86	95	90	10,805	83
Trial Mean (kg/DM/ha)	542	3,422	357	2,074	3,362	3,154	12,910	100
CV%	13.5	9.9	9.3	7.8	12.5	9.8	7.5	7.5
Significance	ns	P<0.05	?					

Notes to table * Denotes that the variety is statistically 'significantly the highest yielding for that season'

SOWING

Oracle should be sown in spring or autumn around 3-4 kg/ha when sown alone as a specialist crop with clovers or 1-2 kg/ha in pasture mixes to a depth of no more than 10mls. For optimal production, soil fertility stocks is critical. Fertiliser applications should be based on soil tests. Consult your local fertiliser representative.

MANAGEMENT AND USE

Oracle can be used as a specialist multi-graze forage crop or included in permanent pasture mixes and is suitable for sheep, cattle and deer farming systems. Rotational grazing with a grazing interval of 15-30 days is recommended. To maintain forage quality and persistence keep in a vegetative state over summer.

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