

# TRIAL DATA SHEET

## Sweetgrass



<b>Objective:</b>	Comparing grass quality from Sweetgrass plus Se against straight nitrogen
<b>Crop:</b>	Grass
<b>Location:</b>	Ballantrae, Ayrshire
<b>Date:</b>	Grazing season 2018 up to end May
<b>Reason:</b>	NSA Scotsheep 2018
<b>Trial code:</b>	Scotsheep

A Broad Spectrum Soil Analysis highlighted soil deficiencies of sulphur, sodium and selenium, all essential for livestock performance. A split field trial is currently underway comparing a commodity fertiliser with Sweetgrass, a grassland fertiliser enriched with sodium.

### Results after half the field was treated with Sweetgrass and half straight nitrogen

Nutrient	Origin Sweetgrass 23.0.0 + 5% S + 5% Na + Se @ 187.5kg/ha	Straight N (27% N) @ 187.5kg/ha
<b>Potash</b>	Reduced by 25% from excessively high to optimum = reduced risk of staggers	Excessively high
<b>Sodium</b>	Increased from deficient to optimum = higher palatability and increased DM intakes	Deficient
<b>Selenium</b>	Increased by 160% from severely deficient into target range = reduced risk of ill thrift, infertility, low LWG, retained placenta, etc	Severely deficient
<b>Sulphur</b>	9% improvement in the N:S ratio which encourages formation of true protein	Higher N:S ratio could reduce true protein formation

### Nutrient ratios

#### First leaf sample early May

#### Second leaf sample late May

First leaf sample early May		Second leaf sample late May	
Sweetgrass	Straight nitrogen	Sweetgrass	Straight nitrogen
N:S ratio		N:S ratio	
<b>14:1</b>	<b>15:1</b>	<b>25:1</b>	<b>27:1</b>
K:Na ratio		K:Na ratio	
<b>11:1</b>	<b>24:1</b>	<b>8:1</b>	<b>17:1</b>
K:Mg ratio		K:Mg ratio	
<b>10:1</b>	<b>14:1</b>	<b>12:1</b>	<b>16:1</b>

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