

## SWARD ESTABLISHMENT METHOD & INCREASING SWARD DIVERSITY



Our *Sward Establishment* plots are in their third year and showing the benefits of direct drilling and increasing sward diversity

In May 2019 PROSOILplus established swards by 3 methods to test how we can improve resilience to extreme weather conditions:

- Plough and cultivate after glyphosate
- Direct drill after glyphosate
- Direct drill without glyphosate
- Compared to existing sward



Two sowing mixtures were evaluated (kg/ha):

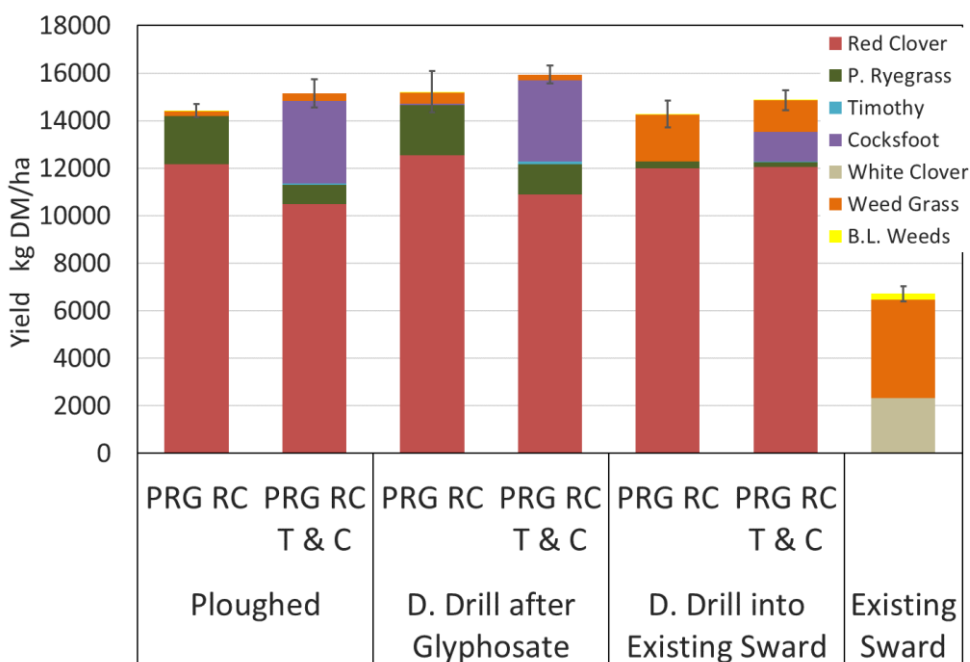
*P. Ryegrass* 26.0  
*Red Clover* 7.5

or

*P. Ryegrass* 11.0  
*Red Clover* 7.5  
*Timothy* 7.5  
*Cocksfoot* 7.5

Plots were cut 4 times annually, simulating a silage system

### Second Harvest Year Dry matter Yields 2021



### Outcomes

All re-sown plots produced twice as much forage compared to existing sward

Yields of direct drilled swards were similar to ploughed and cultivated swards

Without herbicide, sown grasses were outcompeted by existing grasses

The addition of cocksfoot improved resilience by increasing forage yield