

# AFIA Fodder 2000 Trial Results

## Trial Provides Results

Some valuable results and information has come forward from the second year of fodder trials in Victoria. Results have been summarised on pages 2-3.

The cereal trial consisted of 16 oats and one barley variety. Relative small differences were noted between the varieties this year, with the yield performance being strongly linked to the maturity of the variety. The oat variety Vasse was used as a benchmark to compare other varieties as it is widely grown in all states.

Good yield performances were noted from varieties such as Riel, an advanced line from SARDI SA88083-4 and an experimental line X93072-43.

These results need to take into account the quality of the fodder. This has always been the intention of the trials and these results will be made available as soon as they are available. Result listed in this newsletter have not been fully analysed statistically and are for one year on one site. Firm planting recommendations should always take into account more thorough testing of the lines.

Nonetheless, some interesting results have come forward. Cuts were taken earlier than intended on October 5 and 6 as it appeared that the growing season had ended and further growth was unlikely. About one week after this the trial was given a new lease of life with the same storm rains that ruined many hay crops in the area. In this scenario

we decided to take a second series of cuts to capture results from the further growth.

As many of the preferred varieties for the export and domestic markets are later season maturity, they were not able to reach their optimum performance in the short season of the first cut.



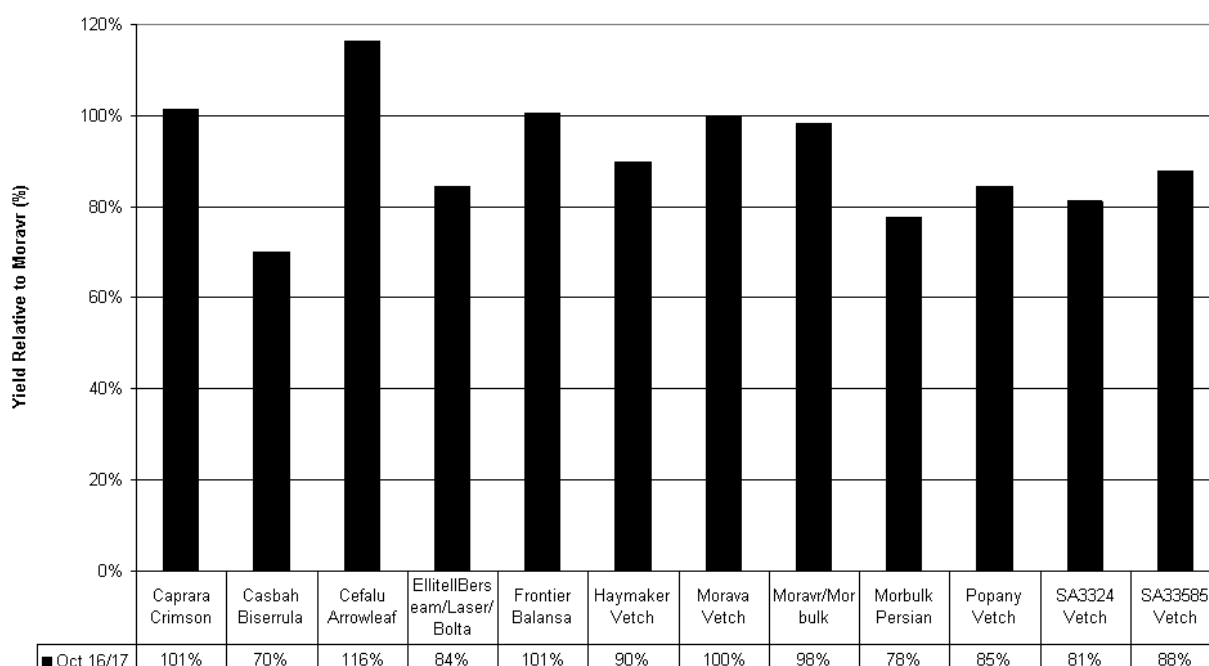
*A southerly view of the legume trial plots at the AFIA trial site at Elmore in Victoria. A Frontier Balansa clover plot is in the foreground.*

The following results are a summary of the varietal trials for legumes and cereals. Our thanks go to the Elmore Field Day Committee and the seed companies who have supported us in putting these trials together. These sponsors include Pioneer Hi-Bred, Pacific Seeds Pty Ltd, Paramount Seeds, Heritage Seeds Pty Ltd, Seedco, SGB Australia Pty Ltd and Cultivar Marketing. The team at SARDI have also been invaluable in their technical support for the trials.

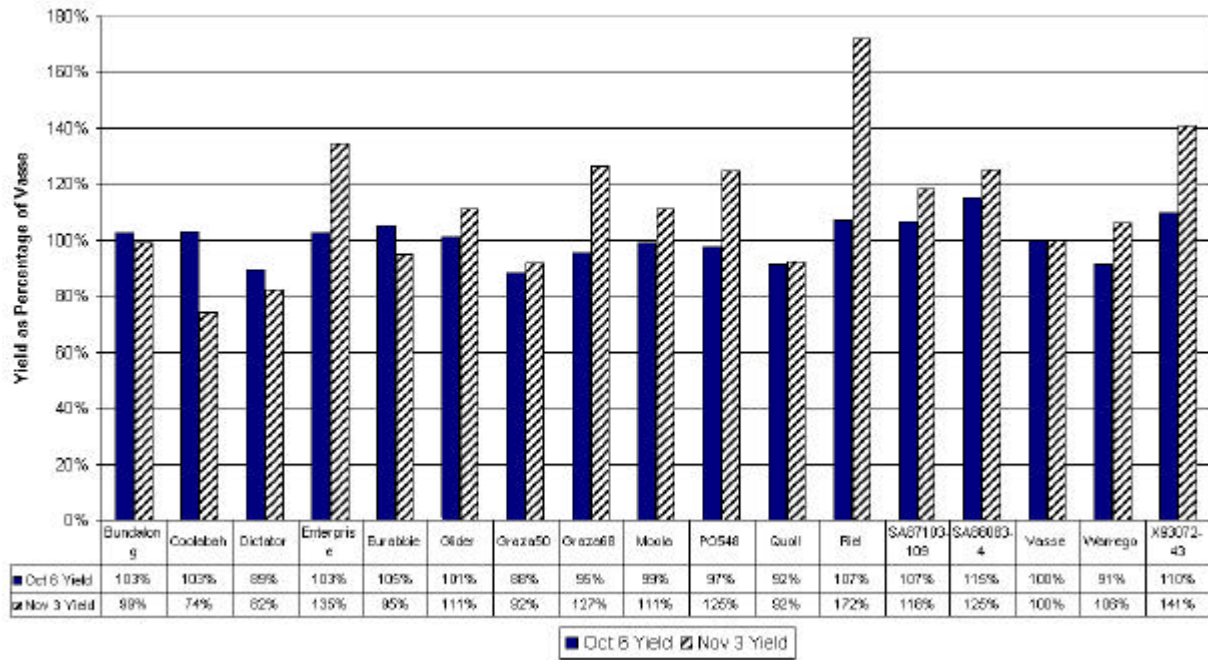
We have included a summary of the average stem widths of the cereals trial during 2000.

Opinions vary on how important this characteristic is as it can be manipulated with sowing rate and fertilizer treatments. Narrow stems may have a quicker dry down yet may be more prone to lodging in heavy yielding years.

AFIA Legume Trials 2000- Elmore Site Yield Relative to Moravr



AFIA Cereal Varietal Trial 2000 - Elmore site  
Yield relative to Vasse



Stem Width of Cereal Trial - Average of 10

