Grasslands® **Align** Tetraploid Perennial Ryegrass

NEW

Agrinote

AR128 grasslanz endophyte

AR1 grasslanz endophyte

One smart grass

Align is a high performance tetraploid perennial ryegrass that is productive throughout the year providing resilient, quality drymatter for modern production systems.

- High annual yields
- Very strong summer and autumn growth
- Excellent crown rust tolerance
- Ideal for dairy pastures, and sheep and beef finishing

Characteristics

Align is characterised by a dense and productive growth habit throughout August and September. This can be during a period of wet soils when most pasture damage occurs and it's a time when broad upright tetraploids often can be severely damaged with normal early spring grazing. **Align's** dense habit creates better ground cover that can be more tolerant of damage in early spring.

Ploidy	Perenniality	Heading date	Suggested sowing rate	Endophyte	Rust tolerance	Aftermath heading
Tetraploid	Perennial	Extremely Late (+39)	22-25 kg/ha	AR128 & AR1	Excellent	Very late to seed with low aftermath heading

** Nui heading date at 0 days is the 22nd October*

The clean and healthy production of **Align** (above, middle) is evident after being deferred for 90 days from the end of October 2023 to end of January 2024.

Align (above, right) showing quality and volume on July 13th 2023, 55 days after it's first cut in Waimana, Whakatane.

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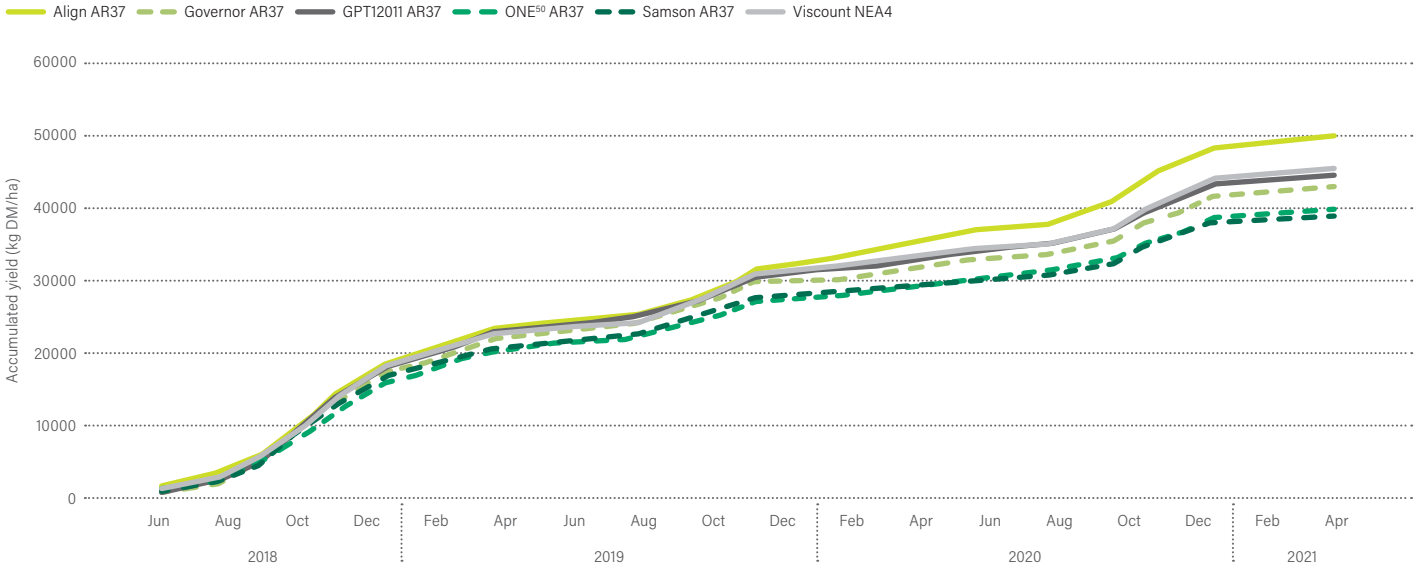
Production

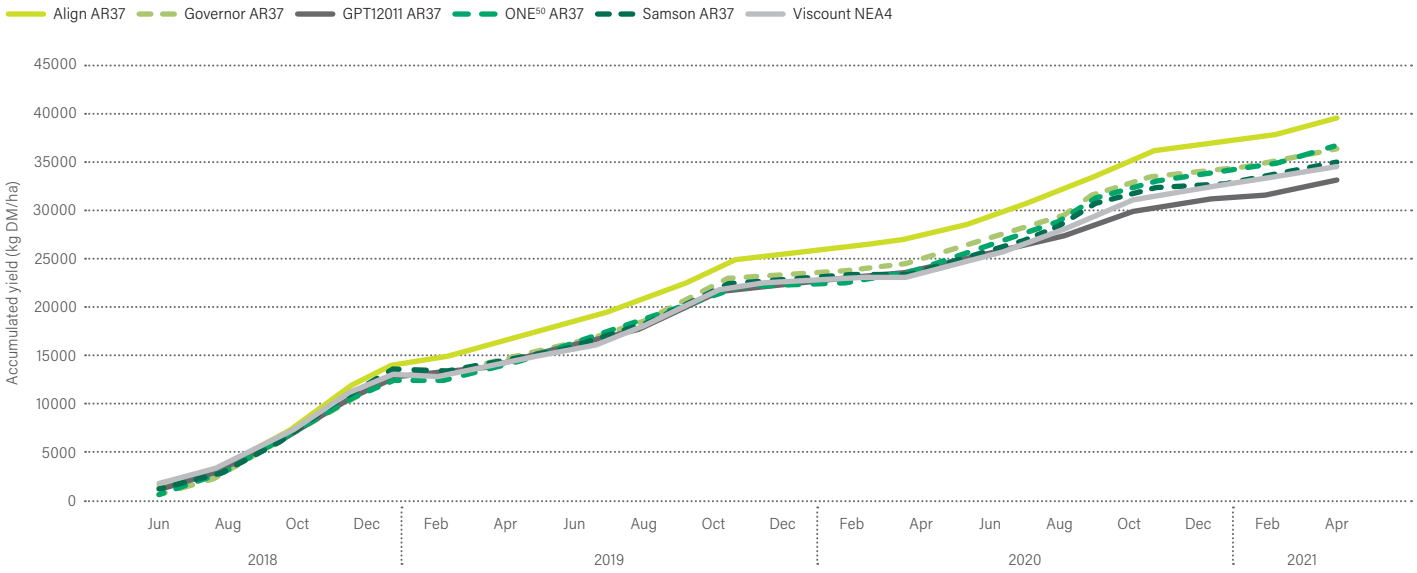
Align has outstanding drymatter production with a significant improvement over its predecessor Halo through spring, while having an extremely strong summer autumn and winter growth habit. The accumulated yield graphs (below) highlight that yield improvement is constant, as no other cultivars catch up to **Align** at any particular time of the year. It also shows how **Align** maintains its productivity over time.

Figure 1. Accumulated yield of perennial ryegrasses at Lincoln, Canterbury between 2018 and autumn 2021



*Note: the breeding line GPT12011 AR37 was a candidate along with **Align AR37** for commercialisation.*

Figure 2. Accumulated yield of perennial ryegrasses at Ruakura, Waikato between 2018 and autumn 2021



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Disease and quality

Align is an elite perennial ryegrass for crown rust tolerance and maintains dark green healthy pastures throughout the year. **Align** is a highly vegetative perennial that can be kept in a vegetative state with both dairy grazing rotations and sheep and beef grazing systems.

Figure 3. Perennial ryegrasses rust scores at Ruakura, Waikato between autumn 2018 and autumn 2021

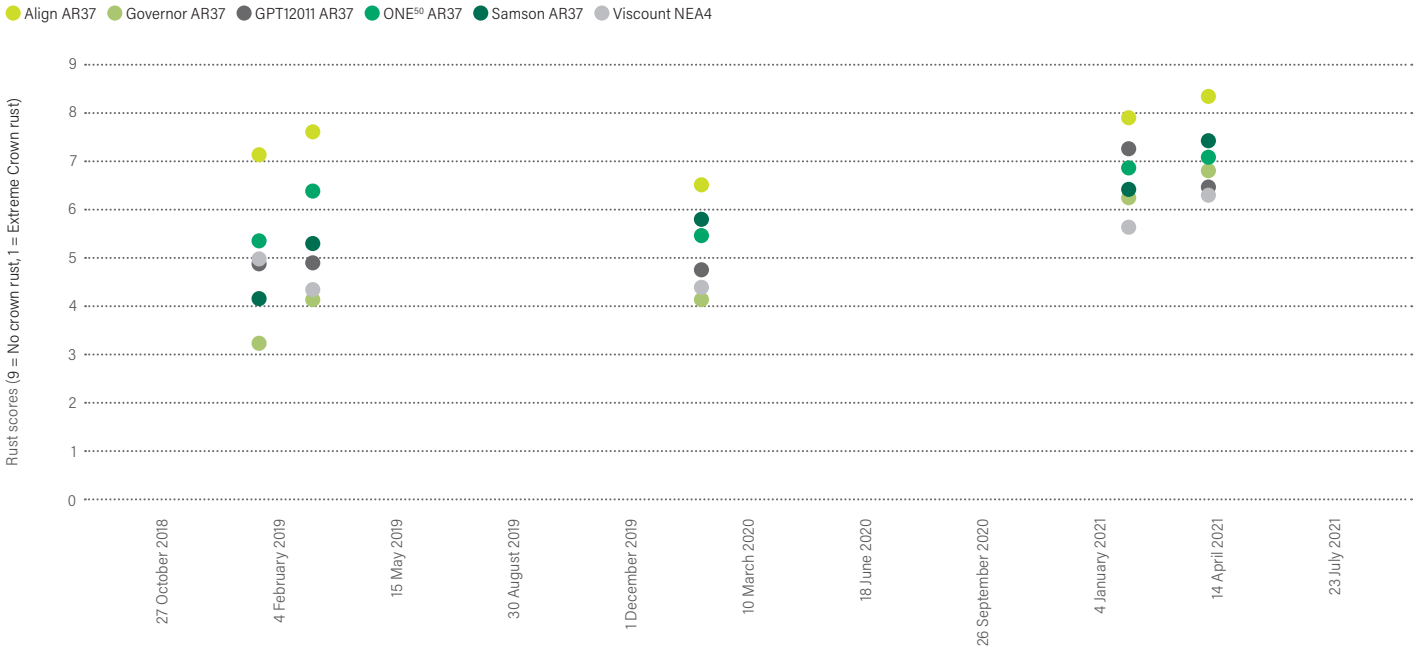

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Table 1. Tetraploid perennial summer yield and drymatter data from Taranaki (February 2024)

Cultivar	Yield (kg DM/ha)	Statistics (Duncans)	Drymatter (DM%)	Statistics (Duncans)
Align AR37	**1649**	**a**	**32.0%**	**a**
4Front NEA2	1303	b	36.7%	b
Viscount NEA4	948	c	40.2%	c

Table sorted highest to lowest total yield over two years.

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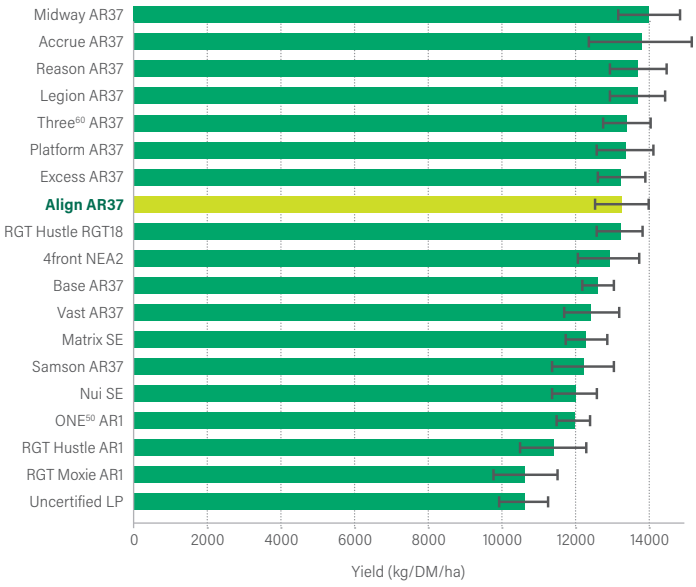
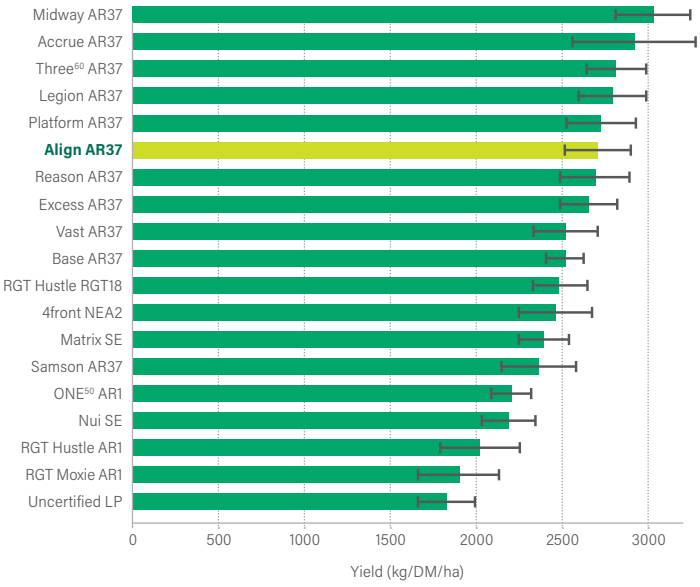
NFVT Perennial Ryegrass | Upper North Island | 2026-2027

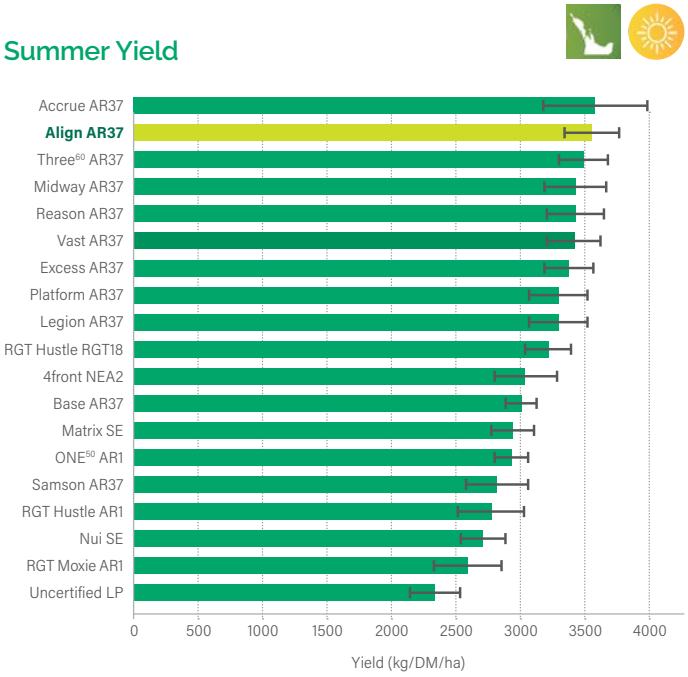
Total Yield



Autumn Yield



Summer Yield



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Example mixes include:

DAIRY PASTURE MIX

Align is a perfect ryegrass choice for maintaining peak lactation well into early summer. Its combination of density and yield makes it attractive to dairy farmers who are extending their rotation lengths and are looking for grass to maintain quality at higher pre-grazing yields.

Align AR128 tetraploid perennial ryegrass	25 kg/ha
Brace white clover	3 kg/ha
Attribute white clover	2 kg/ha
Total	**30 kg/ha**

TETRAPLOID DIPLOID MIXED PASTURE

The ultimate summer pasture combo for improved resilience and performance.

Align AR128 tetraploid perennial ryegrass	12 kg/ha
Three^{60} AR128 diploid perennial ryegrass	10 kg/ha
Brace white clover	2 kg/ha
Attribute white clover	2 kg/ha
Relish red clover	4 kg/ha
Total	**30 kg/ha**

SHEEP AND BEEF MIX

Align is tolerant of set stocking for lambing and is the perfect grass for supporting liveweight gain of both ewes and lambs during late lactation. After weaning, pasture quality is maintained through early summer, making **Align** ideal for newly weaned lambs. Combined with legumes and herbs it can create a stunning summer pasture.

Align AR128 or **AR1** tetraploid perennial ryegrass	22 kg/ha
Attribute white clover	3 kg/ha
Emblem white clover	2 kg/ha
Relish red clover	4 kg/ha
Choice chicory	1 kg/ha
Total	**32 kg/ha**

This isn't your typical speed dating event but a unique podcast where you get to meet one of Agricom's forage products.

Discover its attributes, understand its benefits, and see how it fits into your farm system. Join our forage relationship expert, Allister Moorhead and professional matchmaker, Glenn Judson. As they lead you through this exciting journey!

SCAN ME

or visit www.agricom.co.nz/podcast/seed-dating/align-tetraploid-perennial-ryegrass

*It is not advisable to mix **AR128** and **AR1** varieties. **AR1** is not recommended for areas where black beetle, porina or root aphid are common problem pests. Grass seed should be **Superstrike*** treated where Argentine stem weevil, black beetle or grass grub are a risk to seedlings. **AR128** is only recommended for sheep, beef, and dairy.

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