

Transform your paddock into highly productive grazing land

Ultra Feed

The Ultra high quality summer pasture

Throughout Southern Australia, pasture paddocks that normally offer little feed value between December and May have been transformed into highly productive grazing land thanks to Ultra Feed, a new forage sorghum from Nuseed.

Introducing forage sorghum as a summer pasture also provides additional management options, such as the ability to control weeds that significantly reduce the productivity of a paddock.



Greg McDonald with son Aaron are impressed by Ultra Feed's abundant leafy summer growth and exceptional productivity.

Toolondo grower, Greg McDonald grazed 850 sheep on 16 hectares of UltraFeed.

"We have sown other summer crops before, but nothing has produced as much quality feed so easily and without needing any pesticide sprays."

Greg plans to sow at least 80 hectares of Ultra Feed next season to take greater advantage of its abundant growth when annual and perennial pasture feed is scarce.

"There is presently good money in sheep," he said. "So we plan to take advantage of that by producing as much quality feed through the summer to fatten as many lambs as possible, and Ultra Feed is a great tool in helping us achieve that."

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For more information, contact Nuseed for a copy of our Forage Sorghum guide



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Nuseed representative Rob Christie inspects the heavily grazed and highly productive paddock of Ultra Feed with Darren Matthews and Tom Houlihan.

Manager of 'The Rises' at Harrow/Balmoral, Tom Houlihan turned a 40 hectare weed-infested paddock into a heavily grazed, highly productive one by sowing Ultra Feed.

"We cleaned the paddock of weeds by October and prepared the soil to sow Ultra Feed at about 5kg/ha.

"It rained soon after sowing and the Ultra Feed got away very well.

"We were amazed because 850 large mature cross-bred ewes, 90 weaners and 54 cows could not keep up with the forage sorghum! In fact the stocking rate was so high we had to add another water supply for the animals."

By grazing Tom cut costs by not hand feeding and managed to rest other paddocks, which allowed their permanent pastures to seed and recover after the drought, ready for next season.

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Andrew Bell, Lance Warren and Nuseed representative Rob Christie, inspect the abundant quality green feed produced by Ultra Feed in summer.

Andrew Bell sowed 40 ha of UltraFeed at his Kawalla property in Mockinya.

"Ultra Feed's rapid growth and the production of abundant quality feed at a time when other pastures are struggling means we can fatten and finish our weaned calves for market without feeding out any grain," Andrew said.

"The ability to control silvergrass in forage sorghum gives us the option to sow a cereal in that clean paddock."

"Being able to graze paddocks from December till May is a major saving in terms of labour, time and cost because we would normally be lot feeding the weaned calves. The vealers we grazed on Ultra Feed topped the local market at sale this year."

Andrew considers Ultra Feed a 'cheap' and easy crop to grow.

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Nuseed representative Rob Christie, Glenn Murrells and Rob Watson inspect Ultra Feed's prolific tillering and re-growth post grazing.

Filling the feed gap and maintaining high milk production between December and April has been a challenge for Tongala dairyman, Rob Watson.

That was until farm consultant Glenn Murrells suggested trying Ultra Feed, a new forage sorghum from Nuseed, at Rob's Yambuna Downs property.

"Cows grazing on Ultra Feed produced at least two litres more milk each day and easily maintained that production, even during poor weather when we could see they were stressed," Rob said.

"It's the abundant growth and high protein level of Ultra Feed compared with permanent pasture during the summer months that allowed us to maintain high milk production."

Ultra Feed also has a high water use efficiency which means it produces a lot of dry matter per megalitre of water – critical in times of water shortages.

"our cows produced at least two extra litres of milk each day"

Ultra Feed (NF8602) Agronomic Characteristics

GENETIC TYPE	Sorghum x Sudan grass
MATURITY (flowering date)	Medium late
EARLY VIGOUR	Excellent
SPEED TO FIRST GRAZING	Very fast
REGROWTH	Vigorous and leafy
TOTAL DRY MATTER YIELD	Very high dry matter yield over numerous grazes
TILLERING	Prolific
LEAF/STEM RATIO	Very high. Very fine stems.
COLD TOLERANCE	Very good
PROTEIN	High protein when grazed or cut at recommended height
DIGESTIBILITY	High palatability and digestibility at optimum height
DISEASE RESISTANCE	Very good resistance to both rust and leaf blight
PRUSSIC ACID	Low when grazed at the recommended height
ADAPTABILITY	Highly adaptable across all growing regions

Ultra Feed is a new widely adapted, versatile hybrid forage. Quick to first graze, prolific tillering with a very high leaf to stem ratio.

The first choice for grazing, silage and hay production, Ultra Feed is high in protein, highly digestible and preferentially grazed by stock.

Seeding rate:
Dryland 3-5 kg/ha
Good Dryland 6-10 kg/ha
Irrigation 15-25 kg/ha

Sowing time:
Forage Sorghum should be sown in a soil temperature of no less than 16 degrees and rising.

Grazing Management:
Forage Sorghum should be grazed at a minimum height of 60cm and complimented with sulphur lick blocks.

Early grazing will induce tillering, productivity and feed value of subsequent grazings. Avoid grazing hungry or sick stock on Sorghum.