



Economic Development,
Jobs, Transport
and Resources

Ruminal degradation of nutrients in perennial ryegrass

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Objective

To quantify the rate of ruminal degradation of nutrients in three contrasting perennial ryegrass cultivars harvested in early spring from two dairying regions of Victoria



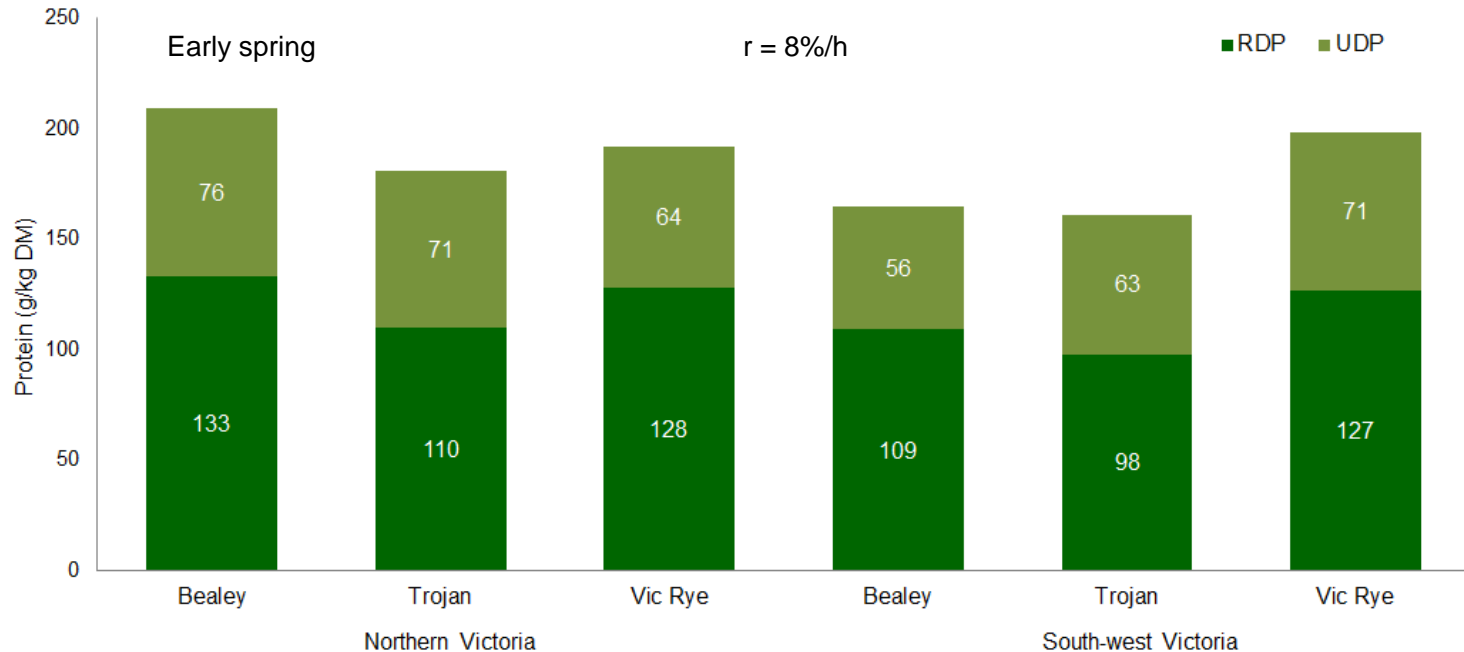
Methodology

- * *In situ* incubation of perennial ryegrass in nylon bags up to 72 h
- * Six non-lactating, rumen-fistulated, Holstein-Friesian cows
- * Ruminal degradation characteristics: dry matter, crude protein, neutral-detergent fibre

Rumen-degradable and -undegradable protein

* In northern Victoria, Bealey had the greatest RDP ($P < 0.001$)

* In south-west Victoria, Vic Rye had the greatest amount of RDP and Trojan had the lowest ($P < 0.001$)



Conclusions

- * There are minimal differences in ruminal degradability of crude protein
 - Between cultivar within region

Further research

- * Investigate ruminal degradation of nutrients from perennial ryegrass harvested in summer
 - Bealey NEA2, Trojan NEA2, Victorian SE
 - Northern and south-west Victoria, and Gippsland