

FODDER BEET GUIDE

www.cropmarkseeds.com

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EXPERTISE YOU CAN TRUST

When it comes to fodder beet, expertise matters - and at Cropmark Seeds, it's our priority. Farmers across New Zealand rely on us for high-performing, reliable, and versatile fodder beet varieties that deliver consistent results season after season.

Our commitment to quality begins with the latest in fodder beet genetics. We work closely with KWS, world leading fodder beet breeders, to bring the best genetics and cutting-edge technology to New Zealand farms. Each Cropmark variety is developed for superior performance, with a focus on reliable yield, and thoroughly trialled to ensure consistent results under New Zealand conditions.

Choose the right beet genetics for your situation

All Cropmark fodder beet varieties are mono-germ. This means each seed produces one single seedling, unlike older mangel types which can produce multiple plants from one seed.

Benefits of mono-germ beet:

- › More uniform crop establishment
- › Consistent plant populations
- › Even growth and yield
- › High seed quality and germination
- › Better suited to precision sowing, we don't thin.

This ensures reliable crop yields across our fodder beet range, which is the most diverse range of fodder beet in the market, covering five main categories:

- › Low Dry Matter
- › Low - Medium Dry Matter
- › Medium Dry Matter
- › Medium - High Dry Matter
- › High Dry Matter

Standout varieties, Lactimo, Anselmo and Kokomo, excel in the Low-Medium DM category. They can be utilised in the same way as Low DM types, while delivering higher yields and remaining adaptable to different farm systems, giving farmers both performance and flexibility. Alongside these, our reliable all-rounder Geronimo ensures there's a Cropmark fodder beet to suit every farm system and requirement.

Whatever your farm or feeding strategy, Cropmark's diverse range of fodder beet varieties has you covered.



OUR RANGE

HIGH QUALITY FODDER BEET OPTIONS
TO SUIT YOUR FARMING SYSTEM



Low Dry Matter

Cropmark

Erasmio
Fodder Beet



Cropmark

Palermo
Fodder Beet



Cropmark

Dynamo
Fodder Beet



Low - Medium Dry Matter

Cropmark

Lactimo
Fodder Beet



Cropmark

Anselmo
Fodder Beet



Cropmark

Kokomo
Fodder Beet



Medium Dry Matter

Cropmark

Geronimo
Fodder Beet



Medium - High Dry Matter

Cropmark

Guillermo
Fodder Beet



High Dry Matter

Cropmark

Gustea
Fodder Beet



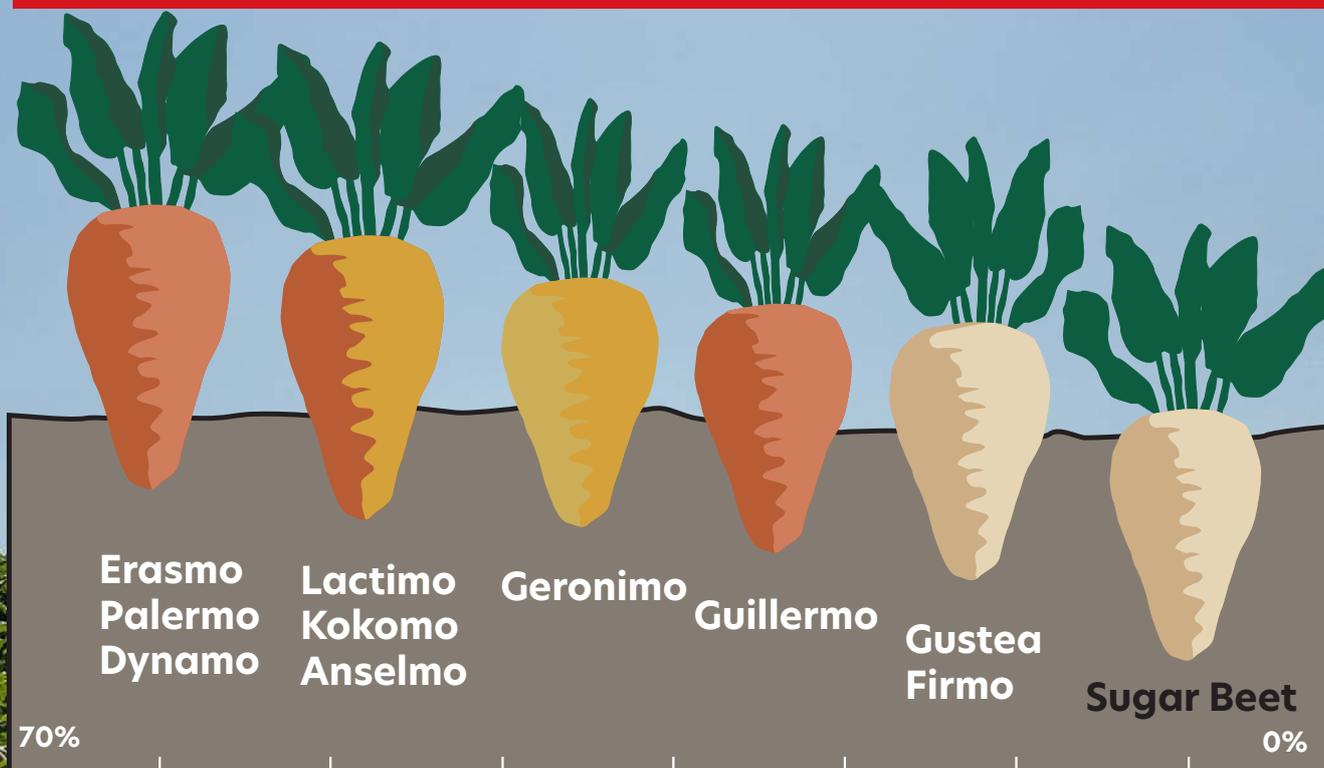
Cropmark

Firmo
Fodder Beet



OVERVIEW

% OF BULB ABOVE GROUND



VARIETY	BULB PERCENTAGE ABOVE GROUND	BULB DM%	SUITABLE FOR:	
			GRAZING	LIFTING
DYNAMO	+/- 60%	11-13	***	
ERASMO	+/- 60%	11-13	***	
PALERMO	+/- 60%	11-13	***	
LACTIMO	+/- 50%	13-16	***	
KOKOMO	+/- 50%	13-16	***	
ANSELMO	+/- 50%	13-16	***	
GERONIMO	+/- 40%	16-18	***	*
GUILLERMO	+/- 35%	17-19	**	**
GUSTEA	+/- 30%	18-21	*	***
FIRMO	+/- 30%	18-21	*	***

* = Less suitable *** = Most suitable

DM % and % of bulb above ground can vary for each variety depending on sowing rate and environmental conditions

OUR LOW DRY MATTER RANGE

We are excited to introduce two new low dry matter mono-germ fodder beet varieties to our portfolio this year: Erasmo and Palermo. Alongside Dynamo, these varieties give farmers flexible options for lower dry matter bulbs, helping match the right feed type to the farm system.

Together, they strengthen Cropmark's portfolio, offering one of the most extensive fodder beet ranges in New Zealand. Supply of these new varieties is limited this season.



Agronomic traits

- Bulb percentage above ground: +/- 60%
- Dry matter percentage: 11-13% *
- Disease tolerance: Very good *
- Sowing season: spring
- Sowing rate (seeds/ha): 80,000 - 100,000



Agronomic traits

- Bulb percentage above ground: +/- 60%
- Dry matter percentage: 11-13% *
- Disease tolerance: Very good *
- Sowing season: Spring
- Sowing rate (seeds/ha): 80,000 - 100,000



Agronomic traits

- Bulb percentage above ground: +/- 60%
- Dry matter percentage: 11-13% *
- Disease tolerance: Very good *
- Sowing season: Spring
- Sowing rate (seeds/ha): 100,000

LACTIMO

13-16% DM

Lactimo is becoming a strong, proven performer on farms throughout New Zealand. It is a monogerm fodder beet originating from France and has a yellow - orange tankard shaped bulb that sits approximately 50% above the ground.

It is a high yielding variety with medium dry matter content at 13-16%, and very good disease and bolting tolerance. The crop can be grazed in-situ, or be lifted and fed whole or chopped.



Agronomic traits

- Bulb percentage above ground: +/- 50%
- Dry matter percentage: 13-16% *
- Disease tolerance: Very good *
- Sowing season: Spring
- Sowing rate (seeds/ha): 80,000-100,000

*Subject to climate, insect pest pressure and management

Benefits

- Proven performance in New Zealand
- Reliable, high yields
- Versatile and flexible fodder beet that can be utilised like a Low DM type but with the advantage of higher yield potential
- Good seedling vigour and disease tolerance
- Suitable for sheep, cattle and deer for grazing in situ



A high yielding variety, with very good disease and bolting tolerance.





KOKOMO

13-16% DM

Kokomo is a mono-germ fodder beet variety that has a bulb dry matter percentage range of 13-16%.

Kokomo has a large red tankard shaped bulb that sits approximately 50%+ above the ground with good disease and bolting tolerance. The crop can be grazed in-situ by all stock types.



Agronomic traits

- Bulb percentage above ground: +/- 50%
- Dry matter percentage: 13-16% *
- Disease tolerance: Very good *
- Sowing season: Spring
- Sowing rate (seeds/ha): 90,000-100,000

*Subject to climate, insect pest pressure and management

Benefits

- Latest fodder beet genetics available
- Consistently high yielding in all on-farm trials to date
- Versatile and flexible fodder beet that can be utilised like a Low DM type but with the advantage of higher yield potential
- Large top growth
- Seed is pelletised with world leading technology and coated with insecticide and/or fungicide only options





ANSELMO

13-16 % DM

A newly bred yellow-orange mono-germ variety with consistently sized bulbs. Anselmo sits approximately 50% out of the ground and has strong foliar growth producing large tops. It has a bulb dry matter percentage of 13-16%.

Anselmo can be grazed in-situ by all stock types.



Agronomic traits

- ▶ Bulb percentage above ground: +/- 50%
- ▶ Dry matter percentage: 13-16% *
- ▶ Disease tolerance: Very good *
- ▶ Sowing season: Spring
- ▶ Sowing rate (seeds/ha): 90,000-100,000

*Subject to climate, insect pest pressure and management

Benefits

- ▶ Easily grazed by stock
- ▶ Suitable for all stock types
- ▶ Versatile and flexible fodder beet that can be utilised like a Low DM type but with the advantage of higher yield potential
- ▶ Seed is pelletised with world leading technology and coated with insecticide and/or fungicide only options



GERONIMO

16-18% DM

Geronimo is a thoroughly proven and consistently high yielding mono-germ fodder beet that sits approximately 40% above the ground.

With a dry matter content of 16-18%, Geronimo has a yellow-orange tankard shaped bulb, and has very good tolerance to the diseases rhizomania, ramularia and some forms of mildew. The crop can be grazed in-situ, or lifted and fed whole or chopped.



Agronomic traits

- Bulb percentage above ground: +/- 40%
- Dry matter percentage: 16-18% *
- Disease tolerance: Very good *
- Sowing season: Spring
- Sowing rate (seeds/ha): 80,000 - 100,000

*Subject to climate, insect pest pressure and management

Benefits

- Reliable even germination
- Large top growth with excellent green leaf retention late into season
- Very good bolting tolerance
- Suitable for sheep, cattle and deer for grazing in-situ or lifted and fed out later
- Seed is pelletised with world leading technology and coated with insecticide and/or fungicide only options

Geronimo is a thoroughly proven and high yielding mono-germ fodder beet. A high quality winter feed, with medium dry matter content, capable of producing high volumes for grazing in situ, lifted or as stored feed.



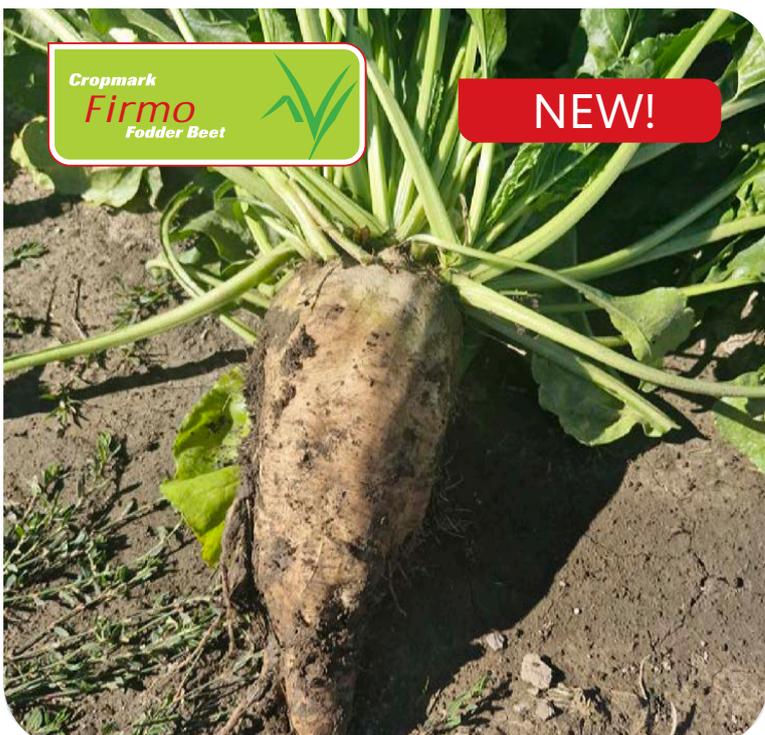
MEDIUM-HIGH DRY MATTER



Agronomic traits

- Bulb percentage above ground: +/- 35%
- Dry matter percentage: 17-20% *
- Disease tolerance: Very good *
Tolerant to Rhizomania & Rhizoctonia
- Sowing season: Spring
- Sowing rate (seeds/ha): 80,000 - 100,000

HIGH DRY MATTER



Agronomic traits

- Bulb percentage above ground: +/- 30%
- Dry matter percentage: 18-21% *
- Disease tolerance: Very good *
- Sowing season: Spring
- Sowing rate (seeds/ha): 80,000 - 100,000

GUSTEA

18-21% DM

Gustea is a recently bred high dry matter fodder beet with both fodder beet and sugar beet parentage and is extremely consistent in terms of bulb % above ground, with very even germination and establishment.

Gustea sits approximately 30% above ground and offers strong disease resistance and bolting tolerance.

Fast becoming a high DM fodder beet favourite among NZ farmers for its consistently high yields.



Agronomic traits

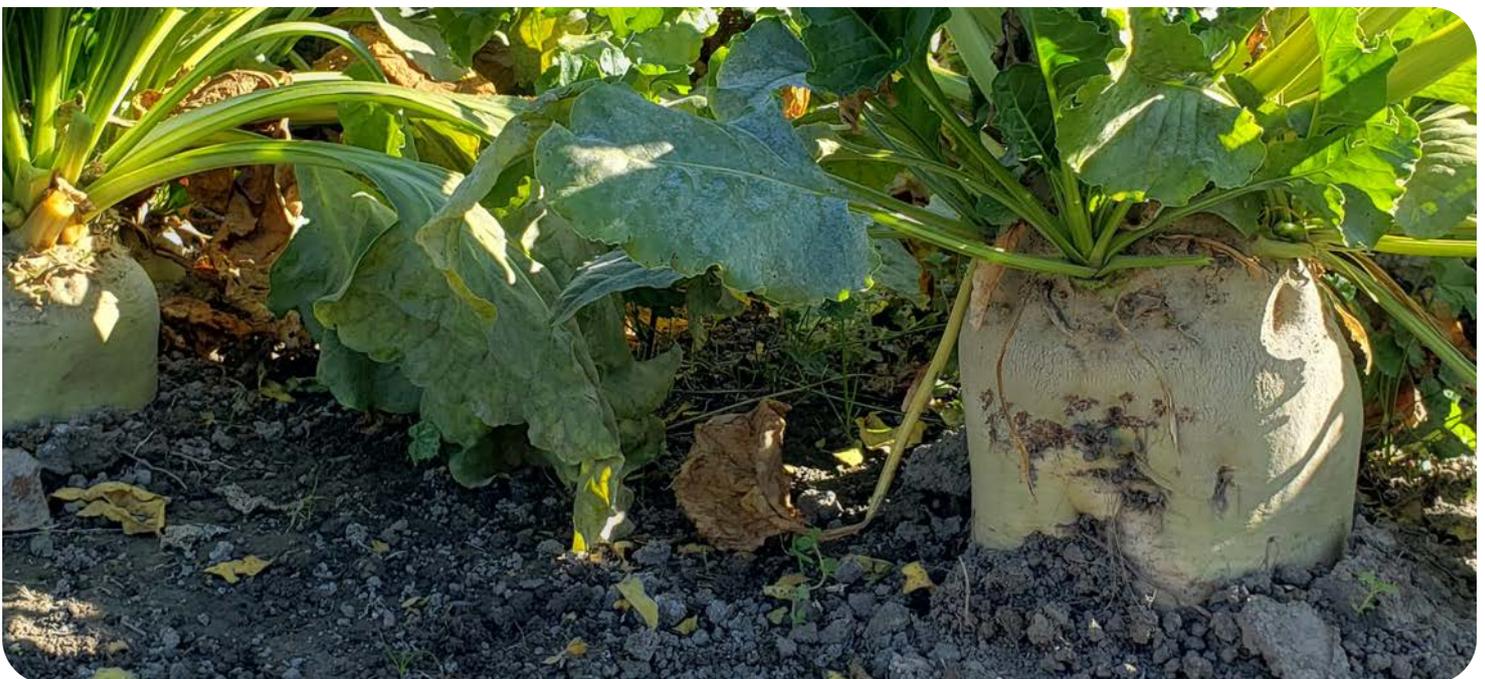
- › Bulb percentage above ground: +/- 30%
- › Dry matter percentage: 18-21% *
- › Bolting tolerance: Very good *
- › Disease tolerance: Very good *
- › Sowing season: Spring
- › Sowing rate (seeds/ha): 80,000 - 100,000

*Subject to climate, insect pest pressure and management

Benefits

- › Gustea has been bred from high performing fodder beet and sugar beet parents
- › Good tolerance to Rhizomania
- › Large white bulbs
- › Seed is pelletised with world leading technology and coated with insecticide and/or fungicide-only options

Gustea is best suited for farmers wanting to lift and feed to stock and under certain conditions can be grazed in-situ by some classes of stock.



SOWING & MANAGEMENT

Fodder beet is a demanding crop but if managed properly can be extremely high yielding. Attention to detail in preparation prior to, during and following sowing is critical to ensure good results.

PRE-SOWING

Paddock selection: Weed-free, firm, fine, moist seedbed; well-drained with no sub-soil compaction. Soil pH > 6.0 (corrected 6-12 months prior).

Chemical sensitivity: Avoid chemical residues from previous crops and ensure all withholding periods are observed.

Seedbed preparation: Spray paddocks several weeks before sowing; cultivate to achieve a fine, firm seedbed.

Fertility: Ensure soil fertility is in optimum ranges; incorporate base fertiliser into the soil.

SOWING

Timing: Late September to mid-November, when soil temperatures ≥ 10 °C.

Lower temperatures can cause staggered germination, affect weed control, and may induce vernalisation (plants bolting).

Method: Precision drilling recommended.

Rates & spacing:

- › 80,000-100,000 seeds/ha
- › Depth: 2 cm
- › Row width: 45-50 cm
- › Plant spacing within row: 15-20 cm

CROP ESTABLISHMENT & MAINTENANCE:

- › Apply a pre-emergent herbicide immediately after sowing.
- › Monitor frequently for weeds; timely control is essential. Seek experienced agrochemical advice if germination is slow or uneven.
- › Check for insect pests (slugs, nysius, cutworm, springtail); apply insecticides as required. Herbicide and insecticide applications can sometimes be combined, but avoid delaying one for the other.
- › Apply 2-3 nitrogen side dressings, 4-5 weeks apart; consider adding potassium in the last dressing.
- › Monitor for insect pests; treat as required.
- › Watch for fungal diseases; apply fungicide if needed.
- › Remove bolters to prevent long-term seed contamination.

BEFORE GRAZING:

- › Measure your crop to estimate available feed and plan break sizes, via the Cropmark ForageSelect app.
- › Transition stock gradually, slowly increasing fodder beet in their ration. Take care to avoid acidosis in the first few weeks.
- › Limit fodder beet to ~70% of total ration.
- › Provide adequate water and supplements.

FODDER BEET CALCULATORS

To help farmers get the most out of their fodder beet crops, we've developed four practical calculators within the ForageSelect app. These tools simplify key decisions around crop planning, feed budgeting, and grazing management, helping to remove the guesswork from managing fodder beet.



FODDER BEET FINANCIAL RETURN CALCULATOR

This calculator compares the cost (c/kgDM) of growing fodder beet and allows comparison against alternative feed options such as maize silage and PKE.

FODDER BEET CROP PLANNING CALCULATOR

Planning the correct crop area is critical to meeting feed demand. This estimates the area of fodder beet required to sow based on stock numbers, time on crop and feed requirements, helping farmers ensure they grow enough crop to meet their feeding targets.



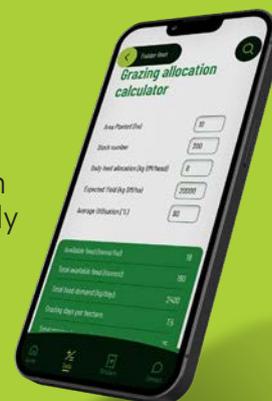
FODDER BEET PADDOCK YIELD CALCULATOR

Accurately assessing crop yield is essential for feed budgeting and grazing management. The paddock yield calculator estimates the amount of dry matter per hectare, based on variety, providing a easy practical way to assess the amount of feed available and support accurate grazing allocation, in an easy-to-understand format.



FODDER BEET GRAZING ALLOCATION CALCULATOR

This calculator acts as a simple fodder beet feed budget, calculating the daily break size required for grazing. Based on mob size, crop yield, and feed allocation, it calculates the daily break fencing area needed to deliver the correct feed intake while maximising crop utilisation.



Scan the QR code to download the ForageSelect app for FREE today!







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