

2007 Demonstration and Variety Trial Project Forage Projects

Brown Mid-Ribbed Sorghum/Sudan Grass

Location: Comox Peninsula

Farm Type: Vegetable Grower (potatoes, sweet corn)

Soils: Sandy

Demonstration Size: 4 acres

Planting Date: May 24th, 2007

Seeding Rate: 20 to 25 lbs per acre

Planting Equipment: Haybuster zero till drill.

Planting Conditions: Hot dry weather.

Irrigation: Once following planting.

Germination Success: 90 – 95%.

Current Crop Condition: Sorghum/Sudan grass is currently 4" tall and is at the 4 leaf stage. Weed control is required. The crop initially performed well during the hot dry conditions but the past few weeks of cool wet weather has negatively impacted the health and vigour of the crop.



The producer normally uses oats to provide soil protection and green manure following vegetable production. Here a strip of oats (dark green) were planted adjacent to the sorghum/sudan (lighter crop on right) grass trial to compare performance between the two.

Grazing Corn versus Sorghum/Sudan

Location: Sandwick Courtenay

Demonstration Size: 6 acres of corn versus 1 acre of Sorghum/Sudan

Planting Date: Grazing Corn – May 23rd, Sorghum/Sudan -May 24th, 2007

Planting Equipment: Sorghum/Sudan - Haybuster zero till drill.

Planting Conditions: Hot dry weather.

Irrigation: No

Germination Success: Grazing Corn 95%, Sogrhum/Sudan 60%

Current Crop Condition: Grazing Corn is at the 5 leaf stage and looks very healthy.

Sorghum/Sudan is currently at the 4 leaf stage and is about 4-5" tall and has inconsistent health and vigour.



Baxxos Round Up ready Hyland Grazing Corn on LEFT
Brown Mid-Ribbed Sorghum/Sudan grass on RIGHT



Grazing Corn



Sorghum/Sudan

Lowland Grass Mix alternative to Reed Canary

Location: Merville

Farm Type: Mixed Livestock

Soils: Lowland - Peat

Demonstration Size: 3cres

Crop Planted: Wetland Coastal Mix

35% MARATHON Reed Canarygrass

25% TITAN Timothy 25% HOEDOWN Tall Fescue

7.5% Alsike Clover (with QwikGrow) 7.5% Birdsfoot Trefoil (with QwikGrow)

Germination Success: 85%

Current Crop Condition: Nurse crop of 80% oats and 20% Red Fyfe Wheat is 6 -8" tall with the grass mix approximately 1-3" tall underneath. There appears to be good establishment and growth of the grass mix at this time.



Relay Crops

We started out with 4 sites for relay cropping and will likely only get 3 locations seeded due to the inconsistent weather patterns which are affecting the spray schedule.

Location: Dove Creek, Courtenay

Farm Type: Dairy

Demonstration Size: 7 acres

Planting Date: June 24th, 2007

Seed: Tetraploid Italian Ryegrass

Seeding Rate: 25 lbs per acre

Planting Equipment: Vicon Air Seeder

Planting Conditions: Corn is at the 5 to 7 leaf stage. Ideally we would have planted earlier than this.



**Thank You
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