TECHNOTE 2022

OATS

COMET

VARIETY ATTRIBUTES

Key features

- Semi erect variety which is resistant to most strains of leaf rust (see oposite side)
- Establishes in warmer soils (up to 28°C) more readily than most varieties
- Ideal for early plantings for high quality autumn feed
- High dry matter production under dryland and irrigated conditions
- It will maintain vegetative growth well into late spring
- Ideal companion to Drover to complete your oats program
- Suitable for grazing and hay production

Maturity	Late
Plant Type	Semi-erect
Leaf rust reaction	Resistant#
Time to first grazing	Medium-Quick
Don't graze below	10 - 15cm
Early winter feed	****
Winter Feed	***
Spring Feed	****
Grazing - Cattle	Very Good
- Sheep	Good
- Horses	Very Good

#Pathotype dependent see table opposite page

Plant type

Comet is a semi erect forage oats variety providing quick early feed. Under favourable growing conditions Comet will produce for multiple grazings.

Grazing management

Comet is ideally suited to cattle, particularly in a continuous grazing situation. For best results in a rotational grazing system it should not be grazed below the growing point located just above the highest node. Heavy grazing will result in poor regrowth. However, frequent grazing will help crop performance and minimise leaf rust development.

Dryland planting rates

CQ & Western Qld	25-40 kg/ha
Southern Qld	40-60 kg/ha
N & C NSW	40-60 kg/ha
S NSW & Vic	60-80 kg/ha

Soil temperature requirement

A major factor affecting the successful germination and establishment of oats is soil temperature. With early autumn sowing, warm soil may prevent seed from germinating. Laboratory tests and field experience have shown effective germination and establishment with maximum soil temperatures up to 28°C.

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Growing possibilities

OATS VARIETY ATTRIBUTES COMPARISON

NAME	Maturity	Plant Type	Leaf Rust	Time to first grazing	Autumn/Early winter feed	Winter feed	Spring feed
DROVER	Med/Late	Intermediate	See table below	Medium	***	****	****
COMET	**Late**	**Semi-Erect**		**Med/Quick**	****	***	****
SABRE	Late	Intermediate		Med/Quick	****	***	****
RAPTOR	Early	Semi-Erect		Quick	*****	****	***

	LEAF RUST PATHOTYPE						
NAME	567	605	609	624	636	642	684
DROVER	R	R	R	S	S	S	S
COMET	**R**	**R**	**R**	**R**	**R**	**R**	**S**
SABRE	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
RAPTOR	R	R	R	MR	MR	MR	MR

Leaf rust scoring carried out on seedlings by the University of Sydney - Plant Breeding Institute.

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