



Farm type
Without Endophyte



Farm type **MaxP**

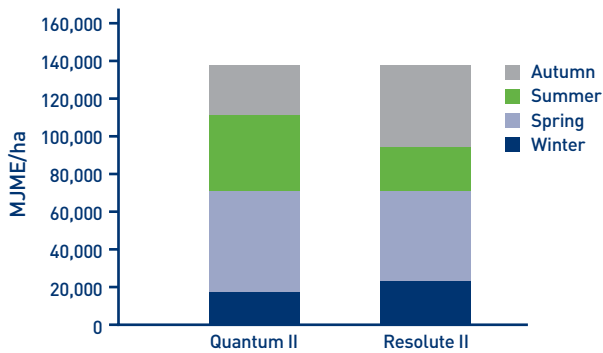


- Excellent annual dry matter production
- New Zealand bred for local conditions
- Improved leaf softness compared to Quantum tall fescue
- Improved disease resistance
- Improved digestibility (ME)
- Reduced aftermath heading

Quantum II tall fescue is a deep rooted, robust, productive tall fescue that is more persistent than perennial ryegrass and can tolerate waterlogging, salinity, grass grub, heat and drought.

Pasture Quality

Annual and seasonal metabolisable energy per hectare (MJME/ha) of two tall fescue cultivars.



Data collected from replicated grazing trial at Lincoln.

Sowing and Establishment

Tall fescues have relatively slow seedling growth compared with perennial ryegrass so must not be sown in ryegrass mixtures. Sow in spring or early autumn at 22-32kg/ha (Superstrike treated seed) with 4-6kg/ha Superstrike treated white clover and with Grasslands Puna II chicory. Sow within the range of 5-15mm, certainly not deeper. Tall fescues perform best under good fertility and regular use of nitrogen.

Grazing Management

Take care not to overgraze during establishment – short, sharp grazings are best. Do not allow tall fescue to become rank, as palatability declines markedly.

To maintain maximum quality and palatability, tall fescue pastures should be maintained below a height of 10-15cm.

For more information on MaxP® endophyte see page 30.



Tall fescue trial plots, Kimihia Research Farm.

OTHER PASTURE OPTIONS

Malcolm Pratt runs a mixed livestock finishing and cropping operation near Palmerston North, as well as running an agricultural and earthmoving contracting business.

“We suffer from the two extremes as in summer, peat, which is free-draining, can go very dry and in the winter we can have surface water as it is a low-lying area.

“That is why Quantum II tall fescue is ideal, as it can stand wet feet and is deep rooting so can cope with dry spells in summer. I have a mixture of peat and silt soils on my property and all the peat soils are in fescue.” Malcolm has 85 hectares in Quantum II tall fescue and plans to sow another 20 hectares this season.

“Malcolm says neighbours look over the fence and ask whether I am irrigating, because when the ryegrass is turning dry and brown, the tall fescue is still green. I don’t know why farmers in drier regions don’t grow more tall fescue. I haven’t got a bad word to say about it.”



Malcolm Pratt
Manawatu