

Gaucho[®] Insecticidal Seed Treatment boosts ryegrass production

Many farmers have already adopted **Gaucho[®] Insecticidal Seed Treatment** for their clovers, lucernes and herbs. Farmers can also utilise the benefits of **Gaucho** in their pasture grasses, including ryegrass and fescue.

In 2006, Bayer CropScience conducted commercial trials across Victoria to evaluate **Gaucho** use on ryegrass seed. Across 10 sites, **Gaucho** increased ryegrass establishment by an average of 29%, and increased biomass prior to first grazing by an average of 30% compared to untreated ryegrass seed.

In one trial, pasture grown from **Gaucho** treated seed continued to provide increased production after four successive grazings. This underlines the benefits of protecting newly sown pastures through the vulnerable early growth period.

'Over a range of varieties and sometimes in the absence of obvious insect activity, pastures grown from **Gaucho** treated seed had better plant establishment, increased growth rates prior to first grazing and greater root development,' explained Bayer CropScience Business Support Manager, Ken Blowers.



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'This means that pastures will have improved composition, superior productivity and are more persistent,' says Ken.

'Using **Gaucho** on all types of pasture seed can increase profit by allowing earlier grazing of renovated pastures, by improving stocking rates or by increasing hay production.'

Figure 1 shows the average percentage increase in establishment and biomass across 10 commercial demonstration trials. Lowest and highest recorded increases are shown.

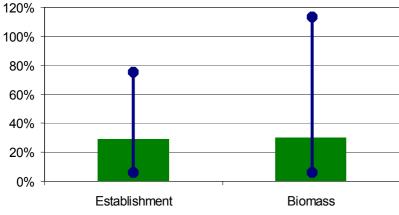
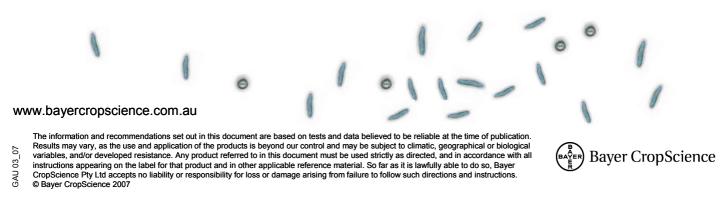


Figure 1: Establishment and biomass increases with Gaucho treated ryegrass seed compared to untreated.

Gaucho is professionally applied and delivered on the seed when purchased – simply request it when you order your pasture seed. It protects seedlings for the critical period after germination from redlegged earth mites and blue oat mites.

Gaucho is highly systemic and is rapidly absorbed by the emerging plant. This results in a rapid translocation to cotyledons and leaves. Using **Gaucho** treated seed reduces the need to apply post-emergent insecticides and is safe to beneficial organisms, including earthworms, when used as directed.



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