

**Trial Name** 2023 Ellinbank Hybrid Ryegrass Trial  
**Site Location:** Cropmark Research Station  
**Nearest Town:** Ellinbank, Vic.  
**Site Operator:** Cropmark, Pat Bloye  
**Species:** Hybrid Ryegrass  
**Trial Start and End:** 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023 – 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024  
**Report Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026



### Seasonal Summary/Comments

In 2023 the site experienced an excellent early autumn break with sustained rainfall from March into winter. This allowed the newly sown trial to establish well. Overall conditions remained favourable for growth of the trial throughout 2023.

2024 was drier than 2023 however remained supportive of good growth for much of the year. The autumn break occurred in April following a couple of very dry months, and conditions were mild if not a little dry over winter. Overall spring rainfall was good however conditions did start to taper off at the end of spring with a relatively dry start to summer.

With a dry start to summer in 2024, very dry conditions across January and February placed the trial under considerable pressure – as highlighted by the lower summer growth in year 2. A combination of dry conditions, a freely draining soil type and likely insect damage resulted in significant plant loss and a poor recovery in autumn of 2025. The trial was measured for persistence in July 2025 and it ranged from 0% through to 48% survival. At this point it was decided to terminate the trial measurements.

### Monthly Rainfall (mm)

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>2023</b>	15.6	39.8	88.6	67.8	92.2	110.6	27.8	57.2	71.4	171.4	62.8	102.0	907.2
<b>2024</b>	94.6	5.0	14.8	152.4	29.6	41.2	133.4	28.6	95.0	74.4	78.8	41.6	759.4
<b>2025</b>	10.2	35.4	70.2	46.6	36.6	42.6	103.8	58.6	76.0	121.8	165.6	69.4	836.8

Rainfall data sourced from nearest BOM weather station – Nilma North (Warragul).

**Trial data on the next page.**

