Winter Star® II is a high yielding tetraploid annual ryegrass that has excellent autumn growth and continues to produce quality feed into summer. As a tetraploid, Winter Star® II has excellent feed quality and may be grazed more frequently than other annual ryegrasses.

Unlike other annual tetraploid ryegrasses, Winter Star® II is unique as it offers high quality feed late in the season. This is where the true value of using Winter Star® II is captured and has been demonstrated over many years across many different locations in many parts of Australia.

Grazing Management

It is recommended that a rotational grazing system be used when feeding Winter Star® II tetraploid annual ryegrass to allow faster regrowth following each grazing. It is important to leave some of the available feed behind (approx 4-6cm) as this will allow the Winter Star® II to recover quicker and grow more feed faster. If the plants are grazed to just a small crown with a lot of bare ground around it, the Winter Star® II will recover, but it will be much slower to recover and pasture production will be reduced.

When looking to graze Winter Star® II for the first time in the season, it is recommended that a light grazing is done as soon as the plants are able to withstand pulling (or the act of an animal grazing it). This will encourage the plants to produce more tillers, which means more leaf produced which will result in more feed during the season.

Winter Star® II tetraploid annual ryegrass is suitable for quick winter feed with improved late season quality making it ideal for silage and hay production.

- Ready to graze in 45–70 days
- Easily established by over-sowing
- High winter growth rates
- Capable of producing two or more late season grazings

**Uses:**

- Beef
- Dairy
- Sheep
- Hay
- Silage

**Sowing Rate:** 15-50 kg/ha

**Rainfall / Irrigation:** 500mm p/a
Breeding

Winter Star® II was developed as a result of Australian farmers need for increased seedling vigour and improved disease resistance over the original Winter Star.

To bring Winter Star® II to market we subjected elite plants from Winter Star® to a significant breeding programme based mainly on data from two Australian sites. The focus was specifically on improved seedling vigour, and disease resistance along with overall drymatter yield and quality. The best plants from this programme were inter-pollinated to form Winter Star® II.

Today, Winter Star® II is one of Australia’s leading and most reliable annual tetraploid ryegrasses on the market.

Trial Results

The trial results shown in Figure 1 is the dry matter production and late season growth of Winter Star® II vs Tetila. This shows there is a significant increase in dry matter production of Winter Star® II compared with common annual ryegrass options such as Tetila. When looking at Figure 1 we recommend you compare the cost of seed of Tetila vs Winter Star® II against the feed grown from each variety. In addition you should also take into account any opportunities to save on bought in feed during the summer period when Tetila’s feed diminishes significantly.

The last 2 cuts on the graph below highlight where the greatest value of using Winter Star® II is when comparing to Tetila ryegrasses.

Trial Image

This image shows the persistence and feed availability of Winter Star® II versus Tetila under trial conditions at the PGG Wrightson Seeds Research Farm in Ballarat on 28th February 2005 and on 24th November 2006.

“We’ve tried a lot of varieties but they don’t stack up against Winter Star® II in our opinion. It continues to grow late and early into summer.”

John Keely
Cohuna, Victoria – Dairy operation
Grass | Annual Ryegrass

Class of Stock
Beef, Sheep, Dairy

Treatment recommended
Ultrastrike®

Sowing Rates
15-50kg/ha

Flower Heading Dates
n/a

When will feed be available
Late autumn through to early summer

Ploidy
Tetraploid

How can it be used
Grazing, Silage and Hay

Endophyte
n/a

Rainfall guide
Minimum 500mm rainfall per annum unless irrigated

**PGG Wrightson Seeds Australia 2009 Annual Ryegrass trial - Ballarat, Victoria**

Sown: 2 April 2009, CV: 5.3%, LSD5: 1198 kg/DM/Ha

**An extra 2,654kg for Winter Star® II**

This trial was conducted at PGG Wrightson Seeds Research Farm at Ballarat in 2009. Each colour represents each dry matter cut.

The 2,654kg of dry matter was calculated against the average of differences between Winter Star® II and the Tetila products used in the trial.

**Learning - Winter Star® II**

For more information on how Winter Star® II can help work for you and your land you can access the following extra information from the Winter Star® II page at pggwrightsonseeds.com.au

**Forage Focus**

- Quick Winter Feed
- Getting the best value out of your pasture
- Programmed Approach to Pasture Renewal
- Pasture Recovery From Floods

**Video**

See the difference between a diploid and tetraploid ryegrass

**Winter Star® II - Fast Facts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Class of Stock</strong></th>
<th>Beef, Sheep, Dairy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sowing Rates</strong></td>
<td>15-50kg/ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>When will feed be available</strong></td>
<td>Late autumn through to early summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>How can it be used</strong></td>
<td>Grazing, Silage and Hay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Treatment recommended</strong></td>
<td>Ultrastrike®</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flower Heading Dates</strong></td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ploidy</strong></td>
<td>Tetraploid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Endophyte</strong></td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rainfall guide</strong></td>
<td>Minimum 500mm rainfall per annum unless irrigated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 1: Drymatter production and late season production of Winter Star® II vs Tetila**
Supporting you in more ways

For more information on our products or for some friendly advice please contact us using the details below. Let's grow together.

Your Customer Service Team
1800 619 910 (8.30am to 5pm EST)

Website
pggwrightsonseeds.com.au

Sales Agronomists

Southern Regional Sales Team

David Squibb | Tasmania
Sales Manager - Southern Region
0425 790 222 • dsquibb@pggwrightsonseeds.com.au

Darrel Rowe | Gippsland, Victoria
Sales Agronomist
0427 150 278 • drowe@pggwrightsonseeds.com.au

Matthew Carracher | Western Victoria
Sales Agronomist
0419 259 755 • mcarracher@pggwrightsonseeds.com.au

Northern Regional Sales Team

Barry Varcoe | South Australia
Sales Manager - Northern Region
0425 700 442 • bvarcoe@pggwrightsonseeds.com.au

Jonathon Tink | Central New South Wales
Sales Agronomist
0418 329 243 • jtink@pggwrightsonseeds.com.au

Northern New South Wales
Sales Agronomist
0418 213 898 • sales@pggwrightsonseeds.com.au

Matt Mahoney | Northern Victoria
Sales Agronomist
0418 296 113 • mmahoney@pggwrightsonseeds.com.au

Bruce Ramsey | Southern New South Wales
Sales Agronomist
0408 313 240 • bramsey@pggwrightsonseeds.com.au

Gerry Dogao | Central & Northern QLD and NT
Sales Agronomist
0407 113 719 • gdogao@pggwrightsonseeds.com.au

Western Australia
Sales Agronomist
0419 312 156 • sales@pggwrightsonseeds.com.au

LET'S 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 local Sales Agronomist now.