



SARDI 7 Series 2

Winter active lucerne

Lucerne



350mm+



4.5 - 8.0



Deep well drained



PBR



AL + SRD1736 Acid
Tolerant **AgriCote**

SARDI 7 Series 2 is the next generation in winter active lucerne. Versatility, broad adaptation and persistence make it a market leading variety. It has been bred specifically for adaption to the Australian climate and will perform well in both dryland and irrigated systems. SARDI 7 Series 2 is ranked higher for persistence than most other commercial cultivars in Australian trials.

SARDI 7 Series 2 will provide superior performance wherever SARDI 7 has been successful. This includes where persistent, high producing lucerne stands are required and in grazing situations where winter produced feed can be utilised. It is suited to direct grazing or hay and silage production and can be sown in pasture mixes or under-sown in cropping systems. In addition, SARDI 7 Series 2 will perform well in dairy, beef and sheep production systems in high rainfall zones where dormant or semi-dormant varieties have traditionally been grown. It will persist and produce more dry matter than winter or semi-winter dormant varieties delivering more feed during the winter months when feed is in demand. Through work conducted by Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), SARDI 7 Series 2 has shown improved tolerance to acid soils (pH >4.5Ca). Superior AgriCote™ technology now includes two strains of rhyzobia which further enhances its performance in acidic

Segment

- Dual purpose, grazing and/or hay systems
- Specialist hay production in cool winter environments.

Key features

- Winter Activity 7
- Excellent disease/pest package
- Broad adaptability into all Australian lucerne growing regions
- Superior establishment, growth and persistence in acidic soils down to pH 4.5Ca
- Improved tolerance to cool, wet environments
- Broad crowns and fine stems leading to high quality forage production.

Key benefits

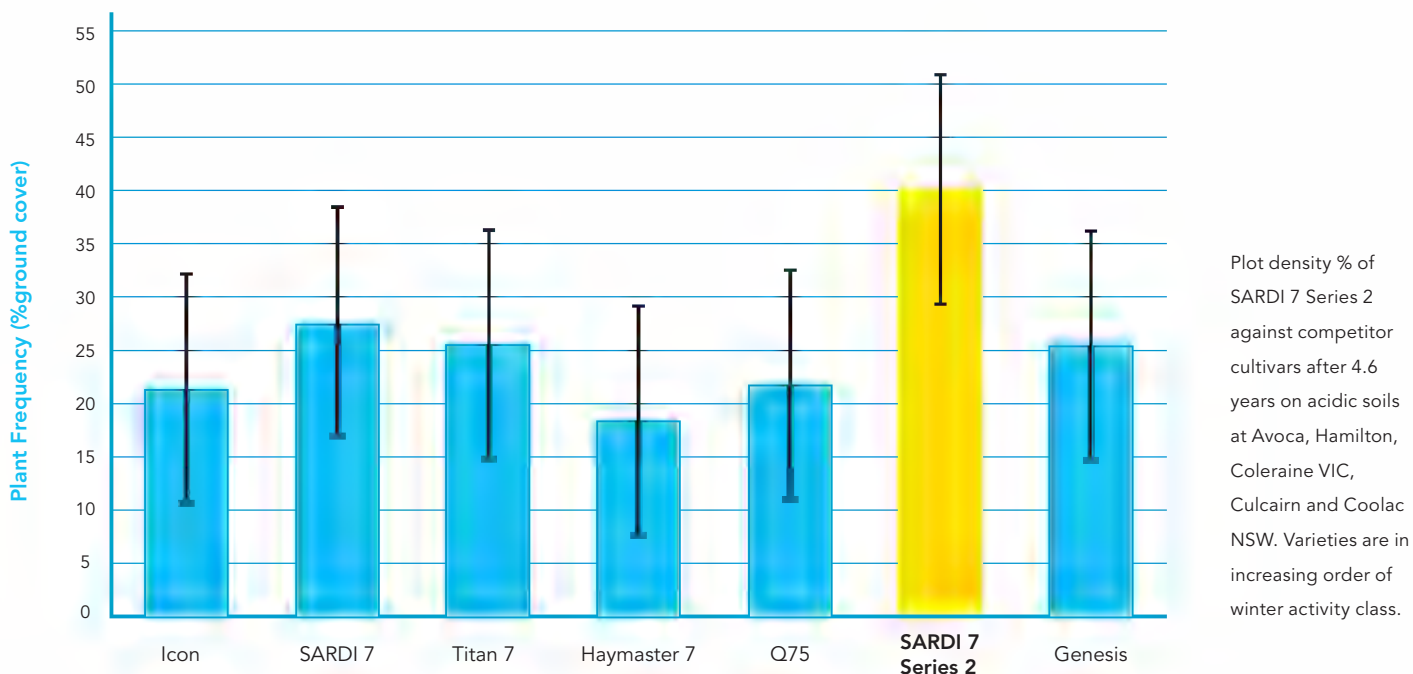
- Performs well in dairy, beef and sheep production systems in high rainfall zones
- Delivers more feed during the winter months
- Grazing tolerant due to 'in field' selection.

Breeding history

SARDI 7 Series 2 was developed using multiple cycles of selection for persistence and yield on Australian commercial farms under a range of farming systems (cattle, sheep, hay, dryland and irrigation). This process was combined with intensive screening for reduced stem thickness and leafiness plus tolerance to bluegreen aphid, spotted lucerne aphid, anthracnose and phytophthora root rot. This makes SARDI 7 Series 2 produce high quality forage with greater persistence.

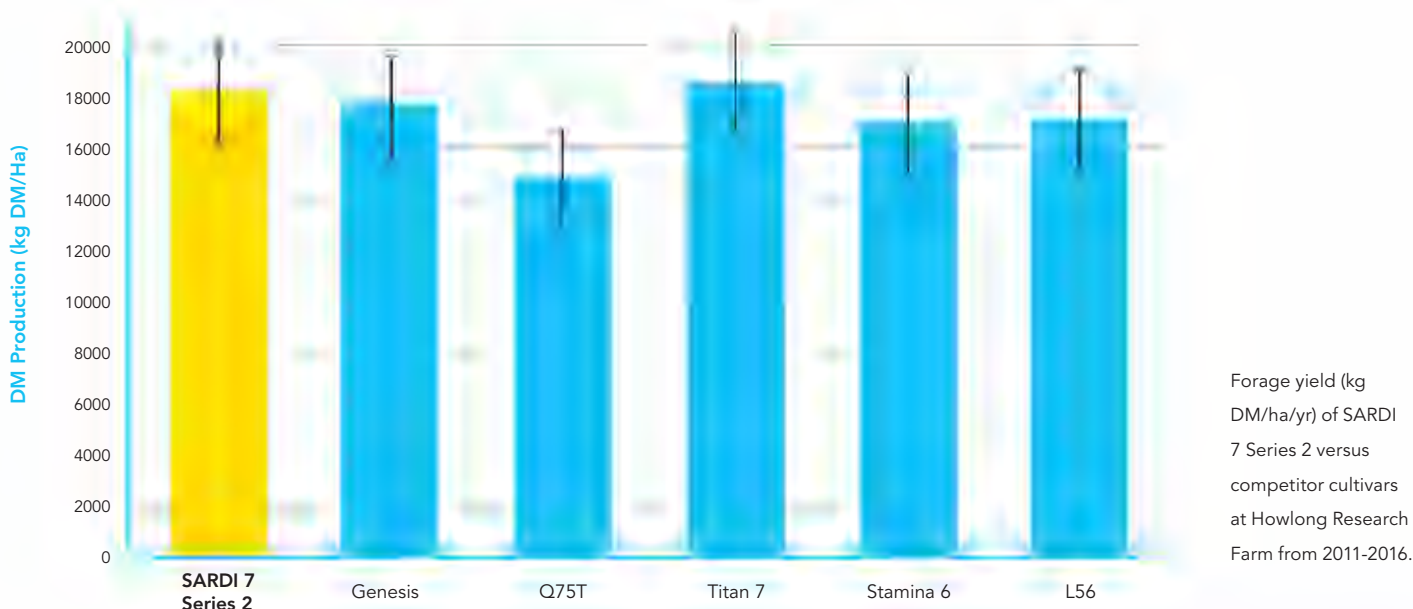
Plot density

SARDI 7 Series 2 demonstrates superior 'in field' persistence against competitors in acid soils (pH < 4.8Ca).

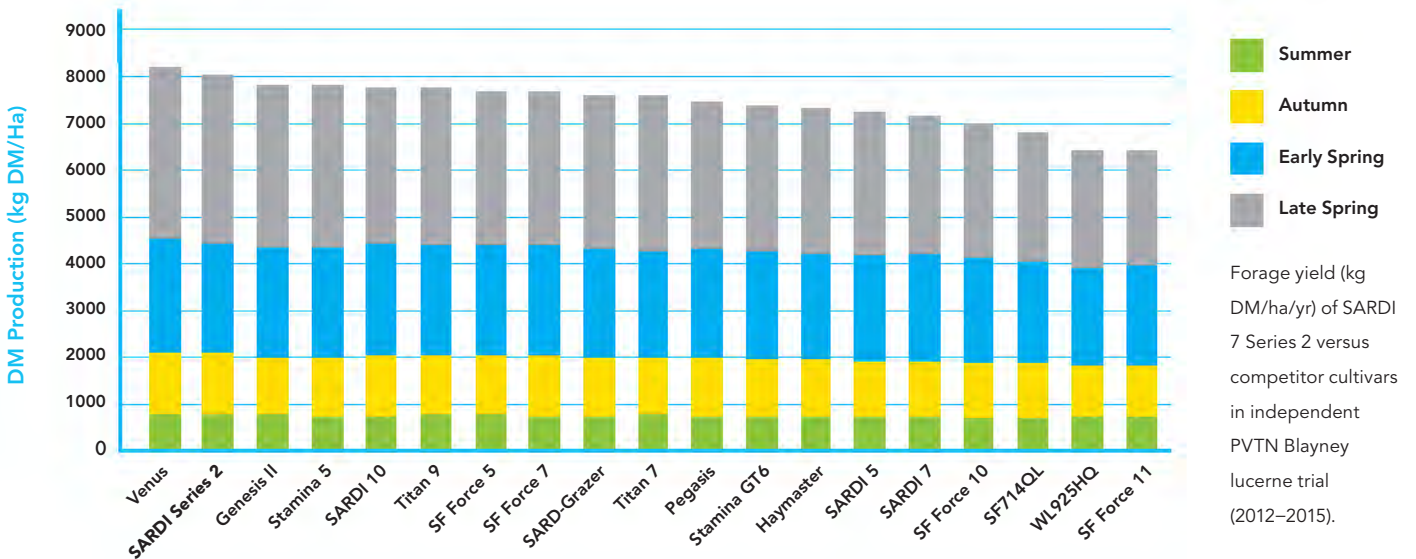


Forage yield

SARDI 7 Series 2 demonstrates similar forage production, to leading cultivars within the Wa 5-7 group under a 'cut' system not exposed to grazing or high pest/disease pressure.



SARDI 7 Series 2 demonstrates superior forage production, in independent trials conducted at Blayney, NSW as part of the MLA Pasture Variety Trial Network (PVTN).



Disease and pest resistance

SARDI 7 Series 2 has very high levels of resistance to the pest and disease strains present in Australia. SARDI varieties are screened using new strains of virulent pathogens collected from field sites – this breeds resistance to the ever changing challenges that lucerne varieties will face. To deliver increased tolerance to cold, wet environments, the majority of the parentage comes from field selections in Victoria and New South Wales.

Spotted Alfalfa Aphid	Blue Green Aphid	Phytophthora Root Rot	Anthracnose
HR	HR	HR	HR

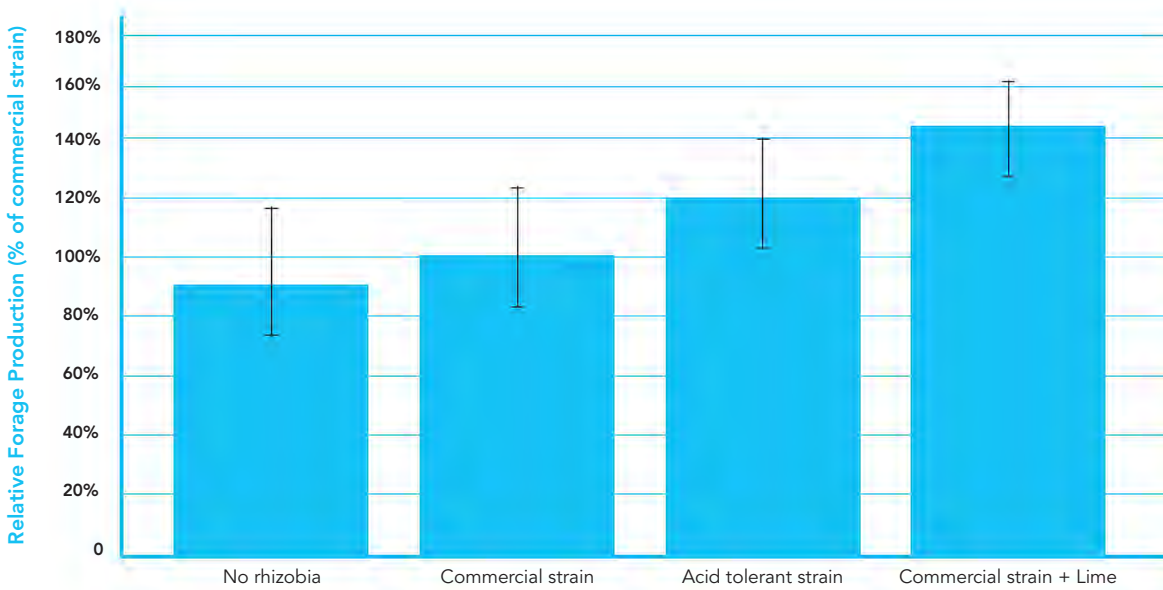
Superior persistence

5 year old plots at Bendigo, Victoria sown 2009 demonstrating SARDI 7 Series 2's superior persistence compared to competitor varieties.



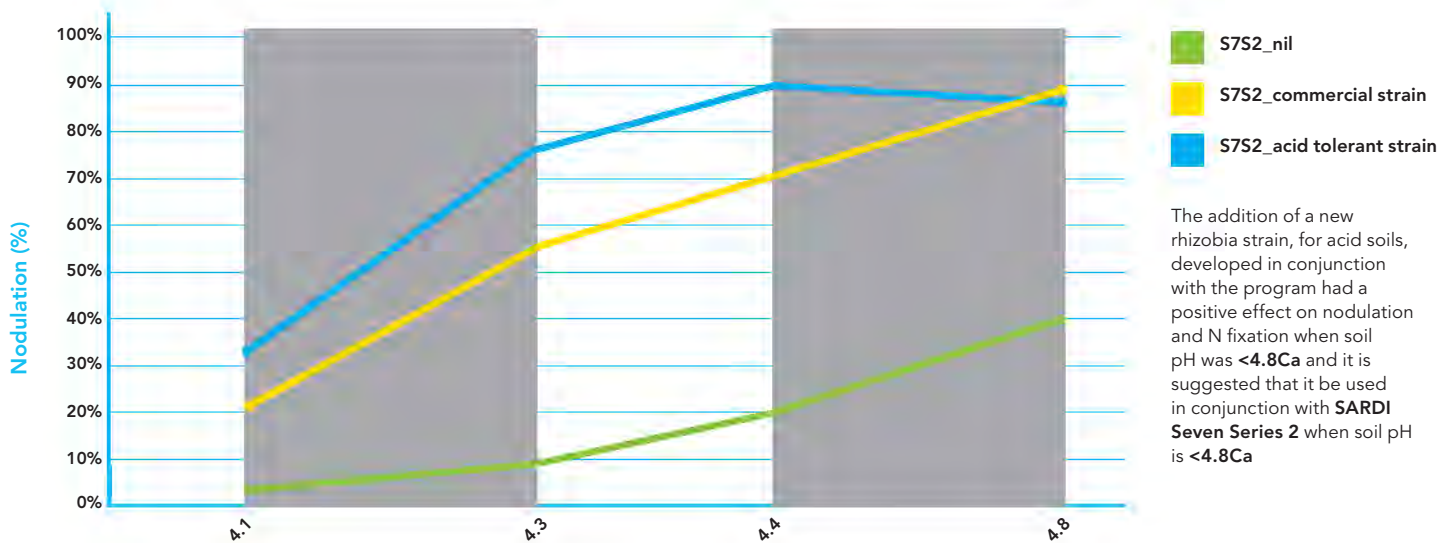
Improved performance in acidic soils

Forage Production



The acid tolerant strain in low pH soils can lead to improvements in forage production. Nevertheless, commercial applications of lime to adjust for pH has the best overall benefit to forage production. (Source Ross Ballard SARDI)

In Field Nodulation



The addition of a new rhizobia strain, for acid soils, developed in conjunction with the program had a positive effect on nodulation and N fixation when soil pH was <4.8Ca and it is suggested that it be used in conjunction with SARDI Seven Series 2 when soil pH is <4.8Ca

The addition of the acid tolerant rhizobia strain (in addition to normal rates of traditional strain) increases the base CFU count on the seed, resulting in symbiosis to form between rhizobia and plant, with the most suitable and adaptable strains for the soil pH. As can be seen above the acid tolerant strain improves nodulation when pH is less than 4.8Ca. In paddocks that have been limed, there is likely to be significant variation across paddocks that having multiple strains will help combat.



In the event that SRD 1736 Acid Tolerant rhizobia is not available, Agricote™ will always contain appropriate levels of the standard AL strain.

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