



Seed Genetics

SuperHuia White Clover

Origin and Breeding

The variety 'SuperHuia' was developed by Seed Genetics Australia Pty Ltd by three cycles of recurrent mass selection among selections from 'Grasslands Huia'. Plants were selected from diverse locations on the basis of moderate winter production, early flowering, effort was made to maintain or increase peduncle length, grazing persistence through stoloniferous activity, to maintain moderate leaf size similar to its parent and to increase fodder production earlier in spring and late autumn .

Selected plants were transferred to polycross blocks for reselection on fodder production, grazing tolerance, flowering characteristics, morphology, seed production and resistance to diseases. Progenies were reselected in a nursery in which undesirable plants were eliminated and survivors were allowed to cross pollinate to produce seed. Various phases of the program were conducted at Canberra, ACT, Moruya, NSW and Frances, SA.

Agronomic characters

'SuperHuia' is most readily distinguished from the parent 'Huia' by its increased frequency of early flowering plants, a higher number of inflorescences and increased seed and fodder production.

'SuperHuia' is slightly more winter active (rating 4) than 'Huia' (rating 3). Therefore 'SuperHuia' is able to provide more autumn winter spring grazing in regions which experience heavy frosts in winter. It is adapted to Cold temperate climates and sub tropical environments with adequate irrigation and summer rainfall. 'SuperHuia' is moderately early flowering, beginning flowering after 'Haifa', but before 'Huia' and 'Will' ladino.

Yields

In comprehensive trials over three years in South Australia and Victoria '**SuperHuia' averaged an increased fodder production of 11% over Huia**'. 'SuperHuia' is highly stoloniferous and has a high density of stems providing an ability to quickly recover from cutting and grazing.

'SuperHuia' has also been entered in a trial conducted by the Queensland Department of Primary Industries at Gatton, in South East Queensland. Plots were cut at 4 week intervals during the first winter. Under these conditions '**SuperHuia' averaged 1.55 t/ha** and other 'Huia'-type experimental varieties **averaged 1.44 t/ha** over three cuts in July and August 2004. This showed an 8% yield advantage to 'SuperHuia'. The winter dormancy of both varieties contributed to their producing less than winter-active 'SuperHaifa' under winter conditions.

Following its initial performance, 'SuperHuia' is undergoing extensive testing in trials in Europe, Uruguay, USA and Argentina. Seed production is in progress and it is expected that seed will be available in 2007.

SuperHuia is protected under Plant Breeders Rights.

For more information please visit our website

<http://www.seedgeneticsaustralia.com>