**Establishing New Pastures - a summary**

There are two factors in production

a) Pasture Growth and

b) Utilisation - ie converting pasture into milk.

A good farmer with good feed has good production. Identifying pasture is not growing is important.

Reasons for poor production could be

a) or

b) has been insufficient

If these are not a problem then

**Developing new pasture could be an option**.

If poor species are present then convert to high quality and .

Seasonal production can also be influenced so that you get greater

or activity.

Or you may need to fix damage caused by

or damage.

The main objective is to farm production.

**Methods of Pasture Establishment.**

Cultivation is perhaps the best method because

a) we the original pasture.

b) make a good for seeds

Spraying and Direct Drilling is ideal for ryegrass.

are more difficult because of their small seed and one method to sow them is to keep them separate from other seeds.

Cover them later.

Under sowing is only best when the pasture is or after .

The from old crops will hold the soil together while the new crop grows. It is important to use seed as pests are then not a problem.

**Seed Depth**

Ryegrass need to be about cm deep and Clovers must be even to the surface. If too deep they will not grow.

**Seedbed**

To test a seedbed, use the of your which should not sink far.

**Selecting new Cultivars and Species.**

Perennial Ryegrass and large leaved White Clovers are still the preferred choice. Endophyte grasses are not needed in Southland and the West coast as they are free of the Argentine Stem Weevil.

Annual ryegrass should be kept as pure swards.

Hybrid ryegrasses give better production.

Plant Growth depends on

a) temperature

b)

New cultivars give different production.

Choose replacement plants that suit the , your management etc.

**New Pasture management**

High yielding cultivars need more careful management. During the first winter do not it too much and avoid . Apply the fertiliser it needs.