



**David Blundell, – Ngapuhi, Wairarapa**

“We have consistently used Quartet II tetraploid perennial ryegrass on our finishing block for some years now. Originally we used Quartet AR1, and for the last two seasons we have used Quartet II Endo5.

We have noticed the increase in the tiller density with Quartet II but at the same time it hasn't affected the excellent clover base which remains very high. We expect the higher tiller numbers will assist with persistence however the principal benefit with Quartet II is year-round quality. We graze it conservatively but have never seen it in seed head; certainly it doesn't get the opportunity to get out of control.

Generally we graze it with bulls first and follow-up with lambs, it works very well.”



- Exceptional tiller density for even better persistence
- Very late heading date (25 days later than Nui)
- Exceptional feed quality especially in summer
- No Lolitrem B (the main agent causing ryegrass staggers)
- Endo5 provides protection against Argentine Stem Weevil, Pasture Mealy Bug and adult Black Beetle

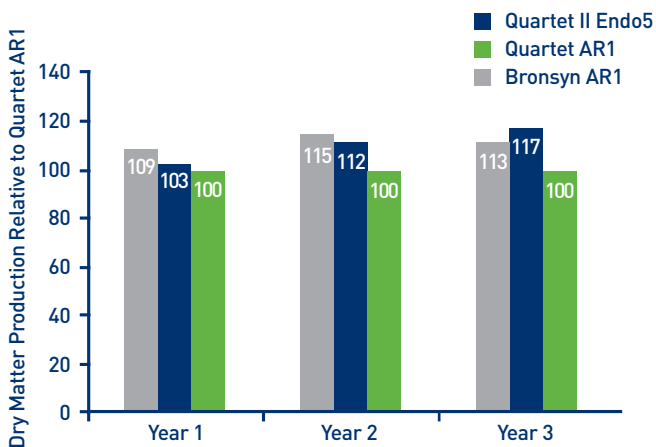
**Heading Date**

Early	Mid-Season	Late	Very Late
			Quartet II: 25 days later than Nui

**Dry Matter Production**

Quartet II shows improved dry matter production over Quartet. Quartet II is moderately winter dormant in colder regions.

The following dry matter data compares Quartet II Endo5 and Bronsyn AR1 (expressed as a percentage of Quartet II AR1).



Data is an average of 4 trials, each run for 3 years.

**Stock Suitability/Endophyte Options**

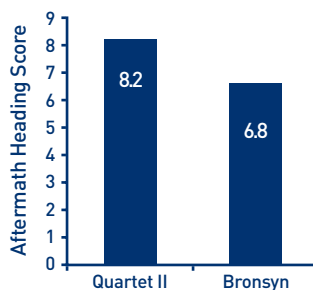


**Persistence**

Quartet II has introduced Dutch genetics into the Quartet breeding pool and this has improved tiller density, providing a much more robust tetraploid, better able to withstand hard grazing. Quartet II could be used on harder country and tolerates short periods of set stocking.

**Pasture Quality**

Quartet II has very low aftermath heading which means it has exceptional summer quality. The following graph shows the aftermath seed head production of Quartet II, compared to Bronsyn AR1. Aftermath heading is scored on a visual scale where 1 = many seed heads and 9 = no seed heads.



Data is an average of visual scores of 2 Lincoln trials scored in February 2006 (1), January 2007 (1) and February 2008 (2).

**Sowing and Establishment**

Quartet II (tetraploid) seed is heavier than diploid seed, so ideally Quartet II should be sown at a 40% higher rate than diploid cultivars. Sow at a minimum of 22 kg/ha in a mix with Superstrike clover. Quartet II performs best on sites with reasonable soil moisture and medium to high fertility.

**Grazing Management**

While continual overgrazing of Quartet II is not recommended, the introduction of Dutch genetics into this variety has lead to a more dense sward which can tolerate harder grazing. Quartet II has very high palatability so stock may graze it to lower residuals than diploid perennial ryegrasses. As Quartet II Endo5 contains Ergovaline for insect protection, avoid prolonged set stocking or grazing of fresh regrowth of these pastures during summer and autumn.