

PX2 Highly Winter Active Alfalfa

Alfalfa



350mm+ or irrigation



5.2–8.0



Deep, well-drained soils



AgriCote or Group AL



PBR granted

PX2 is a highly winter active (10) selected for improved overall yield and superior feed quality. PX2 is a recent release from the breeding program that originates from elite US and Australian selections.

It demonstrates rapid excellent yield in field testing and was screened for persistence under on-farm conditions. It is well adapted over multiple environments including warm-temperate and arid areas under irrigation.

Key features

- Highly winter active rating of 10
- Fast establishment and year one yield
- Highly reliable yields in varying conditions
- Excellent pest and disease ratings.

Benefits of PX2

- Excellent yield prospects compared to market competitors
- Fast establishment speed and reduced time to first cut
- Superior pest and disease tolerance improving prospects for persistence
- Ideally adapted to cut & carry systems in desert and warm-temperate environments.

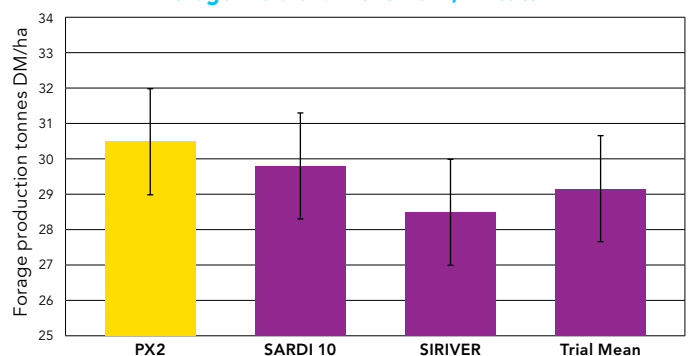
Performance in trials

Pre-release trials have demonstrated excellent yield results over multiple sites and varying environments. PX2 is highly reliable for performing over a range of different climates and is highly suited to cut and carry systems under irrigation. Superior year one and overall yield compared to market alternatives. Relative feed value is very high, with excellent digestibility, allowing for top-level animal performance potential as milk or live-weight gain.

Seasonal Growth of PX2 and Siriver, El Centro 2018-2019



El centro California (Desert Environment) Forage Yield trial 2018-2019, 19 cuts





Variety management/agronomy

The ideal soil temperature for establishing alfalfa is 12°C and above. Alfalfa seed is small, so ensure to sow close to the surface at approximately 10–15mm deep. It is also important that there is enough soil moisture to support germination. Roll lightly prior to sowing if the soil is fluffy. In mild summer areas with irrigation, alfalfa can be sown right through spring and summer. In hot summer areas, alfalfa is best sown through autumn. Direct drilling or full cultivation are both suitable.

It is important that alfalfa seedlings are given adequate time to establish prior to the first cut or grazing. If the stand is only weakly established grazing too early will likely result in reduced plant numbers, lower plant density and, the overall quality and longevity of the crop is diminished. The first cut / graze should occur when the plants have an established root system, usually around 6-10 weeks depending on growing conditions. After the initial cut / graze it is important that the stand be given adequate time to regrow. This is normally around 4-6 weeks, and care should be taken to avoid over stocking or stocking for an excessive duration.

Pest and disease ratings (UC Davis, USA)

Pest/disease	Rating
Bacterial wilt	MR
Fusarium wilt	R
Verticillium wilt	R-HR
Phytophthora root rot	R
Alfalfa stem nematode	LR
Blue-green alfalfa aphid	HR
Pea aphid	R
Spotted alfalfa aphid	HR

LR = low resistance MR = moderate resistance
R = Resistant HR = High resistance

PX2 is highly resistant (HR) to spotted alfalfa aphid (*Therioaphis trifolii*) and blue-green aphid (*Acyrtosiphon kondoi*).

PX2 is resistant (R) to phytophthora root rot (*Phytophthora medicaginis*) verticillium wilt and anthracnose.

As with other alfalfa varieties, PX2 is susceptible to damage from red legged earth mite (*Halotydeus destructor*) and control measures need to take place prior to seeding or soon after germination. AgriCote seed will aid establishment in these circumstances.

For any sales or product enquiries, please contact:

Colin Grant
Commercial Manager - International
T: +61 403 465 515
E: cgrant@barenbrug.com.au

Robert Hedge
International Sales & Marketing Manager
M: +61 421 585 644
E: rhedge@barenbrug.com.au

Kathy Gray
International Sales and Marketing Manager
T: +61 429 532 210
E: kgray@barenbrug.com.au

Jason Burnie
International Sales and Marketing Manager
T: +61 408 655 220
E: jburnie@barenbrug.com.au

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