



Winter Annual Pasture: Sub clover based - Establishment (Flood Irrigated - Border Check)

Murrumbidgee Valley & Murray Valley

Costs only

Irrigated Winter - 2012

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS:		Machinery			Inputs			Total
Operation	Month	hrs /ha	Cost \$/hour	Total \$/ha	Rate/ha	Cost \$	Total \$/ha	Cost \$/ha
Disc	Jan	0.35	\$42.85	\$14.88				\$14.88
Scarify (x 2)	Jan/Feb	0.17	\$45.05	\$15.43				\$30.86
Grade	Feb	0.17	\$45.05	\$7.71				\$7.71
Pre-emergent weed control (<i>eg. trifluralin</i>)	Mar/Apr	0.05	\$41.38	\$2.23	2.10 L/ha	\$8.50/L	\$17.85	\$20.08
Scarify-incorp (x 2)		0.17	\$45.05	\$15.43				\$30.86
Sow		0.17	\$62.38	\$10.48	10kg/ha	\$5.10/kg	\$51.00	\$61.48
Apply phosphorus fertiliser (<i>eg. combine single super</i>)		with above			250kg/ha	\$0.380/kg	\$95.00	\$95.00
Seed inoculation		with above			10kg/ha	\$0.04/kg	\$0.40	\$0.40
Aphid & mite spray (<i>eg. dimethoate</i>)	May	contract		\$10.00	0.15 L/ha	\$12.25/L	\$1.84	\$11.84
Broadleaf weed spray (<i>eg. bromoxynil</i>)	Jun	contract		\$10.00	2.00 L/ha	\$15.00/L	\$30.00	\$40.00
Irrigation*					5.00ML/ha	\$13.27/ML	\$66.35	\$66.35

This budget is ONLY A GUIDE and should be altered for movements in crop and input prices, changes in seasonal conditions and the farm characteristics.

AGRONOMIC NOTES:

Use of a particular brand name does NOT imply a recommendation of that brand by NSW DPI.

Always read chemical labels and follow directions carefully, as it is your legal responsibility to do so.

See www.dpi.nsw.gov.au for specific information on subclover.

Inoculation	- Use correct strain of rhizobium inoculant on clover seed (Strain C for subclover) to ensure N fixation.
Establishment	- Use adequate rate of good quality seed. Subclover thickens with time. - Optimum sowing time March-April. Establishment costs should be spread over the life of the stand. - May be sown under a light cover crop, but riskier in dry years.
Weeds	- Minimise weed competition for seedlings. - Trifluralin used for pre-emergent control of grasses (assuming clover is sown without grasses) - In a rice, cereals, pasture rotation, the need for trifluralin is reduced if fallow is commenced before seed set of grasses. - Broadleaf weeds controlled with bromoxynil or other chemicals. - Other options available (see NSW DPI " <i>Weed control in pastures and lucerne</i> ").
Insects	- Aphids and mites may require control after establishment or in spring. Dimethoate used for earthmite control. - A 2nd irrigation (or rainfall) within 7 days of sowing is necessary to ensure establishment.
Varieties	- Choose varieties with waterlogging tolerance and disease resistance. (See NSW DPI " <i>Pasture varieties used in NSW</i> ").
Fertilise:	- Incorporate lime if soil is acid (pH (CaCl ₂) <5.0), well before sowing. - P, S and Mo are essential for clover. Use single superphosphate or equivalent at sowing.
Irrigation*	- Ensure germinating seedlings do not dry out. Water in autumn for forage production and at least once in spring is essential for good seed set to ensure regermination in following year. - Irrigation cost includes the variable cost only. - Water costs used in the MIA budgets are based on 2011-12 prices. - For prices in other areas, refer to the water prices section.
Machinery	- Machinery costs include variable costs only for the tractor and implements.
Labour	- The labour required for machinery operations is 1.78 hr/ha. - Using a labour cost of \$22/hr, an additional \$39/ha can be deducted from the budget.
Economic note	- These gross margins are only a guide. They do not include overhead costs or GST. - Input and crop prices are correct at the time of writing (April 2012). Market uncertainty makes estimation of future pricing impractical. - Use your own figures and price assumptions to determine your own gross margin.