



Winter Annual Pasture: Sub clover - Maintenance (Flood Irrigated - Border Check)

Murrumbidgee Valley & Murray Valley Costs only

Irrigated Winter - 2012

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS:		Machinery			Inputs			Total Cost \$/ha
Operation	Month	hrs /ha	Cost \$/hour	Total \$/ha	Rate/ha	Cost \$	Total \$/ha	
Topdress phosphorus fertiliser <i>(eg. single super)</i>	Feb/Mar	0.05	\$41.38	\$2.23	300kg/ha	\$0.38/kg	\$114.00	\$116.23
Insect & mite spray <i>eg. dimethoate</i>	May/June	contract		\$10.00	0.15 L/ha	\$12.25/L	\$1.84	\$11.84
Broadleaf weedspray <i>eg. bromoxynil</i>	May/June	contract		\$10.00	2.00 L/ha	\$15.00/L	\$30.00	\$40.00
Irrigation*					5ML/ha	13.3ML/ha	\$66.35	\$66.35

AGRONOMIC NOTES:

Use of a particular brand name does NOT imply a recommendation of that brand by NSW DPI.

Always read chemical labels and follow directions carefully, as it is your legal responsibility to do so.

Fertiliser - Fertiliser requirement depends on irrigation intensity, amount of forage removed and the value of production. Irrigated annual pastures require at least 300 kg/ha single super every year to replace phosphorus.

Stocking rate - Intensively irrigated and fertilised annual pastures can maintain 18-24 DSE (dry sheep equivalent)/ha per year (autumn till late spring) if well managed, but the more usual rate is 10-12 DSE/ha. Earlier irrigation, higher inputs of fertiliser and water allow more stock to be carried.
 - Avoid overgrazing in winter as pasture recovery time increases.
 - Set stocking helps to maintain clover dominant pasture.

Irrigation - Ideally subclover is irrigated 2-3 times in autumn commencing in late Feb/early March to establish stands and twice in spring to ensure seed set.
 - Germination is reduced with earlier commencement of irrigation. If the autumn is dry, up to 5 irrigations may be required.
 - Autumn production is directly related to plant population resulting from seed set in the previous spring.
 - **Irrigation cost includes the variable cost only.**
 - **Water costs used in the MIA budgets are based on 2011-12 prices.**
 - **For prices in other areas, refer to the water prices section.**

Machinery - Machinery costs include variable costs only for the tractor and implements.

Labour - The labour required for machinery operations is 0.07 hr/ha.
 - Using a labour cost of \$22/hr, an additional \$24/ha can be deducted from the budget.

Economic note - These gross margins are only a guide. They do not include overhead costs or GST.
 - Input and crop prices are correct at the time of writing (April 2012). Market uncertainty makes estimation of future pricing impractical.
 - **Use your own figures and price assumptions to determine your own gross margin.**

This budget is ONLY A GUIDE and should be altered for movements in crop and input prices, changes in seasonal conditions and the farm characteristics.