



Catch-crop+ Ryegrass & oats

Crop

Stock Type

Dairy, Sheep, Beef, Deer

This dual species catch-crop mix (*Tabu+* and *Hattrick* oats) takes up nitrogen and gives you more bang for buck than cereal alone. You get better quality feed, more flexibility and save on re-sowing costs because it is a 12-18 month pasture.

Why catch-crop?

Fast-growing species such as oats and Italian ryegrass quickly cover ground left bare after autumn or winter forage crops have been grazed. In doing so, they utilise soil nitrogen and other nutrients deposited during grazing and reduce leaching. They also protect soil quality. Benefits are both environmental, and economic, as *Catch-crop+* provides extra home grown feed.

Why oats + grass?

Our trials show *Catch-crop+* captures soil nitrogen very well, with the added gains of increased re-growth and feed quality. Rather than a 1-2 cut or graze system of straight oats, *Catch-crop+* is a high performance 12-18 month pasture, so you don't have to spend time and money resowing straight away. Yield at the first silage cut or grazing is like a straight cereal, but from the second grazing onwards, this mix has better ME and re-growth.

System fit

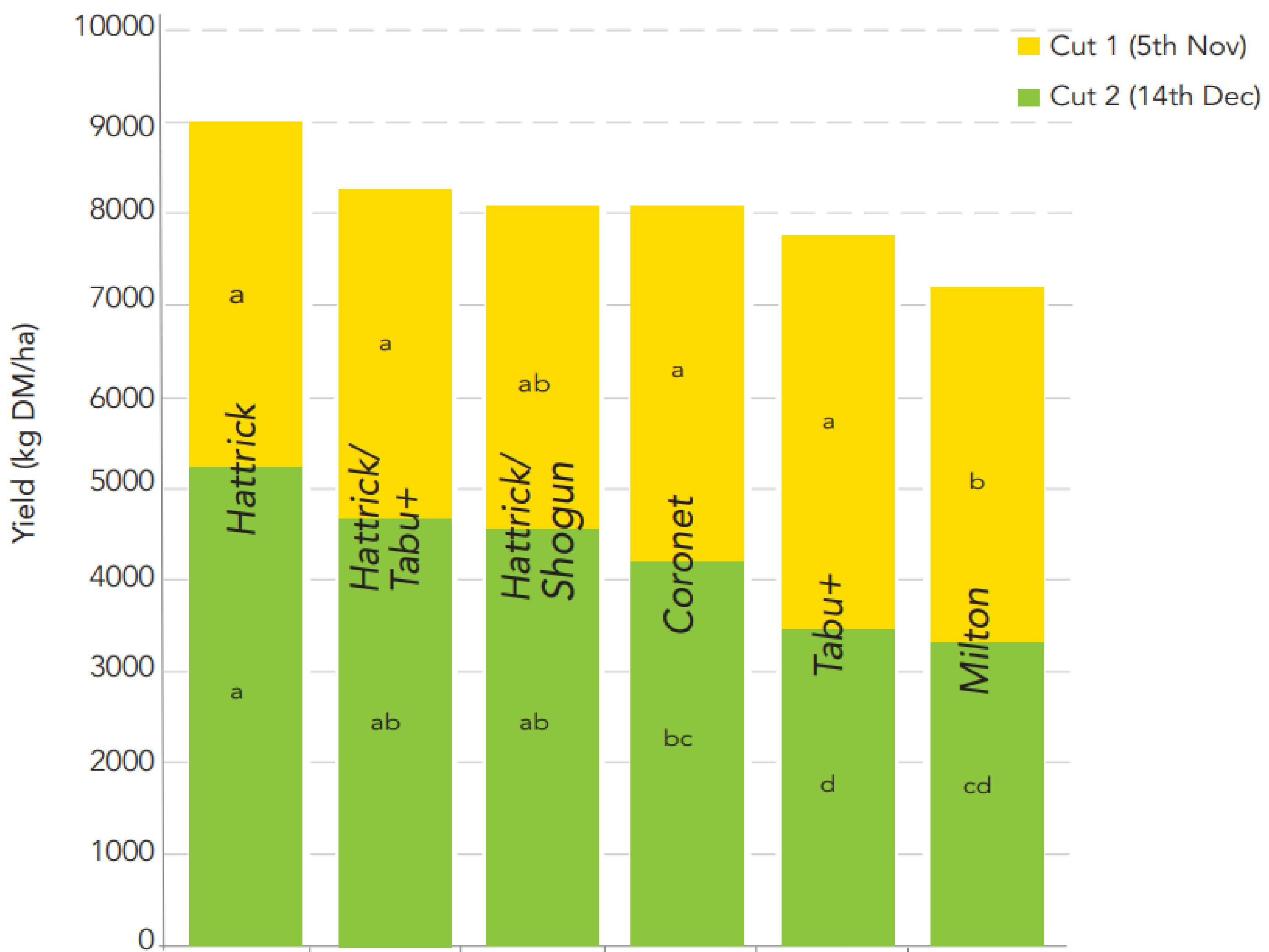
In summer-moist areas *Catch-crop+* for a high yielding, high ME spring silage crop with multi-graze and/or multi-cut flexibility. Oversow *Agricote Clover* to improve feed quality and fix nitrogen.

In dryland areas, *Catch-crop+* for summer pasture (moisture dependent), with fast response to autumn rain for high quality winter feed.

What does the data say?

Hattrick oats outyield several other oat cultivars in the first cut. Mixing Hattrick with Tabu+ Italian ryegrass doesn't significantly reduce yield at the first two cuts, and provides the flexibility of continued cutting/grazing for the next 12-18 months.

Total yield, split into first two harvests, of a late-winter/early-spring catch-crop*



* Trial sown 14 Aug 2020, with cut 1 on 5 Nov 2020 (at 83 days) and cut 2 on 14 Dec 2020 (at 122 days). Statistical significance letterings given on bars for LSD 5%, bars with the same letter are not significantly different.

Sowing Catch-crop+

Sow Catch-crop+ at 75 kg/ha. It comes in 25 kg bags, containing 18 kg Hattrick and 7 kg Tabu+, for sowing at 3 bags/ha.