

Forage  
Value  
Index



Dairy  
Australia  
Your Levy at Work

# The Forage Value Index

Dairy Australia

# What is the Forage Value Index (FVI)?

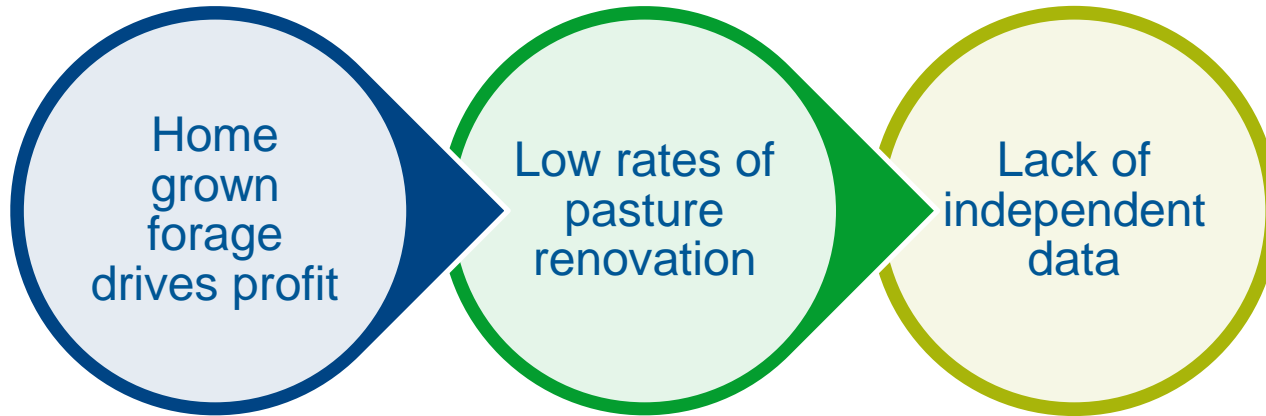
The Forage Value Index is a rating system that helps dairy producers and their advisors to make more informed decisions when selecting perennial ryegrass cultivars.

It provides an accurate, reliable and independent assessment of the potential economic value of perennial ryegrass cultivars in dairy production.





# Importance of perennial pastures



# What is a Forage Value Index (FVI)?

A system that ranks pasture cultivars according to the estimated economic benefits of improvements in selected agronomic traits to a farm.



$$+ \$ = \text{FVI}$$



# Main data source is the PVTN/PTN

Strict  
experimental  
procedures and  
protocols

- Three years data per site
- Dry matter production by “cut and dry method”
- Data analysed by independent biometrician
- Protocols and data reviewed by technical committee

PVTN = Pasture Variety Trial Network  
PTN = Pasture Trial Network

# The power of data aggregation

- Aggregated data pool for south-east Australia is the most comprehensive and accurate data pool for pasture cultivars in Australia.
- No large differences in overall seasonal rankings between different regions (i.e. Gippsland, Western Victoria, Northern Victoria and Tasmania).
- Results show that while total yield is affected by environmental conditions (i.e. rainfall, climate and irrigation), the best genetics tend to perform the best in each region.



# Australian FVI based on Dairy NZ FVI

Five-star rating system based on economic value of seasonal yield.

Four seasonal yield ratings (winter, spring, summer and autumn)

Additional information: endophyte, ploidy, heading date, confidence and supplier

# Initial estimated Economic Value for Victorian dairy regions

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Region	Autumn	Winter	Spring	Summer
SW Vic	\$0.28	\$0.36	\$0.15	\$0.34
Nth Vic	\$0.27	\$0.32	\$0.32	\$0.24
Gippsland	\$0.30	\$0.37	\$0.26	\$0.35

*EV = estimated net benefit to a farm system for every 1 kg increase in pasture dry matter.  
Tasmania as a region to be added prior to launch*



# Cultivar Selector Tool

The Cultivar Selector Tool sorts perennial ryegrass cultivars based on user-nominated criteria (e.g. endophyte, ploidy and heading date) and then ranks these cultivars according to their FVI.

The number of trials that the cultivar has been tested in and the supplier of each cultivar is also included.



# Cultivar Selection Tool fields

The screenshot shows the Dairy Australia website's Cultivar Selection Tool. The header includes the Dairy Australia logo and the Agriculture Victoria logo. A navigation bar contains links for Home, Navigation, Parent Navigation, and Navigation, along with a Support link. The main content area is titled "Cultivar Selection Tool" and contains a placeholder text paragraph. Below the title, there is a "Filter by" section with a "Reset" button and several filter categories: Region (South West Victoria, Northern Victoria, Gippsland, Tasmania, South Australia), Species (Perennial Ryegrass), Endophytes (AR1, AR37, NEA2, NEA, ENDO5, LE, SE, WE), Ploidy (Diploid, Tetraploid), and Heading Dates (Mid, Late, Very Late).

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Home Navigation Parent Navigation Navigation Support

## Cultivar Selection Tool

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Quisque nulla sapien, convallis ac tristique quis, dignissim ac velit. Integer mattis nunc mauris, in pretium eros rhoncus. Pellentesque ultramcorper volutpat malesuada. Morbi bibendum odio in nulla accumsan, quis facilisis orci varius in pretium eros rhoncus. Cum sociis natoque penatibus et magnis dis parturient montes.

Filter by

Region:

Species:












Endophytes:

Ploidy:

Heading Dates:

# Example of output

**Results**

Cultivar	FVI (Star Rating) 	No. of Trials 	Performance Values					Summer 	Autumn 	Endophyte 	Ploidy 	Heading Date 	Marketer 
			Winter 	Early Spring 	Late Spring 								
Abermagic AR1	★★★★★	10+	5	5	5	Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet consectetur adipiscing elit suspendisse male				Very Late	PGG Wightson Seeds		
Abermagic AR1	★★★★★	10+	5	5	5	5	5	END05	Tetraploid	Very Late	PGG Wightson Seeds		
Abermagic AR1	★★★★★	10+	5	5	5	5	5	END05	Tetraploid	Very Late	PGG Wightson Seeds		
Abermagic AR1	★★★★★	10+	5	5	5	5	5	END05	Tetraploid	Very Late	PGG Wightson Seeds		
Abermagic AR1	★★★★★	10+	5	5	5	5	5	END05	Tetraploid	Very Late	PGG Wightson Seeds		
Abermagic AR1	★★★★★	10+	5	5	5	5	5	END05	Tetraploid	Very Late	PGG Wightson Seeds		
Abermagic AR1	★★★★★	10+	5	5	5	5	5	END05	Tetraploid	Very Late	PGG Wightson Seeds		
Abermagic AR1	★★★★★	10+	5	5	5	5	5	END05	Tetraploid	Very Late	PGG Wightson Seeds		

FVI Ratings (\$AUD)

★★★★★ \$418 to \$527   ★★★★★ \$309 to \$417   ★★★☆☆ \$200 to \$308   ★★★★★ \$82 to \$199   ★★★★★ \$-17 to \$91



# How the FVI will evolve



## Launching soon

- “Soft launch” at Dairy Australia AGM in late November
- Cultivar Selector Tool available in February 2017 before pasture renovation activities in autumn
- Currently building awareness for the launch



# Partners



# Questions?

