

# Forage Newsletter

## Fall 2016

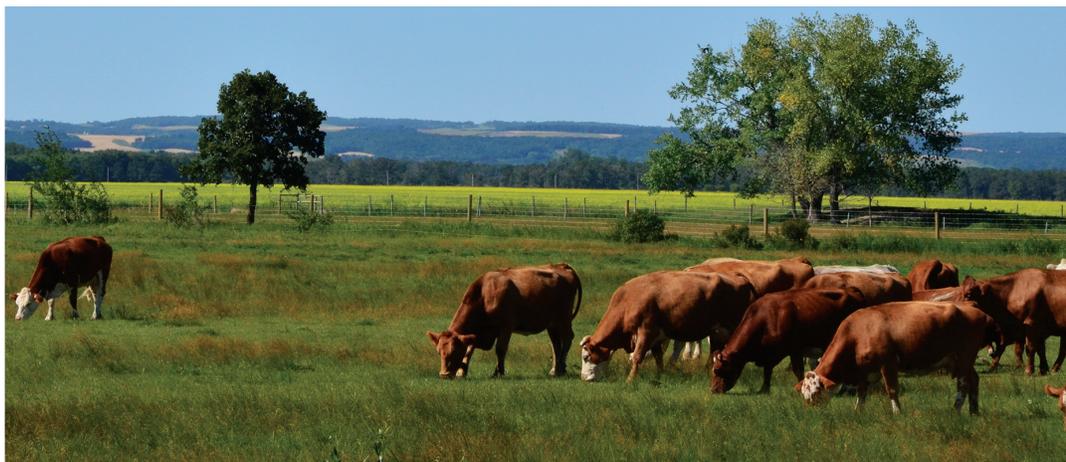
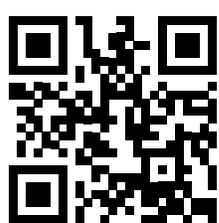


## Forage Seed Harvest 2016

As of this writing, seed harvest in Oregon has just started. It is too early to tell with any certainty how the seed yield will turn out. The production season started off with another dry fall. Compared to last year, which was not a stellar year for seed production, spring conditions were better; there was adequate moisture throughout the spring and we did not have the early warm spells as we had in 2015. But the overall temperature was above normal from winter all the way through the spring, resulting in another very early maturing crop.

- Ryegrasses – Annual and semi-annual types seem not to have suffered in general from the early spring.
- Perennial Ryegrass – Too early to tell. It depends how the coming weeks will unfold, but indication is for an average seed yield.
- Orchardgrass – Yield indications are for an average seed yield. Overall seed production acreage is decreasing, keeping the supply very tight. To combat the declining production base in Oregon, DLF is accessing its large production base in Europe to produce the American varieties. Seed from this production will be available for spring 2017.
- Tall Fescue – Oregon crop looks average to good.
- Crimson Clover – Seed production acreage limited, seed yield average.
- White Clover – Average.
- Red Clover – Too early to tell.

Scan QR code to learn more about DLF forage products:



# Protek

NOVEL ENDOPHYTE

**DLF offers two varieties with Protek novel endophyte:**

## Martin 2<sup>Protek</sup>

A medium maturity (for tall fescue) highly palatable and high yielding, proven variety across the Transition Zone.

Scan QR code to learn more:



## Tower<sup>Protek</sup>

A late maturing (for tall fescue), fine and soft leaved variety. It has a high forage yield, combined with a high tiller density. It is very suitable for grazing management.

Scan QR code to learn more:



## Fall Pasture Management Tips

Cool season perennial pastures experience summer dormancy due to heat stress and drought. Producers without irrigation and/or summer annuals often need to supplement with forage harvested for planned winter feeding. Late summer and fall rains are eagerly anticipated. When re-growth does start, delay pasturing until the pasture has recovered. This allows pasture plants to replace carbohydrate reserves, used during summer dormancy and initial re-growth, improving plant persistence and stand density.

Delaying grazing also allows the plants to re-establish roots and adequate leaf area to move from slower Phase 1 growth into the faster forage growth of Phase 2. Fall pasture productivity increases, allowing a longer fall grazing period and a net reduction in stored forage feeding.

Fall is also a critical time in establishing the potential for next spring's tiller density and pasture growth. Healthier pastures in the fall will be more productive the following spring.

Evaluate your pastures; some need more help than timely fall rain. Determine which pastures need Grasshancing<sup>®</sup> or complete renovation.

## Protek<sup>®</sup> Novel Endophyte

*Protek* is DLF's patented novel endophyte. It does not produce any ergot-alkaloids and is absolutely safe for livestock as per trials conducted by Oregon State University on sheep. In our quality control process, each seed lot is tested for purity of the endophyte, vigor of the endophyte and presence rate in the seed. All seed labeled with the *Protek* label contains a pure and live endophyte presence of >70% and carries an expiration date to ensure only fresh seed is used for optimum result.

*Protek* has been proven to be very stable in seed and the resulting plants. Once planted, the novel endophyte will establish in the plants and protect the plants from environmental stresses.

Seed offered for sale this fall is either new crop seed, harvested only a month or two ago or seed from climate controlled storage and retested. This ensures high viability of the endophyte in the available seed. Check the *Protek* label on the bag for the test date and expiration date.

DLF utilizes a simplified production and distribution model, reducing the operating cost for this product. It allows DLF to bring the conversion of toxic endophyte infected K-31 pastures within reach for many more livestock farmers. Ask your local dealer for these varieties now to reserve the quantity you need, for when you need it.

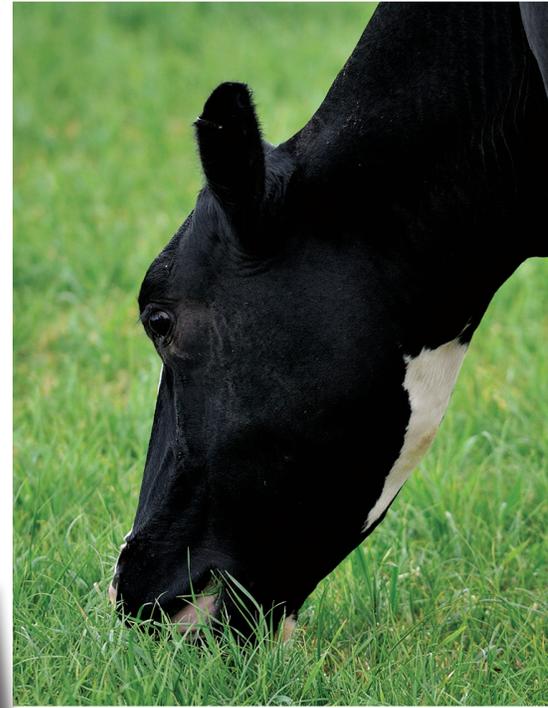
## Forage Quality in Annual Ryegrass

Increased fiber digestibility has been a prime target of DLF's breeding program for some time. Higher NDFd allows higher animal intake and increased animal performance. With the introduction of the onboard NIRS equipment on the plot harvester at DLF's Research Station in Berry KY, we increased the forage quality data gathering from 800 samples/yr to 13,000 samples/yr. This will greatly speed up our selection to develop higher forage quality varieties.

The Pennstate University 2015 annual ryegrass trial clearly illustrates the progress already made by DLF: the 6 DLF entries top the trial when ranked for NDFd, whether diploid or tetraploid. The data is from the second cutting, which eliminates the quality differences that may be caused by difference in maturity.

Annual Ryegrass (multi-cut)	CP%	ADF%	NDF%	NDFd 30
DLFPS-LWT27 (4n)	26.2	26.5	43	89
Andes (4n)	26.3	25.1	42.4	89
McKinley (2n)	23.2	26.6	45.1	88
MO-1 (2n)	24.3	25.6	43	87
Grasshancer 100 (2n/4n)	21.6	24.2	42	86
Kodiak (2n)	23.6	27.4	46.9	85
Centurion	20.5	27.3	46.4	85
Fria	20.9	26.7	45.8	85
Bar LM 15427	19.8	25.7	41.6	85
ME-94	18.8	24.4	43.8	82
Marshall	19.7	26.5	43.7	82
Tetraprime	19.9	26.6	42.5	82
Allegria	18.9	28.1	45.2	81
Bar LM 15371	19.1	25.5	41.8	81
Meroa	18.1	26.8	42.1	78
PPG-TAR 113*	14	33.4	63.9	69
Mean	20.3	26.6	44.4	84

\* 2015 PSU Short-Lived Cover Crops Trial. Planted September 18, 2015. DLF entries are highlighted.



*“Higher NDFd allows higher animal intake and increased animal performance.”*



This trial confirms DLF's internal trial data and we expect to be able to introduce more advances in forage quality with new variety releases in the coming years.



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## Annual Ryegrass Fall Seeding

DLF offers a full line of tetraploid and diploid annual ryegrass varieties, effective for cover crops systems and winter forage production. Options include early maturity for faster transition with Bermudagrass, or later maturity with delayed transition and extended forage quality. New varieties with high NDFd values are cold tolerant diploid varieties Kodiak and McKinley, and tetraploid varieties Andes and Credence. A combination of a diploid and a tetraploid variety is offered as Grasshancer 100. See page 3, for further detail on DLF's improved forage quality.

For beef grazing systems, high NDFd is particularly important, as under such management little or no supplemental feed is offered. A higher NDFd of the provided grass will mean more weight gain per acre.

**Locate a Dealer**

Scan the QR code or visit us at  
[www.dlforders.com/locator](http://www.dlforders.com/locator)

