

Agrinote



Pastures for Profit.®



Advance MaxP has proven within New Zealand and Australia to be a cultivar able to give excellent animal performance. It has high production in both summer and autumn, is a very palatable forage and has a good legume balance. Fescue, once established, has tolerance to grass grub and Argentine stem weevil, and the *MaxP* novel endophyte now gives resistance to black beetle, pasture mealy bug and root aphid.

Advance MaxP tall fescue was bred by AgResearch Grasslands for animal palatability, for excellent establishment and for high dry matter production. In hot environments, when adequate moisture is available, *Advance MaxP* can continue to grow where ryegrass has stopped. Once established, *Advance MaxP* performs best in medium to high fertility environments. *MaxP* is a tall fescue novel endophyte also discovered by AgResearch Grasslands, which increases resistance to insects, as well as the persistence and production (20 to 90%) of the pasture.

Characteristics

Perenniality	Leaf Size	Rust Tolerance	Flowering Date
Perennial	Medium	High	Late

Ploidy	Endophyte Status	Suggested Sowing Rate (kg/ha)	1000 Seed Weight
Hexaploid	Max P	20-24	2.6 grams



Production Performance

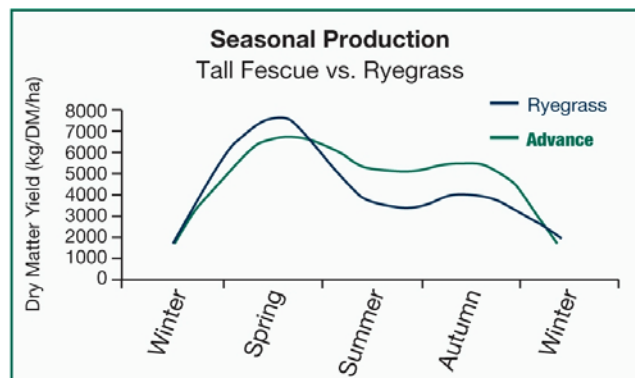
Advance MaxP tall fescue has been sown at a wide range of sites and has performed very well in terms of establishment and dry matter production. The advantage that *Advance MaxP* has over most other fescue cultivars, is a very palatable leaf.

Table 1. NFVT® Seasonal and Total Yield (kg DM/ha) of Tall Fescue Cultivars, mean of two years, Kimihia Research Centre, 1993-1996. National (New Zealand (664mm annual rainfall)).

Entry	Winter	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Total
<i>Advance</i> tall fescue	994a	3777a	3290a	2651a	10712a
AU Triumph	947a	3626ab	3313a	2566ab	10451ab
Quantum	1027a	3338cd	3102b	2556ab	10023bc
Vulcan	602c	3528ac	2828c	2030d	8988e
F Test	***	***	***	***	***
LSD (5%)	126	164	164	144	468
CV (%)	9.5	3.7	3.7	4.1	3.2
Trial Mean	899	2997	2997	2385	9727

Totals followed by the same letter are not significantly different.

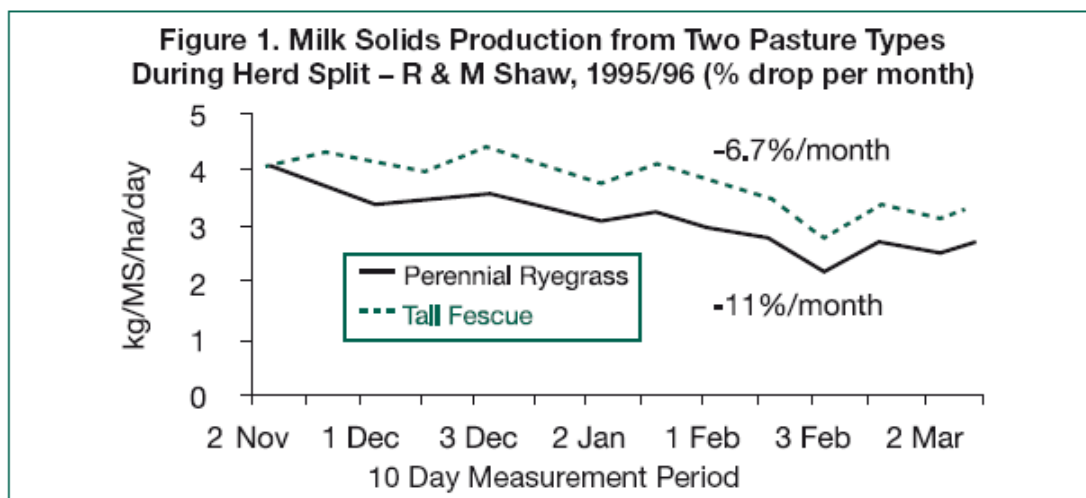
* In Canterbury, tall fescue produced 24% more annual growth than perennial ryegrass under irrigation and 57% more over summer (Rollo et al. 1998).





Dairy Production

Advance tall fescue was shown to increase milk production per hectare by up to 30% from August to May, compared with perennial ryegrass (Milne 2001). In Waikato *Advance* and Grasslands Roa (the predecessor to *Advance*) had a slower rate of seasonal milk production decline than ryegrass (6.7% vs 11%), and produced up to 16% more milk – see Fig 1 below (Milne et al. 1997).



In the Waikato, milk production declines at an average rate of 14% per month after the true peak. The trial above showed this was reduced to 6.7% on tall fescue compared with 11% on perennial ryegrass.

A farmllet trial in Taranaki over four years reported that milk production was significantly higher from tall fescue than perennial ryegrass (McCallum et al, 1992), and in Waikato, *Advance* tall fescue-based pasture produced more milk per cow than perennial ryegrass (0.86 vs 0.74 kg/cow/day), (Thom et al, 1998).

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MaxP

Uses (for detailed information, read also the *Tall Fescue Guide*).

Dairy Farms

Tall fescue has not been considered suitable for dairying as older cultivars had low palatability and winter production. *Advance MaxP*, however has been widely proven to provide substantial lifts in milk production in many regions.

The end result from using *Advance MaxP* is more milk solids produced per hectare. This is a result of higher annual and summer pasture growth, and better feed quality over summer.

Using *Advance MaxP* is not difficult, farmers just need to use good pasture establishment methods and graze paddocks more frequently. A suggested seed mix is:

Dairy

<i>Advance MaxP</i> tall fescue	25 kg/ha
<i>Choice</i> chicory	1 kg/ha
<i>Tribute</i> white clover	3 kg/ha
<i>Sensation</i> red clover	4 kg/ha
Total	33 kg/ha

Sheep or Beef Finishing

Advance MaxP tall fescue supplies more green leaf and clover than perennial ryegrass over summer, resulting in higher performance from finishing stock. A suggested seed mix is:

<i>Advance MaxP</i> tall fescue	24 kg/ha
<i>Tribute</i> white clover	4 kg/ha
<i>Sensation</i> red clover	4 kg/ha
<i>Choice</i> chicory	2 kg/ha
Optional extra: <i>Charlton</i> timothy	1-2 kg/ha
Total	35-36 kg/ha