

212.01 'ABER' GRASS VARIETIES

The current range of 'Aber' varieties are ideally suited to form the basis of seed mixtures selected to meet the needs of leys for uses from the lowlands right through to hill pastures. This Fact sheet lists these varieties together with a description of their main features and also identifies their application to the Seeds Mixture models described in Fact sheet No 204.01.

SPECIES/VARIETY	FEATURES	MIXTURE USE (REF: 204.1)
Italian ryegrass (IRG)	Heading 21-30 May; 1-3 years persistence	
<u>AberComo</u> Diploid; Heading 28 May	Late heading date for IRG. High 1 st year yield, silage yield, 'D' value and sugar content. Good mildew resistance and exceptional persistency for an Italian ryegrass but average winter hardiness	1
Hybrid ryegrass	Heading 1-28 May; 3-5 years persistence	
<u>AberLinnet</u> Tetraploid; Heading 21 May	Good yield, high mid-season 'D' value, well suited to silage and grazing. Very good persistence and ground cover with good mildew resistance. Good spring growth for a Hybrid	2,3,4
<u>AberExcel</u> Tetraploid; Heading 21 May	Very high total yields and mid-season 'D' value; good ground cover and good spring growth for a Hybrid. Good disease resistance	2,3,4
<u>AberEchol</u> Tetraploid; Heading 20 May	Exception annual yields and good aftermath digestibility. High sugar content. Good ground cover and persistency.	2,3,4
<u>AberStorm</u> Tetraploid; Heading 11 May Recommended by NIAB under Early perennial ryegrass group	Excellent early spring growth , good yields with high sugar content . Average persistence. Good resistance to mildew and average resistance to crown rust	As variation of 2,4 for early spring growth and very early silage cut.

SPECIES / VARIETY	FEATURES	MIXTURE REFERENCE
Perennial ryegrass (PRG)		
(i) Early PRG	Heading 8 April - 20 May	
<u>AberTorch</u> Tetraploid; Heading 10 May	Very good early spring growth and high yields under grazing and conservation. Average ground cover and only moderate resistance to crown rust	As variation of 2,4 for early growth and very early silage cut
(ii) Intermediate PRG	Heading 21 May - 4 June	
<u>AberElan</u> Diploid; Heading 31 May	Very good spring growth, high yields and long growing season for grazing. Below average ground cover and average persistence. Good growth with White Clover	3,5
<u>AberSilo</u> Diploid; Heading 23 May	Very good spring growth and high yields for silage. Long growing season; average ground cover and good persistence. Good resistance to crown rust and mildew	2,3,5
<u>AberDart</u> Diploid; Heading 28 May	Very high spring growth and yields under grazing and conservation. High 'D' value and sugar content of the leaves and stem. Long growing season with good ground cover and persistence plus mildew resistance	2,3,4,5,6
(iii) Late PRG	Heading 5 – 20 June	
<u>AberAvon</u> Diploid; Heading 7 June	High sugar content and 'D' value combined with high yields and long growing season for grazing. Good silage yields, ground cover and persistence. Good disease resistance	3,4,5,6
<u>AberCraigs</u> Tetraploid; Heading 6 June	Outstanding spring growth for a late PRG with very high yields for grazing and silage. Average mid-season 'D' value and ground cover and good disease resistance	3,4,5,6

FURTHER INFORMATION

'Aber' varieties are marketed through the agents of British Seed Houses Ltd. Further information can be obtained from:

Clare Talbot, Mike Simms at – British Seed Houses Ltd, Port View Road, Avonmouth, Bristol, BS11 9JH; Tel 0117 982 3691.

Information about other Grass and Clover varieties is contained in the NIAB *Recommended list of grasses and herbage legumes variety leaflet*.

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