



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture,  
Water and the Environment



# FODDER FOR THE FUTURE



## Cereal trial update October 2021

Murray Dairy has partnered with the University of Melbourne through the Fodder for the Future project to conduct a number of cereal species demonstration trials at their Dookie campus research site.

This trial is designed to demonstrate the performance of three cereal species (Wheat, Barley and Oats) with two cultivars of each species (Illabo and Kittyhawk Wheat, Planet and Laperouse Barley, and Yallara and Eurabbie Oats), and management strategies that can optimise the yield and quality of these crops for use in dairy cow diets.

### What are we measuring?

- Two different sowing rates - a typical sowing rate that would be adopted in the region, and a higher sowing rate to see what impact that will have on final yield and quality.
- Stem diameter to determine if higher sowing rates lead to thinner stem diameter and if a thinner stem diameter leads to higher quality.

There have been no further nitrogen or fungicide applications since August.

The rainfall recently really maximised the crops growth rate and caused the Eurabbie oats to lodge.

The two barley cultivars were harvested on September 19 at growth stage 49, with the Yallara oats harvested on September 28. The remaining oat and wheat varieties were harvested on October 6, when they reached growth stage 49.

These samples are being prepared for analysis with further harvests planned at later growth stages.

### Cereal trial at University of Melbourne Dookie Campus



*Plots with harvest areas removed. October 2021*

