Grasslands® Easton Tall Fescue

Agrinote

"Quality with persistence and production"

- Available with **MaxP®** novel endophyte
- Very high spring and summer production
- Higher water use efficiency than ryegrass
- Tolerant to insects, drought and saline conditions

MaxP®

Background

Easton MaxP® is the latest tall fescue released from Agricom. **Easton** has been developed from Advance tall fescue for increased production combined with a superior tall fescue endophyte.

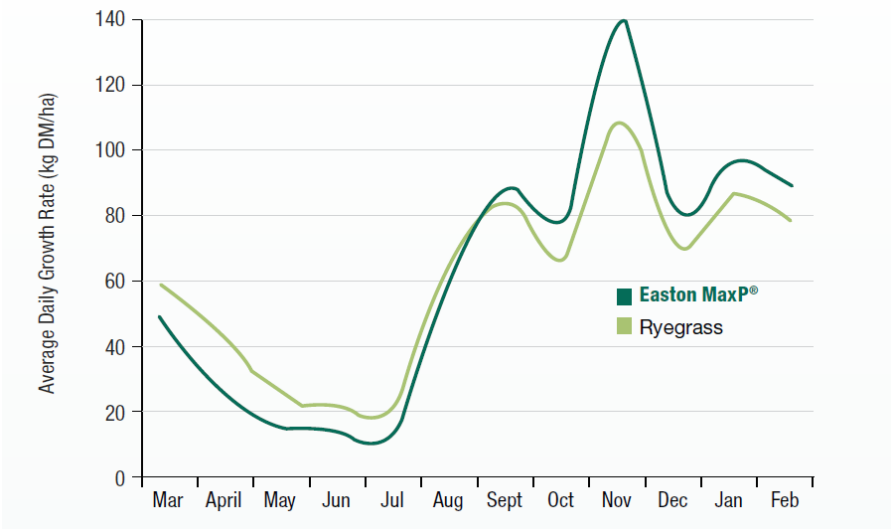
Easton MaxP® is the most suitable pasture for areas that are prone to hot summers as it will continue to produce in higher temperatures where ryegrass plants can shut down.

Easton MaxP® shows very high spring and summer production and quality, with excellent palatability when managed correctly.

Easton has been bred with the AgResearch novel endophyte **MaxP®** for increased insect tolerance and persistence. **Easton MaxP®** is resistant to black beetle, Argentine stem weevil and other insect pests while tall fescue as a species is tolerant to grass grub once established. With the increased pressure on water as a resource, tall fescue is a good pasture option with its higher water use efficiency than ryegrass once established, and the ability to continue to produce at higher temperatures making more efficient use of the irrigation applied or natural rainfall.

Production Data

Figure 5. Average Monthly Growth Rate Differences Between Easton MaxP® and Ryegrass* Under Irrigation in North Otago. Trial Sown October (2009-2012).



MaxP® Tall Fescue Endophyte

MaxP® is a tall fescue novel endophyte that produces peramine and loline alkaloids which give an increased level of insect tolerance; increasing the production and persistence of tall fescue. **MaxP®** is available in **Easton** tall fescue. The **MaxP®** endophyte provides protection against Argentine stem weevil, black beetle adult, root aphid and pasture mealy bug. The **MaxP®** endophyte also gives tall fescue a greater ability to survive and recover quickly from droughts due to the reduction in plant stress caused by insect feeding. Tall fescue in general has increased persistence over ryegrass cultivars in many situations due to a larger root mass, but the increase in persistence due to the **MaxP®** endophyte is even more advantageous. Tall fescue is increasingly being used in areas where ryegrass cultivars aren't persisting against increasing insect populations and summer moisture stress is causing a reduction in persistence.

MaxP® will provide a lot more tolerance to high insect numbers than tall fescue without endophyte. **MaxP®** in tall fescue has been trialled under sheep and cattle grazing with no adverse animal health effects.

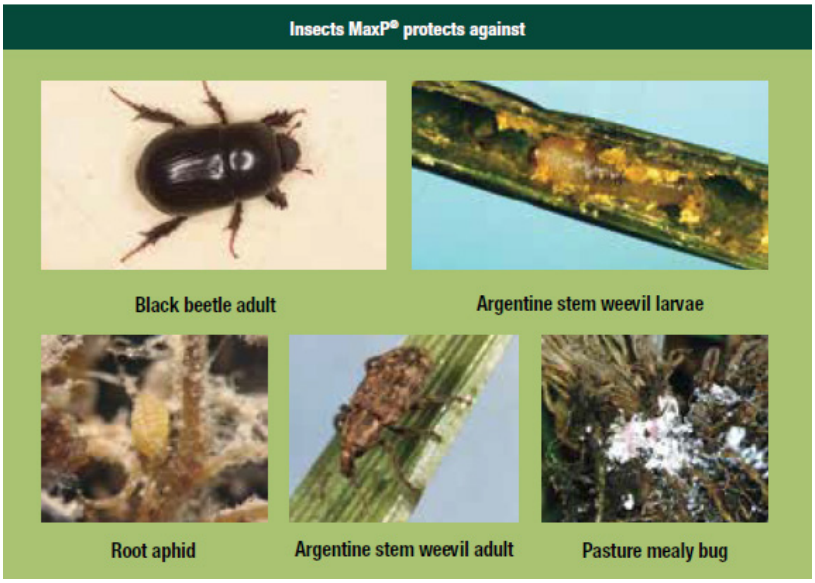


Figure 6. The Relative Annual Yield Increase of Tall Fescue with MaxP® Compared to Tall Fescue Without MaxP® over Five Different Locations (each trial ran for three years).