

# Agrinote



Pastures for Profit.®



## Background

**Atom** prairie grass is an alternative short to long-rotation option for high quality feed requirements. The nil endophyte forage, palatable seed heads, potentially high legume and herb content, and summer heat tolerance, is a perfect fit for late-spring, summer and autumn finishing of young stock. **Atom** prairie grass also has good winter production, similar to short-rotation ryegrasses, making it a useful pasture tool at this time of year.

Prairie grass will be most productive in fertile (Olsen P above 30), free draining soils with pH above 5.5. If these conditions are met it may last 4-5 years or more. It will not tolerate water-logging conditions, pugging or soil acidity. For optimum establishment it should be sown at 25-30 kg/ha, into soils where temperatures are above 10°C, at a depth of 5-15mm. It is prone to Hessian fly in northern regions.

A lax rotational grazing is recommended for **Atom** making it ideal for sowing into run-out lucerne stands. It can be successfully conserved as hay and silage.

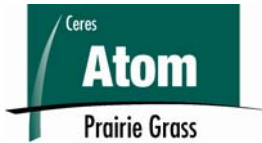
## Characteristics

1000 Seed Weight	Perenniality	Leaf Size	Endophyte Status	Growth Habit	Suggested Sowing Rate (kg/ha)	Heading Date
11.5 g	Medium to long-term pastures	Large	Nil	Erect	Pure Sward 25-30	Late

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## Suggested Mixes

### Beef, deer and lax rotational sheep grazing

Cultivar	Kg/ha
<b>Atom</b> prairie grass	25-30
Colenso/Sensation red clover	4
Choice chicory	1.5
Tonic plantain	2
Torlesse lucerne	4

### Under-sowing run-out lucerne stands

Cultivar	Kg/ha
<b>Atom</b> prairie grass	25-30
Choice chicory	1.5
Tonic plantain	2

## Key Features

- ✓ Long seasonal spread of growth
- ✓ Rotational grazing
- ✓ Excellent winter growth
- ✓ Highly palatable
- ✓ Potential for high legume and herb content
- ✓ Summer heat tolerance

Phone + 64 3 341 4580, Fax +64 3 341 4581, PO Box 3761, Christchurch,  
Email: [info@agricom.co.nz](mailto:info@agricom.co.nz), [www.agricom.co.nz](http://www.agricom.co.nz)