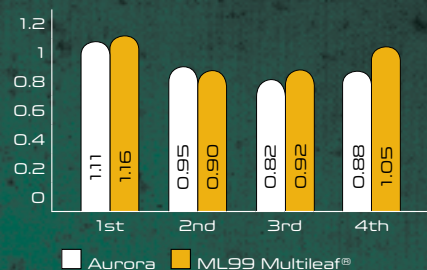


High animal performance with ML99 Multileaf[®] lucerne

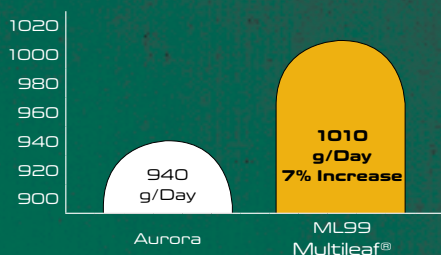
Penfield Station Liveweight Gain Trial 2010/11

Kg/Day Weight Gain for the 4 x 6 week grazing periods (24 weeks total)

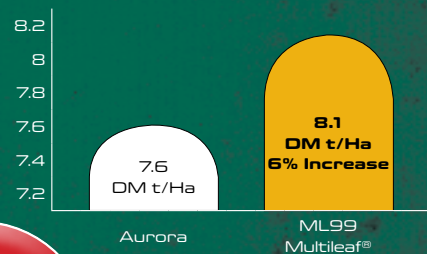


■ Aurora ■ ML99 Multileaf[®]

g/Day Weight Gain for the total trial (24 weeks)



Commercial Forage Yield Trial 2010/2011 - Kg of DM/Ha produced:



Trial details:

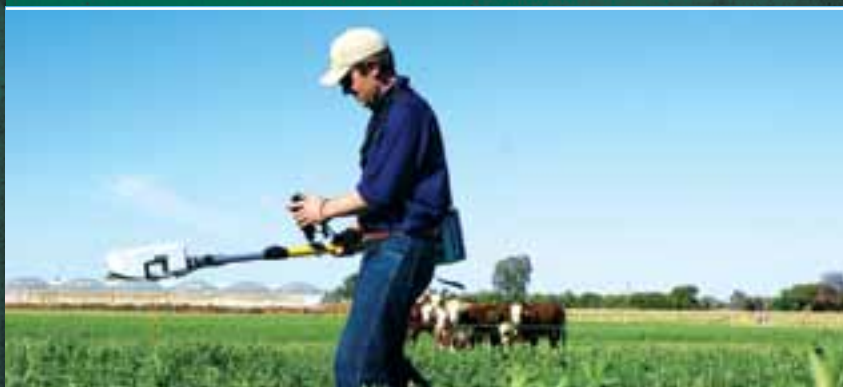
- A 6Ha paddock was divided into 12 half Ha sections, 6 were sown with ML99 Multileaf[®] lucerne and 6 sown with Aurora lucerne on the 5th of May, 2010 (sowing rate 15kg/Ha)
- 16 genetically similar Hereford steers were split into 2 grazing groups of 8 steers each, with a starting weight averaging 294 Kg's
- The 2 groups simultaneously grazed ML99 Multileaf[®] and Aurora throughout the entirety of the trial
- The trial ran for 24 weeks divided into 4 grazing periods of 6 weeks, in which each section of both varieties would be rotationally grazed once for a week, a leveling cut was made at the end of each week
- Each grazing group spent a grazing period on 1 variety (6 weeks), and then at the conclusion, the grazing group was swapped to the other variety, this occurred 4 times
- Starting date of trial: 20/9/2010
- Finishing date of trial: 4/3/2011
- Total trial length: 24 weeks (168 days)
- The trial was under irrigated conditions
- No other feed or supplements were supplied to the animals

Discussion:

The trial protocol used was determined as the best possible way to measure the given variable (the Lucerne variety being grazed) while limiting other factors influencing weight gain such as environmental conditions (heat, rain, wind etc) because both varieties would be grazed simultaneously and subject to the same conditions. This also removes variability caused by individual animal performance.

Results are a guide to potential livestock weight gains that can be achieved on specific Lucerne varieties. Use this information as a tool to look at forage production potential under traditional grazing systems.

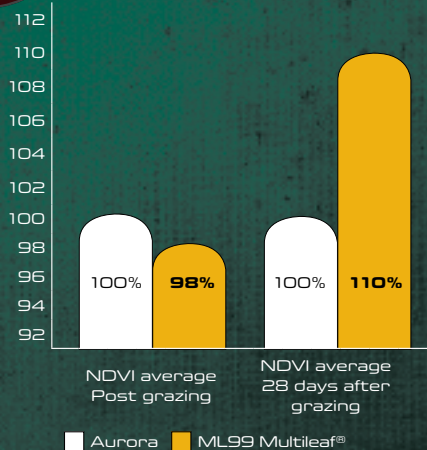
The commercial forage yield trial was run along side the grazing trial, on a plot basis using replicated 14m² plots. Sown on the 12/9/10, 3 cuts of multiple replications were taken between the 5/12/10 and 25/2/11. The irrigated trial was sown at 15kg/ha.



LEFT: displays the NDVI average post grazing which shows ML99 Multileaf[®] to be 2% lower than Aurora. From this it can be suggested that ML99 is more readily eaten by cattle and may help understand the higher weight gains achieved in the trial. In addition to this, the NDVI average taken 28 days after each grazing period and shows 10% greater vegetative growth, indicating greater feed availability of the MULTILEAF[®] variety.

ML99 - Grazed harder, Recovers better.

Throughout the course of the grazing trial, weekly monitoring of plant growth was taken via Greenseeker[®] sensor and is observed here as "NDVI" (Normalised Difference Vegetative Index)



■ Aurora ■ ML99 Multileaf[®]

Source: Pasture Genetics 2010/11

