



NSW DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

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

Murrumbidgee Valley & Murray Valley Costs only Irrigated Winter - 2009

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS:		Machinery			Inputs			Total Cost
Operation	Month	hrs /ha	Cost \$/hour	Total \$/ha	Rate/ha	Cost \$	Total \$/ha	\$/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	\$8.45/L	\$17.75	\$19.97
Scarify-incorp (x 2)		0.17	\$45.05	\$15.43				\$30.86
Sow		0.17	\$62.38	\$10.48	10kg/ha	\$6.50/kg	\$65.00	\$75.48
Apply phosphorus fertiliser (<i>eg. combine single super</i>)	with above				250kg/ha	\$0.890/kg	\$222.50	\$222.50
Seed inoculation	with above				10kg/ha	\$0.05/kg	\$0.50	\$0.50
Insect & mite spray (<i>eg. dimethoate</i>)	May contract		\$10.00		0.15 L/ha	\$8.35/L	\$1.25	\$11.25
Broadleaf weed spray (<i>eg. bromoxynil</i>)	Jun contract		\$10.00		2.00 L/ha	\$16.69/L	\$33.38	\$43.38
Irrigation*					5.00ML/ha	\$36.78/ML	\$183.88	\$183.88

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).
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.
Weeds	- Broadleaf weeds controlled with bromoxynil - 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. - Other options available (see <i>Weed Control in Lucerne and Pastures, NSW DPI</i>).
Insects	- Aphids 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 <i>Pasture varieties used in NSW, NSW DPI</i>
Fertiliser	- Incorporate lime if 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 regrowth in following year. - *The budget uses MIA total water costs based on 50% allocation. - Irrigation cost includes the variable cost and fixed water costs of \$19.18/ML. - Water costs used in the MIA budgets are based on 2008-09 prices. - For prices in other areas and districts, 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 \$14/hr, an additional \$25/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 (March 2009). Market uncertainty makes estimation of future pricing impractical. - Use your own figures and price assumptions to determine your own gross margin.