TONIC plantain

The flexible forage herb



TONIC can add value, both in terms of dry matter, and quality, in a diverse range of ways in any farming system. The benefits include:

- Increased dry matter production
- Extended 'shoulders' of seasonal production
- Improved quality at key times of the year
- Positive impact on animal performance
- Improved supply of some trace elements to animals

Recommended roles:

Complimentary pasture component

All perennial and short rotation pastures

Specialist summer finishing pastures/crops

TONIC with clovers and chicory

Brassica crops

TONIC sown with multiple grazing brassicas, e.g. WINFRED forage brassica

Spring sown crops, followed by autumn direct drillling of grass species

Hill country & aerial oversowing TONIC with clovers

Summer dry environments

Of particular value, due to its drought tolerance, and useful cool season production.



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HERB AND CLOVER OPTIONS

PGG seeds



Ploidy Diploid

Sowing rate (per ha) 2-10kg

Leaf Broad, ribbed

Growth habit Upright

Seasonality Drought tolerant

Key minerals Ca, Cu, Se, Na

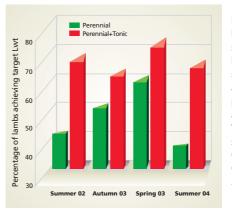
Management Rotational

TONIC plantain

Finishing advance from Tonic

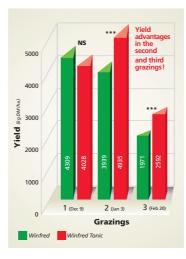


Inclusion of TONIC as part of a perennial pasture has been proven to increase lamb growth rates.



Percentage of lambs achieving slaughter target liveweight at the same date from a perennial pasture, with and without TONIC, in 3 successive years, Ceres Research Centre, 2002-2004.

White clover was chemically removed from all treatments to eliminate confounding effects of variable clover content.



Addition of TONIC to a multiple grazing brassica will improve yields in subsequent grazings, and possibly aid rumen adjustment (a function of its chemical properties and greater diet variation).

Dry matter yields of a WINFRED and WINFRED/TONIC crop in a multiple grazing situation, Ceres Research Centre, 1999-2000.

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