



Peter and Andrew Currie - Southland

Brothers Peter and Andrew Currie know how to grow a bumper crop, after winning the Southland A & P winter feed competition in 2009 with a Gruner crop in excess of 19 tonnes dry matter/ha. "It was as high as our heads," says Peter.

Their Gore property, farmed with input from father Allan, carries 3400 ewes and 850 hoggets, as well as winter grazing 650 dairy cows. Gruner is used as a second-year crop after Aparima Gold swedes, with 32ha of each planted for winter grazing.

Gruner, used for its reliability and high yields, is fed to wintering cows for 10 weeks at 10kg DM/cow/day in addition to 4.5kg/cow/day of hay and straw. "Stock do very well on it. A dairy farmer we deal with was so impressed he has come back for another year and increased his cow numbers. It also copes with frosts and snow.

"We are rapt with it," says Peter.



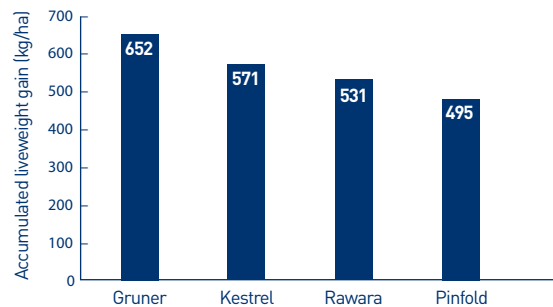
- Medium height kale with excellent leaf to stem ratio
- Excellent crop utilisation due to highly digestible stem
- Superior animal production due to enhanced forage quality
- Bred for low levels of SMC0 (S-methyl cysteine sulphoxide)
- Good regrowth if lightly grazed during late summer
- First and second crop option



- Very high yielding giant type kale with potential yield of 17,000kg DM/ha
- Highest leaf percentage of all giant kales available
- Excellent tolerance to frost and good leaf holding capability
- Good aphid tolerance
- A proven and reliable kale for NZ grazing systems
- First and second crop option



LIVEWEIGHT GAIN TRIAL (KG/HA) OF 1YR FRIESIAN BULLS GRAZING KALE



Adapted from Garrett, B.C.; Westwood, C.T.; Nichol, W.W. Nutritive Value of Optimising Animal Production from Forage Brassicas. Proceedings of the New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry Management 2000: 61-73.

For further kale trial results refer to page 12