

Sorrento

DIPLOID ITALIAN RYEGRASS
: *Lolium multiflorum*



Quick Seed Facts



Lifespan

- Medium-term pasture in environments suitable for Italian ryegrasses

Ploidy

- Diploid

Heading date

- Late (+20 days)

Recommended sowing rate

- 20–25kg/ha

Suitability

- Grazing
- Hay
- Silage

Seed treatment

- XLR8® (insecticide) recommended, also available as untreated seed

Sorrento diploid Italian ryegrass was bred for winter and spring production with the ability to survive for more than one year in suitable conditions. Excellent seedling vigour results in improved winter dry matter production. Sorrento Italian ryegrass is a late-maturing variety that maintains high quality feed into late spring.

FEATURES & BENEFITS

⊕ Quick establishment

Increased dry matter production during cooler months
Highly suitable for sowing into old pastures

⊕ Late heading date

Extended growth period

⊕ Good tiller density

Good recovery from grazing and hay/silage cutting

STRENGTHS

- ⊕ Quick establishment
- ⊕ High winter production
- ⊕ Good late spring growth and quality

LIMITATIONS

- ▶ Italian diploid ryegrasses may not produce as high yields as Italian tetraploids. For maximum production in a high performing operation consider Mazzeletti Italian tetraploid ryegrass

WHERE IT GROWS

Rainfall: Requires a moderate amount of rainfall from late autumn to spring, or irrigation.

Soils: The benefits of Sorrento Italian ryegrass will be maximised in high fertility soils with good drainage.

Temperature: Grows well through winter and spring in most regions.

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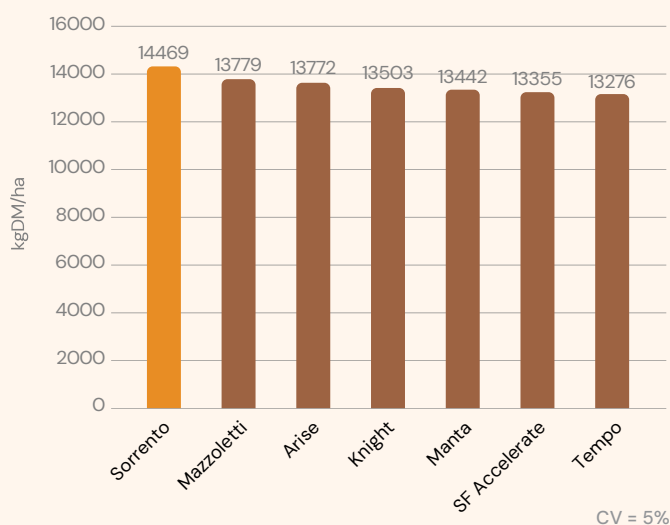


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TRIAL DATA

Gloucester Italian Ryegrass Trial – 2023

Sorrento showing strong dry matter yield in the 2023 trial on a dairy farm near Gloucester, NSW.



Sown: 31st March 2023

Harvest method: Plots harvested and weighed; sub samples taken from each plot for DM%

Irrigation: Irrigation applied during extended dry periods

Results with overlapping letter ranges are not significantly different from each other.

ESTABLISHMENT

Performance optimisation or limitations for your soil type can be discussed with your local agronomist.

Sowing time: Sow when soil temperatures are at least 10–12°C, ideally in early to mid-autumn. Pastures may be slow to establish if soil temperatures drop below 8°C. Consult your local agronomist or Territory Manager for your ideal sowing time.

Sowing depth: 10–15mm.

Seed treatment: XLR8® treatment is recommended for targeted insect protection and increased vigour at establishment.

COMPANION SPECIES

- ⊕ Forage cereals
- ⊕ Winter legumes
- ⊕ Pasture grasses
- ⊕ Pasture legumes
- ⊕ Lucerne
- ⊕ Forage herbs & brassica
- ⊕ Tropical grasses

MANAGEMENT

Maintenance fertiliser: Sorrento Italian ryegrass is very responsive to fertiliser applications. Good nutrition is required to maximise production through optimising yield and forage quality. Consult your local agronomist for more information.

Grazing/cutting: Responds to a range of grazing methods, but rotational grazing will maximise utilisation and growth. In regions prone to wet winters, efforts should be made to avoid grazing when soils are very wet to preserve pasture production potential in spring. Sorrento Italian ryegrass can be cut for hay and silage and its late heading date offers more flexibility in spring cutting times, without affecting feed quality. Its diploid nature makes it an excellent option for hay production particularly when combined with quality annual clovers.

Major pests: Italian ryegrass is susceptible to several insects that affect ryegrass, including slugs, Argentine stem weevil, African black beetle, root aphid, porina caterpillar, red and black-headed cockchafer, black field cricket and corbies.

Major diseases: Sorrento Italian ryegrass has been selected for improved tolerance to crown rust and stem rust, however, under adverse growing conditions and extreme pressure, rust could be visible. Consult your local agronomist for recommendations.

Herbicide susceptibility: Consult your local agronomist for herbicide options. Always check label before herbicide use. Best sown into weed-free paddocks.

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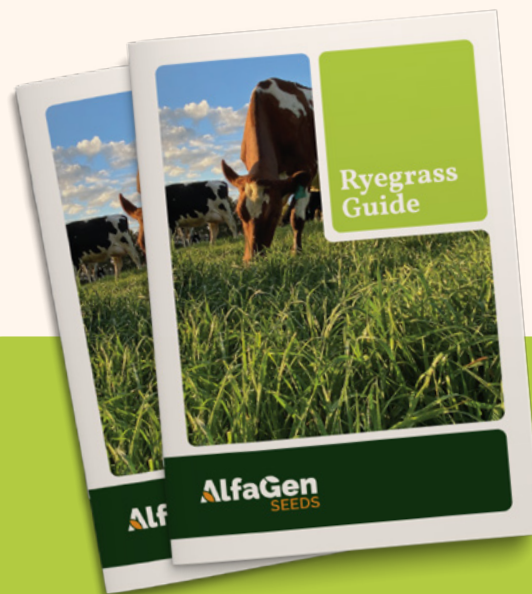
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ANIMAL PRODUCTION

Feed value: Sorrento Italian ryegrass has been bred for good levels of digestibility, protein and energy, making it a good choice for farmers focused on animal performance and total production.

Palatability: Very good palatability.

Livestock safety & performance: Livestock disorders on Italian ryegrass are rare. As with other fast-growing forages, nitrate toxicity can occur in certain conditions.



Ryegrass Guide

For a detailed look at all our ryegrass products, download the AlfaGen Seeds Ryegrass Guide today.

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Seed Guide

From ryegrass to lucerne and everything in between, it all starts with a seed guide.

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