



## Matt Iremonger - Mount Benger, North Canterbury

Goliath rape has been a staple winter forage crop on Mount Benger for the last three years – setting up rising two-year-old steers for sale in spring.

At least 20ha is grown in Goliath, with this year's crop, sown on February 20, yielding 10,300kg drymatter/ha.

"We've found Goliath very good. It grows well into the winter and is always very palatable – stock seem to do well on it – and there is no residual left," says Matt, equity manager at Mount Benger, a 2800ha hill and riverflats property on the south bank of the Hurunui River near Culverden.

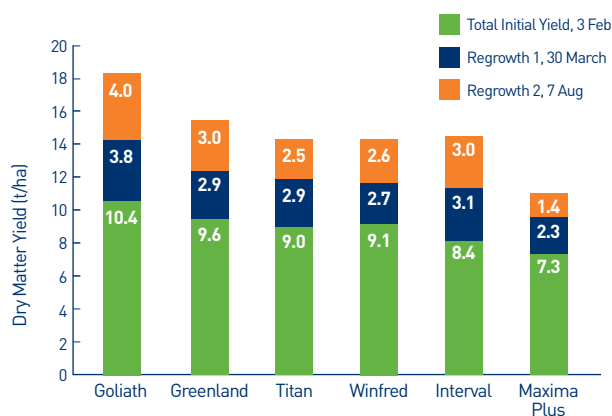
Goliath is grazed from early June until around the first week of September – "so it plugs that feed gap over winter. We found they were putting on weight even over winter.

"We have found brassicas such as Goliath build the rumen capacity in steers, so when they go on to grass they achieve significant weight gains." Some steers are sold straight off Goliath and the remainder by November.



## High yielding, multi graze rape

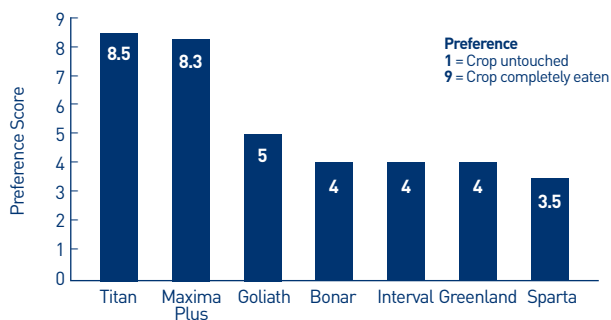
### DRY MATTER PRODUCTION (T/HA) OF FORAGE RAPES



Trial was conducted at the Kimihia Research Centre, Canterbury sown 11 November 2008 and harvested 3 February 2009, 30 March 2009, and 7 August 2009.

- A new generation rape x kale interspecies cross
- Bred and trialled by Plant & Food Research (NZ) for New Zealand grazing systems
- Highest yielding multi graze giant rape available, a potential yield of 10,500kg DM/ha
- Multi-purpose forage rape with excellent summer/autumn/early winter feed
- Superior regrowth potential with excellent winter keeping properties
- Maturity of 90 -110 days
- Good aphid tolerance (see page 15)

### STOCK GRAZING PREFERENCE OF DIFFERENT FORAGE RAPES (The higher the score the better)



Trial was conducted at the Kimihia Research Centre, Canterbury sown on the 25 November, 2007 and visual preference scores taken after the second harvest on 1 April 2008.

### STOCK GRAZING PREFERENCE

Good animal-grazing palatability is an important aspect of developing a new forage rape. The PGG Wrightson Seeds' brassica breeding programme develops new cultivars with increased palatability by conducting animal-grazing preference trials comparing a new breeding line's palatability against commercially available cultivars.



Stock grazing Goliath