



Michael Copland - Copland Dairy, Mid Canterbury

A move to wintering all their cows at home led Mid Canterbury dairy farmers the Copland family to grow 50 hectares of kale for the first time last winter.

Their fully irrigated farm, Copland Dairy, milks 800 cows on 214 effective hectares.

Michael Copland, who manages the family farm, says the recent purchase of two nearby run-off blocks prompted the move.

Of the 50ha, 20ha was grown in Regal kale, which met their requirement for a high quality feed, with cows particularly liking its leafiness. As the heifers, in particular, needed to put on weight, these were grazed on Regal kale, lifting three-quarters of a condition score to 5.5. Another 100 mixed age cows were later added to help clean up the crop. Grazed from May until the end of July, it had excellent feed utilisation as it didn't get stalky, he says.

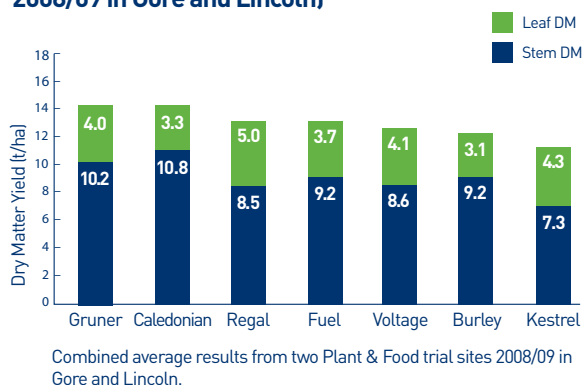
"I'd definitely use Regal kale again and recommend it as well."



- High yielding intermediate height kale with a potential yield of 18,000kg DM/ha
- Bred and trialled by Plant & Food Research (NZ) for New Zealand grazing systems
- High leaf to stem ratio
- Excellent crop utilisation due to selection for low stem fibre
- Very good winter hardiness and excellent pest and disease tolerance
- First and second crop option

Regal® is an intermediate height kale which has been bred for a high leaf percentage for better utilisation, in conjunction with a high total yield in order to maximise stock productivity. Extensively trialled prior to commercial release, Regal has been proven to perform well against other kales in the market. In addition to this, field trials have shown Regal to be a very winter hardy kale with proven yield potential and feed value.

DRY MATTER PRODUCTION (T/HA) OF KALE CULTIVARS (Average results from two Plant & Food trial sites 2008/09 in Gore and Lincoln)



For further trial results refer to page 13.

Winter hardy, high yielding kale



Break-feeding Regal