

ORGANIC GRASSLAND

The development of so called "sustainable farming systems" is very high on the EU agenda and there can be no doubt that organic farming plays a central role in the scheme. By early 2004 almost 690,000 hectares of land in the UK were being managed to organic standards - a figure which represents about 4% of the total agricultural land area in this country. The south west of England is one of the strongest in relation to organic production - in fact this area probably accounts for 25% of all UK organic farms. According to recent figures nearly 80% of households buy some organic food with the average spend per household fast approaching £60 per year.

The organic production of livestock for meat and milk is probably leading the field and the mainstay for organic livestock production is and always will be clover rich grassland. At present there is derogation on the use of organically produced grass seed in the EU. However, in the UK a system has been adopted which allows for the gradual introduction of organically produced seed in grass seed mixtures. In 2001 an inclusion of 20% minimum of organic seed was set, this was increased to 50% in 2004 and is now set at 65% for 2010.

Advanta Seeds have embarked on a programme of organic seed production to meet the requirements of this market and we were among the first seed companies to introduce a range of mixtures containing organic seed back in 2000.

Our latest offering conforms to the requirements of the certifying bodies and consists of a range of 5 mixtures each containing 65% of organically produced seed, which is designed to cater for the requirements of most organic livestock farmers. A strong feature of all these mixtures is the clover content. Because the fixation of atmosphere nitrogen is such a crucial element of organic farming these mixtures not only contain more clover than is found in conventional mixtures but the quality of the varieties in the blend is not compromised either.

We can offer a range of straight varieties of ryegrass and red clover from organic provenance for sale separately or to make up special mixtures. Mixed herbs can also be supplied for the addition to grazing mixtures where their deep rooting systems draw up valuable minerals and trace elements.

In addition to grass and clover seed we also offer a wide range of other forage crops suitable for organic farming systems including quantities of varieties (such as Magres Swede) that have been produced organically. More information can be obtained from our Customer Service Desk.



We now have a very extensive portfolio of organically produced seed.



All our mixtures and their individual constituents are subjected to a rigorous testing programme.

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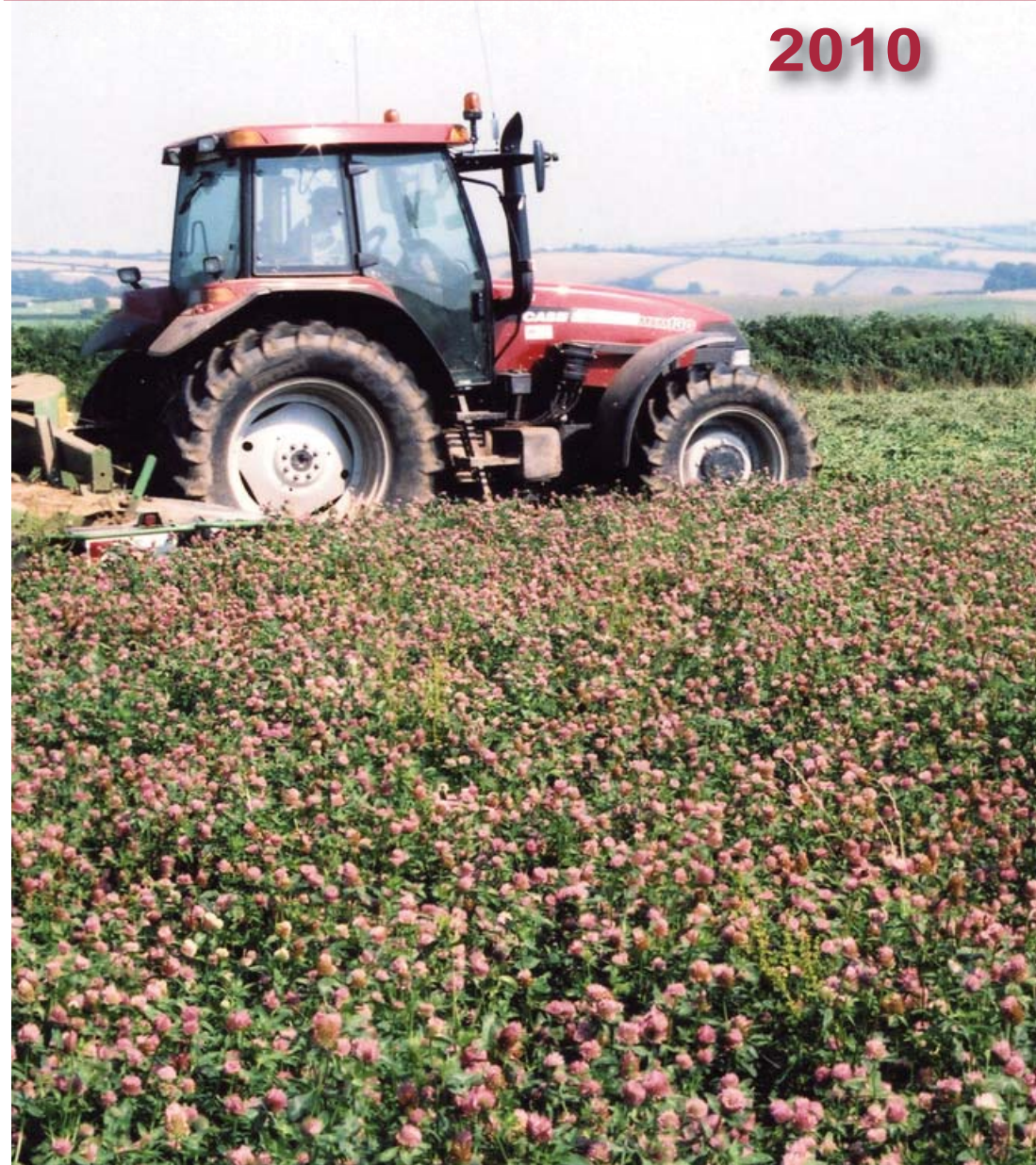
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ORGANIC GRASSLAND

2010



65% ORGANIC GRASS & CLOVER SEED MIXTURES FOR 2010

No.1 Fertility Builder

20%	Solid (Organic)	Hybrid Ryegrass (Tetraploid)
5%	Alliance	Hybrid Ryegrass (Tetraploid)
35%	Teanna (Organic)	Italian Ryegrass (Tetraploid)
10%	Ligrande or Star (Organic)	Italian Ryegrass
30%	Red Admiral	Red Clover Blend
100%		



The slot seeding of grass (and clover) seed into existing pastures to improve both production potential and quality is a well proven technique.

A high protein cutting mixture that is suitable for areas in conversion to organic status or as a fertility building breakcrop for organic farms. The Red Admiral red clover blend has been proven to give consistently high yields at every cut for the full life of the ley.

No.2 Grazing

11%	Liprinta (Organic)	Mid Season Perennial Ryegrass
20%	Leia (Organic)	Mid Season Perennial Ryegrass (Tetraploid)
8%	Denver (Organic)	Late Perennial Ryegrass
17%	Foxtrot	Late Perennial Ryegrass
19%	Forza (Organic)	Late Perennial Ryegrass (Tetraploid)
6%	Twymax	Late Perennial Ryegrass (Tetraploid)
7%	Comtal (Organic)	Timothy
12%	Ensign Plus	White Clover Blend
100%		

A high quality, palatable and extremely productive grazing mixture which includes a fast establishing, nutritious white clover blend. This mixture produces a leafy easy to maintain sward that is efficiently utilised by livestock for rapid conversion to organic meat or milk.

No.3 Cutting

15%	Gandalf	Mid Season Perennial Ryegrass
40%	Aubisque (Organic)	Mid Season Perennial Ryegrass (Tetraploid)
10%	Calibra or Leia (Organic)	Mid Season Perennial Ryegrass (Tetraploid)
15%	Elgon (Organic)	Late Season Perennial Ryegrass
8%	Portrush	Late Perennial Ryegrass
12%	Ensign Plus	White Clover Blend
100%		

Close cutting dates enables this mixture to be managed to produce high ME silage for at least two cuts, as well as providing high quality aftermath grazing.

A state of the art white clover blend - Ensign Plus not only provides major nutritional benefits for your livestock, but also fixes valuable atmospheric nitrogen to promote grass growth.

No.4 General Purpose

13%	Sherwood	Early Perennial Ryegrass
23%	Aubisque (Organic)	Mid Season Perennial Ryegrass (Tetraploid)
30%	Elgon or Forza (Organic)	Late Perennial Ryegrass (Tetraploid)
10%	Cancan	Late Perennial Ryegrass
12%	Comtal (Organic)	Timothy
12%	Ensign Plus	White Clover Blend
100%		

This versatile and popular mixture is well suited to a wide range of soil types and conditions and it will produce high quality herbage for both cutting and grazing. This mixture is suitable for all classes of livestock.

No.5 Long Term (Low Input)

12%	Gandalf	Mid Season Perennial Ryegrass
25%	Aubisque (Organic)	Mid Season Perennial Ryegrass (Tetraploid)
11%	Cancan	Late Perennial Ryegrass
12%	Romark (Organic)	Late Perennial Ryegrass
12%	Darimo (Organic)	Meadow Fescue
16%	Comtal (Organic)	Timothy
12%	Ensign Plus	White Clover Blend
100%		

This mixture includes a range of species that will thrive in less fertile and marginal conditions. Meadow Fescue, for example can out yield perennial ryegrass in low fertility soils and Timothy will often produce more herbage than ryegrass when grown in wet and heavy soil types.

This long term mixture is ideal for the type of land that you do not wish to plough too often.

A selection from our extensive portfolio of organically produced varieties

Aubisque - a mid season tetraploid perennial ryegrass with very good forage quality. Aubisque also exhibits excellent resistance to crown rust.

Comtal Timothy - commences growth at lower temperatures than ryegrass and thus makes an important contribution to swards for early turnout and first cut silage. Timothy also grows well in mid-summer when ryegrass productivity declines. Comtal is well adapted to most soil types including wet and heavy soils and is fully recommended on all the UK lists.

Darimo - Meadow Fescue can out-yield perennial ryegrass in less fertile environments.

Davinci - Italian ryegrass - is a new variety which combines very high yields for multiple cutting along with much improved digestibility for aftermath grazing.

Denver - a high yielding late perennial ryegrass recommended in Scotland and Ireland. Denver exhibits rapid re-growth and in our trials over two years it had very high sugar yields.

Elgon - cows manifest a higher voluntary intake of this popular late tetraploid perennial ryegrass, leading to improved animal performance. Organic seed of this variety has been available for a few years now and Elgon is performance proven on many UK farms.

Maro - the tetraploid red clover that combines high yields of protein rich forage with good persistency.

White Clovers - are essential in organic medium term and long term swards, fixing valuable nitrogen and providing protein and essential minerals and trace elements for livestock. Please enquire about our range of organically produced white clover varieties.



Most leading supermarkets now offer a comprehensive range of products with an organic label.