

- **Legion** is a new, high performance, late heading (+12-14) diploid perennial ryegrass.
- Bred solely from perennial ryegrass plants that were individually screened for persistence, rust tolerance and vigour in Canterbury, Manawatu, Waikato and Northland.
- **Legion** is a particularly balanced perennial ryegrass with excellent growth potential throughout the year.
- A perennial ryegrass with very good density, tiller size and leaf length that is suitable for sheep and beef pastures while being adaptable and productive enough to perform to a high level in dairy pastures.

Legion has been bred, selected and successfully tested as a perennial and will function as a perennial ryegrass. Due to a small number of tip awns, **Legion** is certified as *Lolium boucheanum*.

Characteristics

Perenniality	Heading Date	Endophyte	Rust Tolerance	Aftermath Heading
Diploid perennial	+12-14 day heading date*	AR37 (AR1 will be available in 2021)	Excellent	Low aftermath heading in comparison to other cultivars of a similar heading date

Heading date comparisons

Legion has a +12-14 day heading date vs Nui* at 0 days. In Agricom's portfolio, **Legion** is intermediate between ONE⁵⁰ at +20 days and Samson at +3 and Request at 0 and is most similar in heading date to Prospect +12 days.

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

Drymatter production

Legion has completed three NZPBRA trials including Waikato, Manawatu and Canterbury. **Legion** is a leading variety in the 2019 NFVT national perennial ryegrass yield trials where it delivers outstanding growth from summer through to winter. It will also be present on the 2020 Forage Value Index (FVI).

Winter growth
Very high in all regions.
Early spring growth
Above average. Tends to be stronger in cooler climates where total yields are smaller. Good in warmer climates but others are stronger.
Late spring growth
Industry average for all regions.
Summer growth
Very high across all regions.
Autumn growth
Very high across all regions.

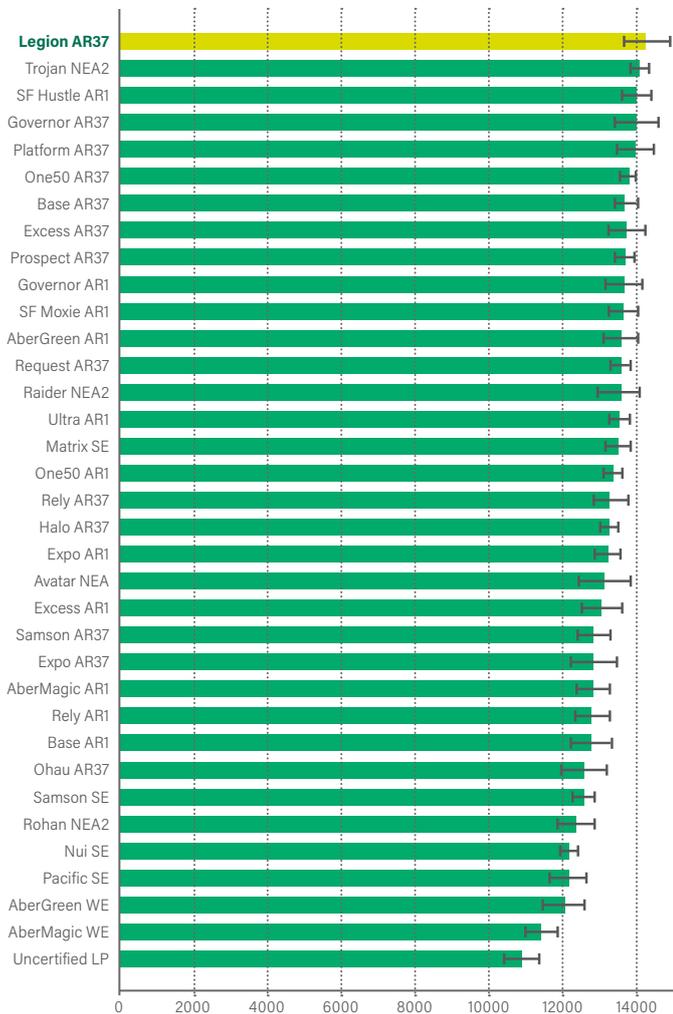
Visit nzpbra.org for more information on the NFVT perennial ryegrass trials.

Legion (front middle) in the Waikato, (- 2019⁹)

Trial Results

Legion has performed very well in trials to date as seen in the NZPBRA results below. Agricom have invested in more trials so that confidence in the result can be increased over the coming years.

All New Zealand Trials - Perennial Ryegrass Total Yield



Ryegrass yield; kilograms of dry matter per hectare
 NFVT Summary 1991 - 2019 (September 2019)

Example Mixes Include:

SHEEP AND BEEF

Legion can be used in general sheep and beef pastures and has excellent density for periods of set stocking and winter grazing. It has a good spring growth habit while maintaining low aftermath seeding in summer, helping with pasture quality through summer into autumn for mating. **Legion** with **AR37** endophyte is not suitable for deer or horse pastures. **Legion AR1** will be released in the future.

Legion AR37	18 kg/ha
Tribute white clover	3 kg/ha
Nomad white clover	2 kg/ha
Relish red clover	4 kg/ha
Ecotain [®] environmental plantain	2 kg/ha
Total	29 kg/ha

DAIRY

Legion AR37 is a high performance grass that is highly suited to dairy pastures and runoffs. The strengths of autumn and winter production helps with pasture cover at these critical times and its summer leafiness and lack of aftermath seed head makes it ideal for summer production.

Legion AR37	20 kg/ha
Mainstay white clover	3 kg/ha
Tribute white clover	2 kg/ha
Total	25 kg/ha