

FIELD LAB NOTE: GRASS SEED MIXTURES

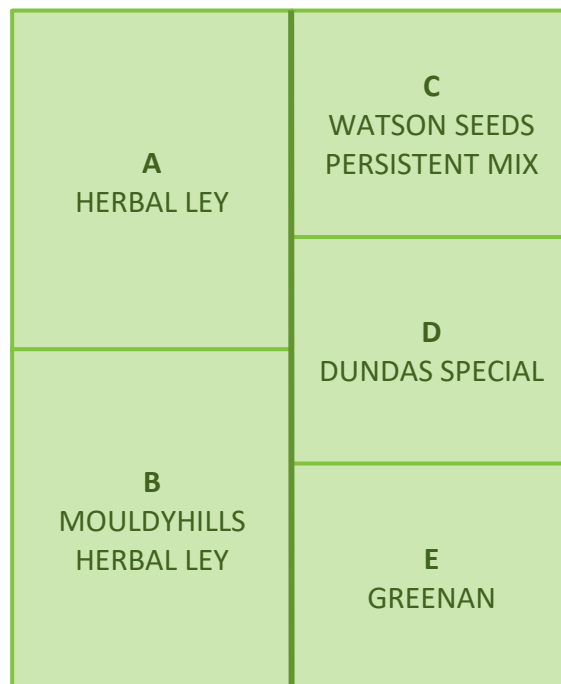
We are comparing different grass seed mixes on a sheep farm Mouldyhill, on the eastern edge of Dumfries and Galloway. Mouldyhill has heavy soil and gets quite a bit of rainfall. It has recently had some very wet summers, including a challenging 2017 & wet start to 2018. Different grass seed mixes were sown in summer 2017, and an initial meeting was held in September, to see how they were getting on. The group decided that a successful grass sward would:

Reduce costs

- *Having a sward that doesn't poach as easily, or recovers well from light poaching, will allow sheep to be housed for shorter periods*
- *Making good quality silage will reduce the amount of concentrates that need to be bought in over the winter*

Improve productivity

- *By competing with grass weeds, particularly rushes*
- *By providing good quality grazing to improve lamb liveweight gain*



HERBAL LEY			%
Festulolium		Perun	11.5
Cocksfoot		Donata	11.5
P. ryegrass	(inter) D	Premium	8.9
Timothy		Erecta	4.6
Meadow fescue		Liherold	3.8
Tall fescue		Masterpeice	3.8
White clover	(large leaf)	Alice	2.3
White clover	(med leaf)	Merwi	2.3
Red clover		Altasweed	3.1
Alsike clover		Aurora	3.1
Sweet clover		Yellow Blossom	7.7
Sainfoin	Forage legume		15.4
Birdsfoot trefoil	Forage legume	Bull	2.3
Chicory	Forage herb	Puna II	5.4
Yarrow	Forage herb		0.8

MOULDYHILLS HERBAL LEY			%
Festulolium		Perun	11.5
Cocksfoot		Donata	11.5
P. ryegrass	(inter) D	Premium	8.8
Timothy		Promesse	9.0
Meadow fescue		Liherold	6.9
Tall fescue		Masterplece	3.8
White clover	(large leaf)	Alice	3.1
White clover	(med leaf)	Merwi	3.1
Red clover		Altasweed	5.4
Alsike clover		Aurora	6.2
Sweet clover		Yellow Blossom	7.7
Burnet	Forage herb		15.4
Ribgrass/ Plantain	Forage herb	Endurance	5.4
Sheep's parsley	Forage herb		2.3

DUNDAS SPECIAL				%	GREENAN				%
P. ryegrass	(late)	D	AberChoice	10.7	P. ryegrass		AberGreen	6.0	
P. ryegrass	(inter)	T	AberClyde	6.7	P. ryegrass	(inter)	Bree	6.0	
P. ryegrass	(late)	T	AberGain	12.0	P. ryegrass	(late)	Pastour	20.0	
P. ryegrass	(inter)	T	AstonBonus	8.0	P. ryegrass		Drumbo	16.0	
P. ryegrass	(inter)		AberWolf	17.3	P. ryegrass	(late) D	AberChoice	26.0	
P. ryegrass	(inter)		Bree	6.7	P. ryegrass		AstonChieftain	17.0	
P. ryegrass			Drumbo	6.7	White clover		Crusader	5.9	
P. ryegrass	(late)		Pastour	6.7	White clover		Violin	1.3	
P. ryegrass	(late)	T	Twymax	12.0	White clover		Aberpearl	1.8	
Timothy			Comer	7.3					
White clover			Crusader	3.0					
White clover			Violin	1.2					
White clover			Alice	1.8					
P. ryegrass	(late)	D	AberChoice	10.7					
WATSON SEEDS PERSISTENT MIXTURE				%					
P. ryegrass	(inter)	T	Calibra	7.5					
P. ryegrass	(inter)	T	Twymax	7.5					
P. ryegrass	(inter)	D	AberMagic	14.5					
P. ryegrass	(late)	T	AberGain	14.5					
P. ryegrass	(late)	D	AberChoice	14.5					
P. ryegrass	(late)	D	Foxtrot	7.5					
Timothy			Scots	14.8					
Red fescue			Herald	4.2					
Cocksfoot			Donata	7.5					
White clover			Merwi	2.5					
White clover	(med leaf)		Avoca	2.5					
White clover	(small leaf)		AberPearl	2.5					

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