

Newsletter APRIL

2025



GRASS RESEEDING 2025

The merits of reseeding are well known but the importance of using the correct variety and mix of varieties are maybe not as clear. When you buy grass seed from J Grennan & Sons, you are guaranteed a mix that will give you the best and newest varieties available & that these varieties have ALL been tested and independently proven to be among the best in class under IRISH growing conditions .

We carefully choose each variety based on its superior Spring, Summer & Autumn production capacity as well as Heading date, Digestibility and Grazing utilization characteristics. We then carefully mix & match these superior individual traits to make the top class, fully recommended Grass Seed blends that will constitute Grennan's 2025 Grass Seed range.

OUR 2025 BLENDS

GRENNAN'S SWEET GRAZE: The ultimate in a grazing mix. Delivers very high yield and excellent graze outs. Contains Galgorm, Barwave, Abergain & Ballintoy. Can also be cut for silage as required.

GRENNAN'S HI DIGESTIBILITY: A grazing mix designed to deliver very good yields of the highest possible feeding quality. High utilization characteristics will ensure you get the ultimate in graze outs. Contains Astonconqueror, Astonenergy, Glenfield & Tollymore.

GRENNAN'S CUT N GRAZE: Designed to deliver an early graze followed by one or 2 slightly later good cuts of high quality silage followed by a grazing season that can extend well into late Autumn. Contains Abergain, Barwave, Aberspey & Abermagic.

Have a look at DAFM 2025 Recommended List of Perennial Ryegrass Varieties and the Teagasc 2025 Pasture Profit Index The PPI figures for each variety are the single most important figures for you to consider when selecting your Grass seed blend for 2025. The PPI figure is effectively a totally independent ranking of each variety and it's easy to see that the varieties in Grennan's 2025 Grass Seed Mixes are predominantly chosen from the top of the table.

These varieties are simply far better and therefore in far higher demand than those from down lower on the list. They cost us more, but the extra payback for you, in terms of superior production over the typical 7 to 10 year lifetime of a new ley will be in the order of €100/ ha per year.



RATH
057 91 33002

KILCORMAC
057 91 35004

CLOGHAN
090 64 57112

TINNYCROSS
057 93 25500

MOATE
090 64 66526

ROSEMOUNT
090 64 36358

MOYVORE
044 93 55593

PRE-BREEDING CHECKS

The breeding season will begin in earnest in a few weeks' time and the whole cycle starts again. There is still time for you to evaluate how well the cows are set up for breeding in 2025. The first thing that needs to be looked at is BCS. A cow that doesn't have the optimum BCS during breeding will find it very difficult to get back in calf.

During the month of April, cows will be at peak milk production. This requires a high level of energy to sustain production and to keep body condition in the correct place. Pre-breeding BCS of the cows should be 2.75-3.00 so if you have cows that are not quite hitting that target, it would be a good idea to either feed that cow extra concentrates or milk her once a day. **Every missed heat costs the farmer €250, (Teagasc) so make sure that BCS won't cause that problem for you this year.**

A random set of sampling for blood minerals is also a good thing to get done. If you pick for example, 8 cows ranging from 1st lactation up to 6/7/8th +

lactation with 1 or 2 others added in, it should give you a good picture of where your herd is at mineral wise. Copper or Selenium are crucial for good fertility, so if needs be, you still have time to rectify this before breeding starts. Consult your local vet.

We also offer a service to test grass and milk samples for mineral content. If you would like to avail of this service, please contact your local Grennan's Rep or stockist.

Using tail paint as a guide to help spot cows that are in heat is a great tool for a farmer. Cows that haven't been served after 6 weeks of breeding should be looked at by a vet.

Vaccines for Leptospirosis and IBR should be administered no later than 3 weeks before breeding start date. It can lead to a reduction in the number of cows conceiving to first service. If your animals are due a booster vaccine, we recommend consulting your vet before vaccinating any breeding animals.

WHAT THE FARMER SAYS

Arleigh, Amanda & Sophie Scully, Aharney, Tullamore, Co. Offaly



"We've been using Grennan's Super Grow & Early Graze Calf Nuts for several years now and we are very happy with both products. We start them off on the Super Grow and then switch over to the Early Graze just before the calves go to grass. The early intakes and thrive are top class on the Super Grow Nut and we've noticed a lot less scouring and a much better thrive at grass since introducing the Early Graze Nut at turnout". Arleigh Scully



TURN €30 INTO €180

We sometimes meet situations on farms where we are told “You are €10, €20, and even €30 per tonne too dear”. With the introduction of various “loyalty bonus” schemes by many Co-ops in recent years, a €30 per tonne differential between “similar” feeds from different mills is not uncommon. At first glance, this is an enormous price gap to pay and its easy to see how many farmers are persuaded to go for the less expensive option. This can often be a “penny wise and pound foolish” decision.

It's important to know the real costs benefit ratio of selecting a dairy nut for your cows. The table below shows how important it is for you to do the sums and to choose the best quality feedstuff rather than the “cheaper” alternative. If you spend wisely, such is the high value of milk solids relative to feed costs nowadays, your €30 can deliver at least a 6 fold return (€180) for you.

QUALITY PAYS - TURN €30 INTO €180

	MEGA MILK DAIRY NUT	COMPETITOR TOP 16% DAIRY NUT	DIFFERENCE
Energy content of concentrate (UFL's /kg)	1.08	0.96	0.12 UFL /kg
Assumed price/tonne	€380 per tonne	€350 per tonne	€30 / tonne
Cost per kg fed	€0.38	€0.35	€0.03 per kg
Typical Feed rate/cow/day	5 kgs	5kgs	0
Concentrate Cost/cow /day	€1.90	€1.75	€0.15 /cow /day
Total Energy delivered from the Dairy Nut @ 5 kgs	5.4 ufl	4.8 ufl	0.6 UFL
Litres of milk obtained from concentrate component of diet (0.44 UFL required/ litre)	12.27 lts	10.91 lts	1.36 lts
Value of milk obtained per 5kg of meal fed (50c/l)	€6.14	€5.46	€0.68
Minus Concentrate Cost per cow /day	€1.90	€1.75	€0.15
Margin over feed earned /cow/ day - from the extra Milk alone	€4.24	€3.71	€ 0.53 /cow /day

So , lets assume you you are paying €30/t extra for Mega Milk & you have a typical 100 cow herd, feeding 5kgs Concentrates /head /day. Therefore 0.5 tonne Dairy Nuts being fed/ day.

Extra cost for the half tonne/ day			€15 /day
Extra earnings/day from the extra milk			€ 53/ day
EVERY very 0.1% lift in protein worth 1 cent / litre	25lts /cow / day		€25/ day
EVERY 0.1% lift in FAT - worth 0.5 cent per litre	25lts /cow / day		€12.5 / day

Returns earned for the extra €15 / day investment

€90.50 / day

That's an ROI of 6 to 1. This does not account for a range of other potential benefits to be obtained from feeding Mega Milk. These include, healthier cows, improved fertility & extra longevity in the herd



EXPERIENCING COPPER ISSUES?

Grennan's 4-Way Copper
Bucket is the solution
you've been searching for!



Suitable for Calves, Weanlings, Beef
Cattle and Cows, particularly in areas
with High Molybdenum/High pH/Low
Copper/Peaty Soils.

- Contains maximum permitted levels of Copper
- Contains 4 different forms of Copper
- Contains 40% protected Copper
- Contains high levels of all essential minerals and vitamins



HELP US SERVE YOU BETTER!

During the busiest time of the year, we want to thank you for your continued support and share an important request that will help us improve service, efficiency, and reduce costs for everyone.

Please provide as much advance notice for orders as possible:

Our transport office and drivers are under immense pressure during peak season. The more notice you can provide us for your orders, ideally at least four days, but preferably seven, the better we can plan deliveries and ensure timely service.

Peak Season Challenges

During busy weeks, accommodating late orders becomes increasingly difficult. As a result, orders placed on a Thursday may not be deliverable until the following Monday/Tuesday. While we always strive to meet customer needs, we appreciate your support in giving as much notice as possible when placing orders. We understand that emergencies happen, and we will always do our best to accommodate urgent requests. However, during peak season, our capacity is stretched, and advance planning helps us serve everyone better.

Larger Orders Improve Efficiency & Reduce Costs

Placing larger orders in time can improve efficiency and lowers costs. The larger the volume, the lower the cost of delivery per tonne, making it a more economical option for everyone.

We truly appreciate your business and your support in helping us maintain the best possible service by giving as much notice as possible.

As always, thank you very much for choosing Grennans.

Best Regards, Niall Grennan