

Aston Italian Ryegrass

Pasture grasses



600mm+



4.8–8.0



Most soil types



PBR

Aston is one of the leading varieties for establishment and winter production, whilst being able to maintain production and quality into summer.

Having been released over ten years ago, Aston has proven itself as a reliable, adaptable and consistent performer, and remains a leading variety in the tetraploid Italian segment. It has large upright leaves making it easy to graze and harvest, and low aftermath heading ensuring excellent quality through spring.

Available at your local:

Nutrien
Ag Solutions®



Key features

- Late tetraploid Italian ryegrass
- Strong consistent seasonal growth curve
- Large upright leaves
- Excellent late season quality and low aftermath heading
- High performing Dairy Australia FVI variety.

Benefits of sowing Aston

- Maturity, low aftermath heading and tetraploid nature leads to improved quality therefore excellent animal performance
- Strong consistent growth curve means less need for supplementary feed, and simplifies grazing management.
- Leaf size and growth habit means it is easy to eat and leads to high utilisation
- High FVI economic value provides farmers with improved returns against many leading varieties in the market.

Application

Suited to all stock classes in regions that receive 600mm/yr. or more rainfall. Aston is ideal for grazing and fodder conservation due to its long season growth and spring feed quality. Aston is ideal for high performing systems looking to optimise forage production and quality.

Variety management

Sowing rate

For best results sow Aston at 25-35 kg/ha into a clean, weed-free seed-bed with adequate soil fertility (use much higher sowing rates if broadcasting).

Sowing depth

Ryegrass can be sown at 5-20 mm, however if sowing in a mix with clover, try to keep the sowing depth from 5-10mm.

Fertiliser

For best performance, soil fertility and acidity problems should be amended prior to sowing. It is usually best to plant ryegrass with 60-100 kg/ha of MAP or DAP at sowing to provide some starter phosphorus and nitrogen.

Weeds

Ideally reducing the weed burden of a paddock should commence in the season prior to sowing by reducing the seedset of annual weeds with either a herbicide control or silage. Additionally a knock-down herbicide (such as glyphosate) is best applied prior to sowing if weeds are present.

Grazing

Ensure the first grazing doesn't take place until the plants are sufficiently anchored. Use your hand to pull on the plants at grazing height. If the plants remain in the ground, then grazing can commence. Ideally, ryegrass should be rotationally grazed for optimal growth. To do this, graze at the 2.5-3 leaf stage, then let the plants rest again to the 2.5-3 leaf stage to re-charge the carbohydrates levels to enable better growth rates.

Performance

Aston has been a consistent performer, demonstrating strong adaptability across all suitable growing regions and a variety that consistently ranks in the top group of Italian ryegrasses. Farmers looking for strong establishment yield and cool season growth will be well suited to Aston Italian ryegrass.

Results from internal and industry trials have confirmed Aston's strong seasonal performance. Outlined in the following graphs is a multi-year and multi-site analysis of Aston over 10 Australian trials and highlights its performance against other leading Italian ryegrass cultivars. Performance can also be seen in Dairy Australia's FVI tables.

Fast Establishment & Cool Season Growth - Autumn and Winter

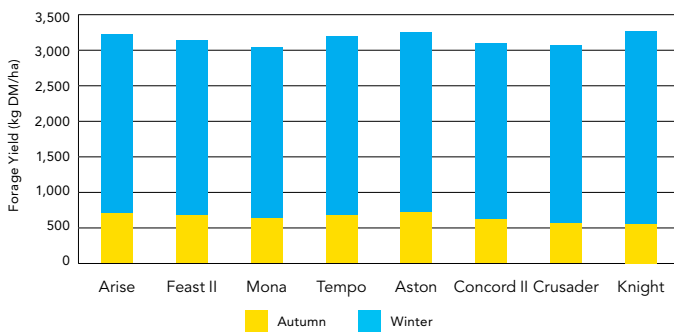


Figure: Establishment and Winter production from 10 Australian trials from 2016-2021. Locations Lardner Park (Vic) and Howlong (NSW). LSD (0.05): 204 (EST) and 308 (WIN) kg DM/ha.

Total forage yield comparative to leading varieties and significantly better than Concord II, Crusader and Knight

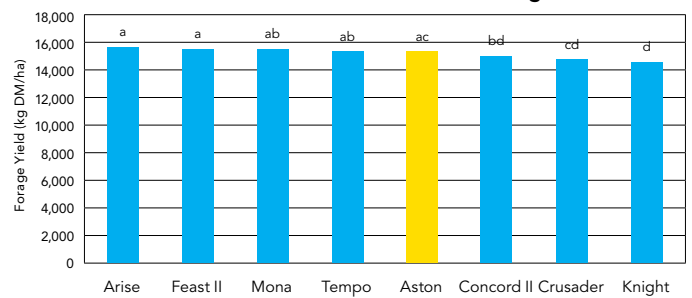


Figure: Total forage & seasonal production from 10 Australian trials from 2016-2021. Locations Lardner Park (Vic) and Howlong (NSW). LSD (0.05): 1,148 kg DM/ha

Variety	Establishment	Winter	Early Spring	Late Spring	Summer	Total
Aston	118	104	98	105	103	102
Arise	114	104	104	104	101	105
Concord II	100	102	97	105	101	100
Crusader	90	103	99	100	88	98
Feast II	110	101	103	105	99	104
Knight	93	111	94	98	96	97
Mona	103	99	108	107	92	103
Trial Mean	601	2,456	5,068	5,015	1,806	14,930
Significance	**	**	**	**	**	**
LSD (5%)	34.0	15.0	10.8	11.5	15.8	7.7
CV (%)	23.1	10.2	7.3	8.3	11.3	5.5

Figure: Total forage & seasonal production from 10 Australian trials from 2016-2021. Locations Lardner Park (Vic) and Howlong (NSW). LSD (0.05): 1,148 kg DM/ha



Plant Breeders Rights (PBR): This variety is registered under Plant Breeders Rights (PBR) in Australia. Unauthorised commercial propagation or any sale, conditioning, export, import or stocking of propagating material is an infringement under the Plant Breeders Rights Act (1994). Any breach of this legislation will leave the grower liable for prosecution.

Disclaimer: The information presented in this brochure is from official and other sources and is considered to be reliable. It is provided in good faith and every care has been taken to ensure its accuracy. Barenbrug does not accept any responsibility for the consequences that may arise from the acceptance of recommendations or the suggestions made.