



SALTIRE
MIXTURES

2019



WATSON SEEDS

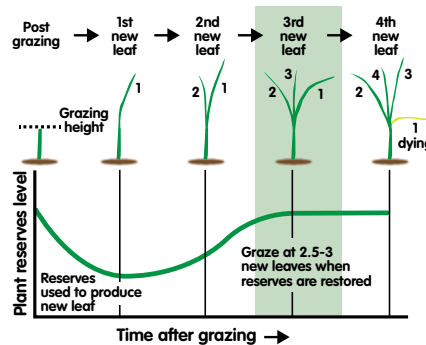
MAXIMISING GRAZING PERFORMANCE

Grazing trial of Ryegrass 1951

'A field trial of various ryegrasses was sown in 1951. The field was grazed for both seasons and was heavily stocked by bullocks and sheep. In spite of heavy stocking, topping on the less palatable plots was necessary both years. The plots were grazed down to three inches and monthly observations were taken and as could be expected, the merit of the plots varied throughout the season. Summing up over the period, the following are the broad conclusions arrived at - The later, leafy ryegrass types made the densest swards and some were quite restrictive on the clover. The earlier types, whilst appearing bulkier were not so thick on the bottom. The field is being grazed again during 1954 and it may be that the third year will put another completion on these remarks.' John Watson 1951 (Johnny's Grandfather).

Although a considerable amount of progress has been made in the breeding and evaluation of perennial ryegrass varieties, since the early 1950s, more needs to be done. The animal production potential of varieties is very important and intake characteristics of the varieties needs to be identified in order to relate to herbage production. There are differences in intake potential between varieties, especially under say, continuous stocking of sheep.

Only 3 good leaves at a time (easier said than done!)



In order try to help us better identify the best varieties for the job, we are planning to develop some large-scale trials measuring voluntary intake levels with the latest in measuring technology for yield and key quality characters.

This can only be achieved by letting the animals tell us what suits them best. We have always used SRUC First Choice varieties in our grass mixtures, but from other world studies it is evident we should also be assessing the varietal comparisons of other key factors affecting animal performance not currently covered by the existing testing system.

We are committed to supplying the best

mixtures in the market for our customers and there has never been a time where grass performance has been more important in helping deliver a profitable future in these challenging times.

As ever, I'd like to thank you, the customer, for all your support. It is greatly appreciated.

Johnny Watson

Johnny Watson F.R.Ag.S



VARIETY ASSESSMENT

All the grasses and clover varieties used in the Saltire Mixture range have been approved by independent trials conducted by the SRUC. From this data the key factors we consider in variety selection include the following attributes:

Yield: Annual, seasonal, cutting & grazing

Persistence: Ability to compete & survive

Quality: Energy value, mid season D Value & WSC content

Winter Hardiness:

		SRUC 1 st Choice	NIAB	Ground Cover
Italian Ryegrass				
Meribel	Very high yielding with very good D values and ground cover for an Italian.	✓	✓	A
Gemini (T)	Capable of producing high D values for first and second cuts. Good yields throughout the season.	✓	✓	B
Hybrid Ryegrass				
Pirol	High yielding variety with good spring growth.	✓	✓	A
AberEdge (T)	New for 2019. A high sugar hybrid with particularly good D value in the second cut.	✓	✓	A
Hymer (T)	A good variety with the highest D value in the second cut.	✓	✓	A
Intermediate PRG				
Premium	A similar variety to Bree with good all round characters.	✓		B
Rodrigo	Good all round variety, having high total annual yields under conservation management.	✓		B
Seagoe (T)	The highest yielding variety of its type. Exceptional spring growth in a grazing situation.	✓	✓	C



Late PRG				
Pastour	From the same stable as Foxtrot with similar attributes.	✓	✓	C
Tyrella	The highest figures for spring growth for the group, with a good first cut yield and good grazing figures.	✓		B
Bijou (T)	Good first cut silage yields with early spring growth. Exceptionally early late heading variety	✓	✓	C
Kintyre (T)	Very good variety under both managements with excellent seasonal growth.	✓		C
Twymax (T)	Has a very dense sward for a tetraploid. Produces excellent quality first and second cut silages.	✓	✓	C
Timothy				
Comer	Best spring growth of the Timothys, with excellent ground cover and autumn performance.	✓	✓	A

SALTIRE ROTATIONAL CLOVER BLEND (SRCB)

Varieties	Leaf type
Crusader Merwi	Medium
Alice	Large

SALTIRE PERMANENT CLOVER BLEND (SPCB)

Varieties	Leaf type
AberPearl	Small
Crusader Iona Merwi	Medium



SALTIRE MIXTURE SELECTION

Mixture	Duration (Years)	Mainly Cutting	Dual Purpose	Intensive Grazing	Extensive Grazing	Sowing Rate (Kg/Acre)
Saltire 1	1-2	✓				14
Saltire 2	2	✓				14
Saltire 3	3-4		✓			14
Saltire 4	3-4		✓			14
Saltire 5	3-6	✓	✓			14
Saltire 6	3-6	✓	✓	✓		14
Saltire 7	6-10			✓		14
Saltire 8	6-10		✓		✓	14
Saltire 9	3-6		✓			15
Saltire 10	6-10				✓	15
Saltire 11	5-7		✓	✓		15
Saltire 12	3-6		✓			10
Saltire 14	7+		✓	✓	✓	14

The proportion of varieties and species used in every Saltire Mixture has been determined after the most careful consideration of farming conditions in Scotland.

The duration of a grass mixture is mainly dependent on two factors: the component varieties and the management regime. Varieties giving higher yields can often be less persistent so there is a balance to consider between these two important characteristics.

See the chart for a guide to mixture selection. However, we recommend you consult your distributor, agent or our office for advice on which mixture best suits your needs.

If we are forced to make any substitution of varieties in our Saltire Mixtures owing to demand, we will ensure that we only use the best alternative varieties available.

S1 SALTIRE 1

Highly productive Italian based 1 - 2 year mix



John Barclay & Co, Mid Brochlock, Maybole, Ayrshire

- It has a long growing season and will produce enormous crops if intensively managed
- The addition of the hybrid assists leafiness and persistency
- Can be sown in spring or autumn to produce large crops of silage

VARIETY	TYPE	%
Meribel Gemini (T)	Italian Ryegrass	85.7
Pirol	Hybrid Ryegrass	14.3

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 43%

S2 SALTIRE 2

Leafy mainly cutting, 2 year mix

- Produces high yields of silage
- More persistent than S1 due to the inclusion of intermediate perennials and clover

VARIETY	TYPE	%
Meribel Gemini (T)	Italian Ryegrass	34.3
AberEdge (T) Hymor (T)	Hybrid Ryegrass	35.0
Bijou (T)	Late PRG	26.4
S RCB	White Clover Blend	4.3

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 81%



Shane Cadzow, Cadzow Bros, Ardlarach, Isle of Luing

S3 SALTIRE 3

Dual purpose, 3-4 year mix



- Highly productive dual purpose mixture
- Produces bulky cuts of silage
- Produces quality grazing

VARIETY	TYPE	%
Premium Seagoe (T)	Intermediate PRG	36.8
Pastour Bijou (T) Twymax (T)	Late PRG	47.1
Comer	Timothy	10.7
S RCB	White Clover Blend	5.4

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 50%

S4 SALTIRE 4

Dual purpose, 3-4 year mix

- Well suited to light land
- Requires early grazing
- Adaptable to either a cutting or grazing regime
- Similar to S3 but with more Timothy and less tetraploid

VARIETY	TYPE	%
Premium Rodrigo	Intermediate PRG	30.4
Pastour Bijou (T) Twymax (T)	Late PRG	52.1
Comer	Timothy	12.1
S RCB	White Clover Blend	5.4

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 39%





S5 SALTIRE 5

Dual purpose, 4-6 year mix

- Highly versatile dual purpose mixture
- Will produce two large cuts of silage and quality grazing
- Produces a slightly denser sward than S6 owing to the lower intermediate ryegrass content

VARIETY	TYPE	%
Premium	Intermediate PRG	21.0
Pastour Bijou (T) Kintyre (T) Twymax (T)	Late PRG	62.2
Comer	Timothy	11.8
S RCB	White Clover Blend	5.0

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 40%





SALTIRE 6

Dual purpose, 3-6 year mix

- Our most popular Saltire Mixture
- Contains persistent varieties ensuring good yields for cutting and grazing over many years
- RCB copes well with frequent cutting

VARIETY	TYPE	%
Premium	Intermediate PRG	20.0
Pastour Tyrella Bijou (T) Twymax (T)	Late PRG	62.1
Comer	Timothy	12.1
S RCB	White Clover Blend	5.8

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 41%



James & Neil Campbell, Penick Farms, Penick, Nairn, Morayshire

James Campbell has been a lifetime customer of the Watson family.

'I am proud to say that James Campbell's father worked with my grandfather in the seed trade covering the north of Scotland.' Johnny Watson.





S7 SALTIRE 7

Intensive grazing, 6-10 year mix

- Excellent grazing mixture for long term performance
- Produces a good, dense sward
- High clover content

VARIETY	TYPE	%
Premium	Intermediate PRG	10.7
Pastour Tyrella Bijou (T) Kintyre (T) Twymax (T)	Late PRG	70.1
Comer	Timothy	12.1
S RCB	White Clover Blend	7.1

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 39%





S8 SALTIRE 8

Dual purpose, 6-10 year mix

- This mixture combines the benefits of intermediate and late perennial ryegrass with highly palatable timothy and white clover
- It can be grown for silage or hay
- Similar to S6 but with less timothy and more clover

VARIETY	TYPE	%
Premium	Intermediate PRG	22.2
Pastour Tyrella Bijou (T) Twymax (T)	Late PRG	60.0
Comer	Comer	10.7
S RCB	White Clover Blend	7.1

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 41%



S9 SALTIRE 9

Dual purpose, 3-6 year mix



- Provides good growth for early grazing or cutting
- The ley tolerates dry conditions due to the deep roots of cocksfoot
- Contains the new cocksfoot Diceris, which is a more modern, nutritious variety

VARIETY	TYPE	%
Hymer (T)	Hybrid Ryegrass	13.3
Premium Seagoe (T)	Intermediate PRG	20.1
Pastour Bijou (T) Twymax (T)	Late PRG	43.3
Comer	Comer	10.0
Diceris	Cocksfoot	6.7
S PCB	White Clover Blend	6.7

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 50%



S10 SALTIRE 10

Extensive grazing, 6-10 year mix



- Long term ley that combines perennial ryegrass with drought-resistant cocksfoot
- Contains the new cocksfoot Diceris, which is a more modern, nutritious variety
- Cocksfoot needs frequent grazing

VARIETY	TYPE	%
Premium Seagoe (T)	Intermediate PRG	23.4
Pastour Bijou (T) Twymax (T)	Late PRG	43.3
Comer	Comer	10.0
Diceris	Cocksfoot	13.3
S PCB	White Clover Blend	10.0

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 37%



S11 SALTIRE 11

Dual purpose, 5-7 year mix

- Designed to produce high D value silage
- Has a very dense leafy sward
- Contains no timothy

VARIETY	TYPE	%
Premium	Intermediate PRG	13.3
Pastour Tyrella Kintyre (T) Twymax (T)	Late PRG	86.7

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 40%

Also available with clover





SALTIRE 12

Dual purpose, 3-6 year mix



- Suitable for overseeding or direct drilling into old swards
- Improves quality and production
- All tetraploid mixture designed for fast seedling development

VARIETY	TYPE	%
Seagoe (T)	Intermediate PRG	10.0
Bijou (T) Kintyre (T) Twymax (T)	Late PRG	90.0

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 100%

Also Available with clover



SALTIRE 14

Dual purpose, 7+ years mix

- The all diploid composition of this mixture helps in the creation of a dense persistent sward
- High percentage of late heading diploid ryegrasses assist in reducing sward structure damage through poaching
- Good mixture for wet heavy ground

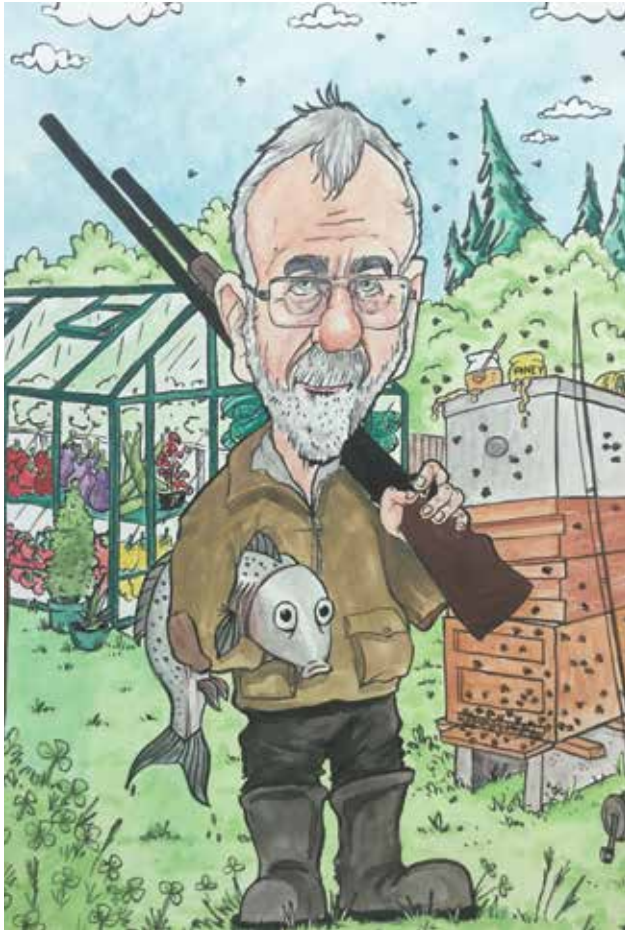
VARIETY	TYPE	%
Premium Rodrigo	Intermediate PRG	14.3
Pastour Tyrella	Late PRG	79.3
S PCB	White Clover Blend	6.4

Tetraploid variety (T) content - 81%



J G Cousar, Lynn Farm, Dunfermline, Fife

PETER ADDIE'S RETIREMENT



Peter Addie retired in August 2018 after decades of dedicated work. Peter has been involved in Watson Seeds since it was formed in 1990. Peter and Johnny attended Auchincruive together in the 1970's as agricultural students and have remained friends ever since those early days. All of us at Watson Seeds wish Peter a long and happy retirement. Peter will now have time to pursue his many outdoor activities and, spend more time with his wife, Liz and the family.

Peter would like to thank you very much for your business over the years, which he very much appreciates.

'I have had a life long friendship with Peter and have greatly appreciated his support and dedication to the seed business over the years.' Johnny Watson

Peter's responsibilities within Watson Seeds will be taken over by Andrew John Best and Kenny Liddell. They will continue to provide the dedicated sales and technical advice that was previously given from Peter. Broadly speaking Andrew will be covering Peter's customers below the Tay and Kenny will be above the Tay.

Picture: Andrew, Johnny, Peter & Kenny at Scotsheep in May 2018.



WATSON SEEDS OUT & ABOUT



LG Innovation Trial Site

The Watson Seeds team were invited down to the Limagrain Innovation Trial Site near Lincoln where we viewed a huge range of different fodder crops, game crops and wildflowers. There were some very interesting varieties to view and compare.



Royal Highland Show

For the fifth year we were in the Pentland Pavilion and had a great time welcoming our customers in to have a chat and enjoy the hospitality. Johnny pictured here with Doddie Weir. Please support Doddie's foundation My Name's Doddie. The foundation was launched in 2017 with two aims:

- To raise funds to aid research into the causes of Motor Neurone Disease and investigate potential cures.
- To make grants to individuals suffering from MND, to enable them to live as fulfilled a life as possible.

www.mynamesdoddie.co.uk



NSA Scotsheep 2018

Held on 30th May at Kings Arms Farm, Ballantrae, Ayrshire, courtesy of Robert and Caroline Dalrymple and Farm Manager Andrew Maclean. We were part of the farm tour as well as having a stand showing samples of 10 different mixtures and straight grasses. We were also delighted to produce the farm tour booklet for this year's event.



BUAS School Countryside Day

Another year for Watson Seeds at the BUAS School Countryside Day. It is always a great day teaching the children from schools in the Borders about fresh grass, hay and silage. They are always amazed at how much a cow and sheep can eat in one day.



East of Scotland Grassland Society

Thursday 25th October at Culfargie, courtesy of Brian Kaye and Over Buttergask, courtesy of Mr Morris. A great day visiting these two farms and having a tour around their fields looking at the grass and forage crops.



Field Lab: Grass Seed Mixes **11th July 2018, Mouldyhill** **Farm, Langholm.**

Five different Watson Seeds grass seed mixtures were compared on sheep farm Mouldyhill. The grass seed mixtures were sown in summer 2017 and an initial meeting was held in September to see how they were getting on. The group decided that a successful grass sward would reduce costs and improve productivity.

For more information visit our website:

www.watsonseeds.com



Winter Fair 2018

Johnny was pleased to have been asked to judge the potatoes, grain, hay & grass silage section this year.

Johnny is seen here with the Scottish Farmer editor Ken Fletcher admiring the prize winning hay sample from Alex W Semple of Threestanes, Strathaven.



AgriScot 2018

Another very successful silage competition at Agriscot. The top three silage entries from each class were judged in the main ring by Hugh McClymont, Farm Manager, Crichton Royal Farm and Jimmy Warnock, Sandilands Farm. The standard of samples this year was excellent.



WATSON SEEDS

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