



## TECH SHEET:

# Forage Brassica's

## SWEDES, TURNIPS AND KALE

Forage brassica crops are grown widely both as a supplement and as an alternative to pastures in New Zealand's animal production systems. Brassicas are important for their potential to produce high quality and high yields of forage that can be fed 'in situ' from early summer through to late winter and for their role as break crops during pasture renewal.

- They produce high quality feed in periods of pasture feed deficit.
- They are a feed substitute to avoid pasture-related health problems such as facial eczema and ryegrass staggers.
- Brassica break crops provide advantages for pasture renovation by reducing weeds, pests and diseases, and creating better soil conditions and cleaner seed beds for establishing new pastures.

Many problems with brassica production arise from poor sowing techniques and inadequate seed bed preparation. Once a good crop has been established, the aim is to utilise it with minimum wastage. Various options for crop establishment have been investigated in field trials and demonstrations. Many cases of poor crop growth can be traced to inadequate preparation of the seed bed.

- Direct drilling can have advantages for establishment when conditions are ideal for germination and early growth, and for reducing pugging during winter grazing and therefore less loss of valuable standing feed. However, this practice must also be done well to produce a good crop.



The best results are achieved by conventional drilling. When crops are established with conventional cultivation, desired plant populations are more likely to be achieved and there is less pressure from weeds and insects.

- Weed control, pest and to a lesser extent disease have a huge bearing on whether high yields are produced especially where multiple years of cropping happen in the same paddocks.
- The AGPRO programme overleaf aims to give you a guide on how to best "keep the crop clean" from weed control, taking care of pest issues, and allows you to plan for one or more fungicides to minimise loss from certain diseases.

**AGPRO HORTICULTURE**  
**Freephone 0508 536 536**  
*for technical assistance*

**THE VALUE OF EXPERIENCE**



# AGPRO DIRECT

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### SUGGESTED AGPRO SPRAY PROGRAMME

The AGPRO programme below aims to give you a guide on how to best "keep the crop clean" from weed control, taking care of pest issues, and allows you to plan for one or more fungicides to minimise loss from certain diseases.

#### STRAIGHT AFTER PLANTING PRODUCT MUST BE APPLIED TOGETHER:

Product	Application timing	Purpose	Rate/ha	Comments
AGPRO Glyphosate 510	Pre crop emerg	Remove seedling weed	1-1.5L/ha	Check weed spectrum
AGPRO Triflalin	Pre crop emerg	Residual	2.5-2.8L/ha	Soil incorp or apply prior to rain
AGPRO Clomazone	Add to Glyphosate	Residual/knockdown	150-200ml/ha	Increased residual spectrum

#### SUGGESTED PROGRAMME POST CROP EMERGENCE FROM 3-5 LEAF STAGE OF CROP:

Product	Application timing	Purpose	Rate/ha	Comments
AGPRO Cloram	After 4 leaf stage	Knockdown of broadleaf weed	350-400ml/ha	Add AGPRO Crop Oil
AGPRO Cloralid	After 3-4 leaf stage	Mainly thistles, broadleaf weed	300-600ml/ha	Add AGPRO Crop Oil
AGPRO Dicamba	After 4 leaf stage	Hard to kill/extended weed range	200ml/ha	Small seedling weed
AGPRO Chloridazon	After 4 leaf stage	Specific weeds like wild turnip, spurry	2-4L/ha	Check with AGPRO
Oxyfluorfen	Post emergence	Used as a spike with other products	80-100ml/ha	Check with AGPRO

#### OTHER CHEMICAL OPTIONS:

##### GRASS WEEDS:

Product	Application timing	Purpose	Rate/ha	Comments
AGPRO Grasadim	Post emerg	Remove grass weed	0.5-1.5L/ha	Add AGPRO Crop Oil

##### DISEASE :

Product	Application timing	Purpose	Rate/ha	Comments
AGPRO Cyproconazole	Post emerg	Prevent/control alternaria and rust	200ml/ha	Can be mixed with insecticide

##### INSECT PESTS:

Product	Application timing	Purpose	Rate/ha	Comments
AGPRO Lambda	After crop emerg	Control of aphid, butterfly's, springtails	30-60ml/ha	Crop monitor Add AGPRO Sonic
AGPRO Diazinon	After crop emerg	Control of aphid, butterfly's, army caterpillar	300-800ml/ha	Crop monitor Add AGPRO Sonic

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