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## Safeguard successfully growing into second year at York

When Harry Kornoff purchased his York grazing property six years ago, the cover was predominantly geranium and silver grass. Working to rebuild the pasture, he is making some headway and what was the 'geranium paddock' has now become the 'ryegrass paddock'.

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Located 10km south of York, Harry says the 540 acre property is potentially good cattle country, and he was keen to incorporate ryegrass into his pasture system to increase production, however being in an ARGT risk area, he opted for the resistant Safeguard. As it has the potential to flower prolifically at the same time as the Wimmera ryegrass, with good winds, we hope it will cross-pollinate with local Wimmera and spreading the nematode resistance," he says.



"Seed set was good in 2001 and the Safeguard flowered at the same time as Wimmera," says Harry. The paddock reseeded and provided good grazing despite the dry 2002 season. Seventy breeders with calves at foot grazed the paddock for four weeks in

May, another three weeks in September and then eight weeks up to weaning at Christmas time.

Harry direct drilled another 70 acre paddock with 10kg Safeguard, Serradella and 3kg clover in 2002. "Conditions were excellent early on but there were no following rains. The paddock was not grazed but left to set seed and according to Harry the seed set this year in both paddocks was "impressive".

"The ryegrass and clovers now dominate the pasture and have crowded out the geranium," says Harry. Although he used herbicide to get the double gee under control on his property two years ago, he ordinarily does not use artificial fertilisers nor herbicides. There is still plenty of good grazing available which will last until the break of the season.

Having now lifted the productivity on 60% of his property, Harry contemplates what the pasture might have been in a 'normal' season. Feed on offer for the 70 breeders was spectacular and I'm not sure how we would have grazed it had we had rain later in the season," he adds.