TECHNOTE 2022

OATS

DROVER

VARIETY ATTRIBUTES

In replicated cutting trials Drover has shown slightly lower dry matter yields than Taipan in the initial growth but higher yield through the winter months. Drover is slightly earlier to flower than Taipan.

Key features

- Good warm soil emergence (up to 28°C)
- Produces large quantities of winter feed
- Will remain vegetative into late spring
- High dry matter production
- Good choice for grazing and hay
- Intermediate growth habit

Background

Drover was selected for its high level of dry matter production and regrowth ability.

Plant type

Drover is a grazing oat with very good post grazing recovery. It has an intermediate growth habit similar to that of Warrego. Drover also has relatively low growing points which makes it suitable for high stocking rates for all classes of livestock.

Leaf rust resistance

Drover is now susceptible to the current races of leaf rust. However, good grazing or cutting management will reduce the impacts of leaf rust. Wider row spacings of at least 45cm will also minimise the effects of rust.

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

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

Grazing management

Drover is suitable for all classes of live-stock, hay or silage production. For best regrowth do not graze below the growing point located just above the highest node.

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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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