

Managing Freshly Reseeded Swards

1. Apply a post emergence spray 5 – 6 weeks after reseeding to control weeds. See the Drinagh Grassland Weed Control guide for a suitable spray.
2. Apply 20 units of nitrogen to the sward 6 – 8 weeks post reseeding.
3. Graze the sward once it has a low cover of grass (1,000 kg DM/ ha; about two fists high) and continue to graze at such a low cover every 17 – 21 days for 6 weeks.
4. Avoid cutting silage on reseeded swards for the first 12 months, but where cutting is necessary, a light harvest is preferable, e.g., surplus bales from a heavy cover.

Tetraploid and Diploid Grasses – What's the Difference?

Diploid (2 sets of chromosomes) and tetraploid (4 sets of chromosomes) grasses are genetically different types of perennial ryegrass and therefore, have distinct growth habits and quality attributes.

- Diploid grasses have a strong tillering ability, resulting in denser swards and good ground coverage.
- Tetraploid grasses have less tendency to tiller and therefore create a more open sward but are more palatable and of higher quality than diploids as well as being more tolerant to drought conditions.

It is due to these individual attributes that they are both used in seed mixes. However, the degree to which each is used depends on the target use of the grass seed. For example, D74 is designed for intensive grazing on good quality land, so palatability and quality are essential traits of the mix. Hence, its 64% tetraploid content. In contrast to this, the reclamation and heavy land mix is targeted at recently drained/ wet ground that is a risk of poaching. Diploid varieties dominate this mix because they are more tolerant to wet conditions and their strong tillering ability yields a dense sward with good ground cover to protect the soil.

What is the Pasture Profit Index (PPI)?

Like the EBI, the PPI is an economic index composed of several relevant traits and serves to identify the best grass varieties to sow when reseeding. The key traits that make up the PPI are spring growth (February to mid-April), summer growth

(mid-April to mid-August) and autumn growth (mid-August to late October), grass quality (DMD), silage (yield after 6 – 7 weeks growth for both first and second cuts) and grazing utilisation (the tighter cows graze, the higher the palatability). The PPI is used to determine which varieties to include in each of Drinagh's seed mixes, with emphasis placed on maximising the quality index of all mixes, the silage index in superior silage and the grazing index in D74.



Drinagh

**GRASS SEED
MIXES**

2026

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DRINAGH D74

The seed mix of choice for highly stocked farms where grass is managed closely and high growth rates, sward quality and efficient graze outs are key.

- ☑ Specifically designed for intensive, rotational grazing.
- ☑ D74 is best suited to well drained soils and where strong focus is placed on grazing management.
- ☑ High tetraploid content drives sward quality and palatability whilst the diploid variety balances the overall mix by providing increased ground cover and tillering capacity.
- ☑ Varieties chosen from the Pasture Profit Index based on high growth potential, sward quality and palatability to ensure a reliable supply of high-quality grass that cows will graze efficiently.
- ☑ **Heading:** 26th May – 1st June

VARIETY	SPECIES	QUANTITY
Astonconquerer	Intermediate Diploid	4.0 kg
Astonenergy	Late Tetraploid	4.0 kg
Banbridge	Intermediate Tetraploid	3.0 kg
Clodagh	White Clover	0.5 kg
Dungloe	White Clover	0.5 kg
	64% Tetraploid	12 kg

DRINAGH RECLAMATION & HEAVY LAND

The seed mix of choice for heavy / reclaimed land where ground conditions prevent early grazing/ silage.

- ☑ High diploid content for maximum ground cover and dense swards that shelter the soil, balanced with tetraploids to maximise sward quality.
- ☑ Varieties chosen based on good ground cover, good summer & autumn growth and later heading to facilitate later grazing and first cut silage, without compromising grass quality.
- ☑ **Heading:** 7th – 10th of June.

VARIETY	SPECIES	QUANTITY
Aberbann	Late Diploid	3.4 kg
Aberchoice	Late Diploid	4.5 kg
Ballintoy	Late Tetraploid	3.5 kg
Aberherald	White Clover	0.6 kg
	31% Tetraploid	12 kg

DRINAGH RED CLOVER SILAGE

The seed mix of choice for land dedicated to low input, high quality red clover silage production.

- ☑ 40% clover inclusion, allowing for significant nitrogen fixation capacity, meaning that the sward gets almost all its nitrogen requirements from the air.
- ☑ Fearga red clover bred for yield and persistence in Irish conditions.
- ☑ Grass varieties used to complement the red and white clover are well rated for growth, silage production and quality on the Pasture Profit Index.
- ☑ **Heading:** 25th – 27th of May.

VARIETY	SPECIES	QUANTITY
Astonconquerer	Intermediate Diploid	3.5 kg
Banbridge	Intermediate Tetraploid	3.5 kg
Fearga	Red Clover	4.0 kg
Clodagh	White Clover	1.0 kg
	50% Tetraploid	12 kg

DRINAGH PERMANENT GRAZING

The seed mix of choice for farms that are not highly stocked, and require an easily managed, persistent, high-quality sward.

- ☑ Specifically designed for less intensive grazing systems on mixed quality land.
- ☑ Over half of the mix is made up of diploid varieties to increase ground cover and sward density, with the remainder made up of tetraploids to increase sward quality and grazing efficiency.
- ☑ All varieties used in Drinagh Permanent Grazing are well rated for growth, palatability, quality and silage production on the Pasture Profit Index.
- ☑ **Heading:** 27th May – 1st June

VARIETY	SPECIES	QUANTITY
Astonconquerer	Intermediate Diploid	5.5 kg
Astonenergy	Late Tetraploid	3 kg
Glenfield	Late Tetraploid	2.5 kg
Clodagh	White Clover	0.5 kg
Dungloe	White Clover	0.5 kg
	50% Tetraploid	12 kg

DRINAGH SUPERIOR SILAGE

The seed mix of choice for land dedicated to silage production.

- ☑ Specifically designed for intensive grass silage production (at least two cuts per year).
- ☑ Balance of tetraploid and diploid varieties to produce a dense, high-quality sward.
- ☑ Varieties chosen based on year-round growth potential, high quality and overall rating for silage production on the Pasture Profit Index.
- ☑ **Heading:** 25th – 27th of May.

VARIETY	SPECIES	QUANTITY
Aberclyde	Intermediate Tetraploid	5.0 kg
Galgorm	Intermediate Diploid	4.0 kg
Aberwolf	Intermediate Diploid	2.4 kg
Alice	White Clover	0.6 kg
	44% Tetraploid	12 kg

SEED MIXES MADE TO ORDER

Drinagh can cater for specialized mixes including:

- ☑ Grass seeds from the Irish Recommended List
- ☑ Multi Species
- ☑ Hybrid grasses
- ☑ Monocultures (single variety)
- ☑ Overseeding mixtures
- ☑ ACRES approved mixtures
- ☑ Fodder crops
- ☑ Clover Seed
- ☑ Amenity mixtures are also available in store (suitable for lawns, parks, etc.)