

ForageMax Newsletter



Lucerne ensures protein in high yielding mixtures

Lucerne and Festulolium form a perfect match for high yielding grass fields – particularly under more stressful conditions like drought and lower input of nitrogen.

Main characteristics for Lucerne:

- High yield of protein per hectare
- Sustainable, drought tolerant crop with no need of nitrogen fertilization
- High quality feed with good potential for milk or meat production

Main characteristics for Festulolium:

- Very high forage yield
- Drought tolerance – especially the Tall fescue types
- Good recovery and regrowth after dry periods

What happens when these two species are grown together?

- The high yield of Festulolium is maintained
- The high protein content of Lucerne raises the protein content in the total crop
- The need for nitrogen fertilisation is reduced compared to pure grass

Four ForageMax mixtures with Lucerne

CutMax Alfa Protein for moderate climate is a long-term conservation mixture with a high proportion of legumes. Red clover and Lucerne ensure a high production of protein per hectare and both legumes have deeply developing root systems bringing good drought resistance. CutMax Alfa Protein is a very persistent mixture for cold and temperate regions in a 3 cut system for silage or hay production.

CutMax Alfa Protein for dry climate consists of Lucerne combined with heat and drought tolerant grasses. It provides a high yield in spring and an early first cut. The regrowth during summer is excellent.

CutMax Alfa Super for dry climate consists of 75% Lucerne and 25% Cocksfoot. A mixture very high in protein recommended for hay or haylage production under dry conditions.

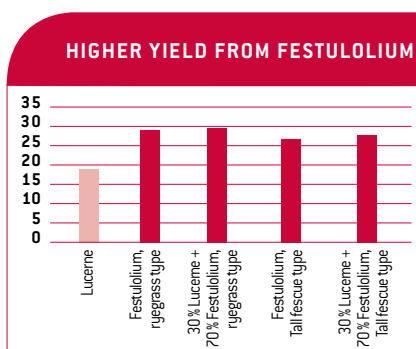
VersaMax Beef for dry climate is a grazing mixture for intensive beef cattle production under dry conditions. The rate of establishment is high, wear tolerance and regrowth is good in a hot and dry climate.

Overseeding definitely pays off

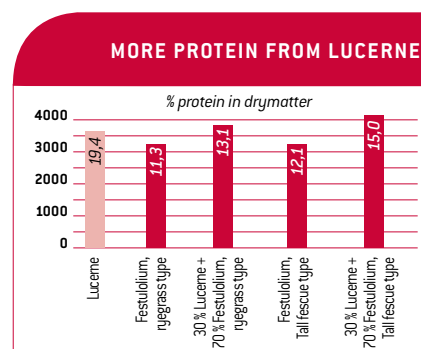
Trials with repeated overseeding each year, conducted over 8 years in the UK, demonstrate the benefits of overseeding. Yield increases of up to 44% have been achieved by overseeding with ryegrasses + clovers. In all cases there is also an associated improvement in quality. In most cases overseeding is 3-4 times cheaper than total re-seeding. The cost of overseeding is therefore recouped several times over.

In a normal sward, up to 25% of the yield can be lost in the first two or three years of use and after 5-8 years of age around 40% of a typical sward consists of unsown species.

Overseeding with DLF-TRIFOLIUM's ForageMax mixtures maintains a high yield and quality in the sward throughout its life. You could say that it remains almost like a permanent first year sward.



Total yield of dry matter, ton/hectare in two years trials with Lucerne and Lucerne+Festulolium mixtures. Trials at DLF-TRIFOLIUM.



Total yield of protein, kg/hectare in two years trials with Lucerne and Lucerne+Festulolium mixtures. Trials at DLF-TRIFOLIUM.



The wide adaptation of ForageMax mixtures

The ForageMax mixtures from DLF-TRIFOLIUM have become the leading forage mixture brand in a large part of Europe. Below we reflect a few testimonials from users in Romania and Estonia. The two locations represent different climates and demonstrate the wide use of the locally adapted ForageMax mixtures. You will always find a mixture suited for your climate within the locally advertised range.

Statements on the use of ForageMax in Romania supplied by DLF's customer EVERDE SRL:

1. "Following the establishment of trials using ForageMax mixtures I was surprised by the results obtained. I have a farm with 35 dairy cattle, and I have created six trials, using different types of ForageMax mixtures. I am keeping a close eye on the cows' reaction to those mixtures and I've noticed that the animals have consumed the forage very well. The amount of milk produced increased up to 15% and I have reduced the use of concentrates up to 50%. I encourage all farmers to cultivate ForageMax mixtures and they will have very good results!"

Valentin Kovacs – Farmer, Manager at SC K-Gosenfarm SRL, Lugoj, Timis County



2. "Trials sown with FORAGEMAX mixtures looked very well in spring 2013, although the weather conditions during the winter weren't quite favorable. The amount of green mass formed-even in the conditions offered by a dry spring-made us very interested in a long term collaboration regarding ForageMax mixtures."

Engineer George faur, S.C. DN Agrar Holding S.R.L., Garbova village, Alba County

3. "I recommend ForageMax mixtures because: ForageMax mixtures have a high productivity and quality; - Are suitable for the south of Transylvania, being an excellent choice for the mountainous and hilly area, where alfalfa or pure clover culture are not really suitable; - good resistance to drought and silage of high quality is made. They are suitable to day and night grazing which reduce the amount of fertilization."

Dr. Veterinary Marius Badea – President of Breeders Association from Avrig, Sibiu County



Also in Estonia the ForageMax mixtures are successfully used:

4. "I have successfully used DLF TRIFOLIUM's ForageMax mixtures for producing silage for more than seven years now. As part of the land is drought-sensitive, CutMax Alfa Protein mixture is suitable for growing here and is ensuring a normal harvest also in dry years.

With this seed mixture I establish new grassland on approx. 50 ha every year. The use of the fields is four years and at the same time we use up to 200 ha of grassland created with this mixture. Normally I get four cuts of silage. In the case of CutMax Alfa Protein, early spring sowing is important and conservation is done with the silage additive AIV. The quality of silage has always been very good."

Einar Lepiste, agronomist, Central Estonia