

# DAIRY GRAZER

 **BARENBRUG**



The most cost effective feed for dairy cows available – grazed grass!

## THE CONCEPT

DAIRY GRAZER is a mixture of 35% DUNLUCE, 35% TYRELLA and 30% DRUMBO and has been designed specifically to maximise the grazing period for cows.

The ley has been developed from the performance of these varieties on the 2014 Teagasc Pasture Profit Indexes (PPI); which ranks grass varieties according to their value in the Moorepark Dairy Systems Model – a pasture-based system of milk production.

The PPI comprises: spring, mid-season and autumn grass Dry Matter (DM) production; grass quality (April to July inclusive), first & second silage DM production and persistency.

It rewards those varieties that shorten winter feeding such as spring and autumn grasses so cows can be kept in the fields for longer.

The mixture has a pasture profit index of €342 per hectare due to the performance of the varieties included.

It gives maximum production at times of the year when grass is the most valuable and will form a dense, easily managed sward.

DUNLUCE, TYRELLA and DRUMBO deliver superior persistency results, meaning this mixture will deliver long-term quality grass grazing for dairy cows.

The varieties are **recommended throughout the UK**, in England & Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

### IN THE BAG

35%	 <b>DUNLUCE</b>	Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass (TET)
35%	 <b>TYRELLA</b>	Late Perennial Ryegrass (DIP)
30%	 <b>DRUMBO</b>	Late Perennial Ryegrass (DIP)

14kg per acre. Sowing: 1,700 seeds/m<sup>2</sup>

# THE FARMER'S PERSPECTIVE



Dairy Grazer has contributed to an increase in profitability for Andrew and Margaret Smith, who farm 630 acres of land at Castlestead Estates in North Cumbria, allowing earlier turnout and more days in milk from grass.

The Smiths have been trialling BarForage Dairy Grazer, since March 2012 to support their New Zealand-style approach to dairy farming.

Milking 420 cows at Cotehill Farm, near Brampton in North Cumbria, the Smiths have a grazing target of 300 days per year. Turnout is targeted for the 20th February with the cows remaining on grass until late November /early December.

To ensure a good supply of lush spring grass that persists throughout the year, the Smiths have been using BarForage Dairy Grazer.

For the Smiths, spring grazing starts on a 40-day rotation quickly reverting to a 21 day rotation once growth equals demand. This system is stretched to 25 to 30 days in periods when drought limits growth or later in the season when growth slows.

Grazing starts at a cover of around 2,800 kg of dry matter per hectare and is grazed down to around 1,500 kg in early season, which is eased to 1,600 kg in the second half of the season. The Smiths' cows are currently producing 5,100 litres of milk of which maintenance plus 3,500 litres comes from grazed grass.

Andrew Smith said: "The New Zealand style we've adopted over the last 12 years makes it essential that grass is ready for an early spring turnout. We also need to ensure that cattle can graze throughout the season – right until the end of the year. BarForage Dairy Grazer has excellent resilience and remains good through autumn and into the first phase of winter – meaning we only need to start adding supplements on the shoulders of the season and when demand is greater than growth. It's a great mixture that fits well with our pasture-based approach to milk production."

The Smiths are first generation dairy farmers who have been managing land and livestock at Castlesteads Estates since 2002.

DAIRY

BEEF

SHEEP

SILAGE