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Eco-friendly, high-sugar forage grass promises to boost profits along with milk and meat yield

Keizer, OR – Nov. 2, 2006 – Grassland Oregon recently introduced SucraSEED™, a new line of high-sugar grass seed products designed to increase dairy milk yield and livestock growth while reducing environmental pollution. The new seed mixtures produce a progressive variety of forage grass that is already in wide use in Europe and New Zealand with profitable results. Now with Grassland Oregon's recent acquisition of exclusive domestic rights to the grass, SucraSEED™ is readily available and gaining momentum within the US farming and ranching markets.

Since its development 20 years ago by the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research (IGER), High Sugar Grass (HSG) has been shown to provide a number of benefits to dairy, beef and lamb producers. Multiple trial studies have demonstrated measurable increases in livestock performance, including milk yield in dairy cows (up to 6 percent more milk for the grazing season), increased live weight gains in lambs and beef cattle (up to 20 percent) and higher dry-matter intakes (up to 4.41 lbs/head per day).

This increase in productivity is caused by very high levels of water-soluble carbohydrates (WSC) present in the specially bred grass. The sugars, by providing extra energy to microbes in the animals' rumen, allow the animals to digest more of the protein that they take in. As a result, more grass protein is converted to milk and meat, and less is excreted as unused nitrogen into the land.

The decrease in waste nitrogen is a significant environmental benefit. HSG studies in Europe and New Zealand, for example, reported a reduction in nitrogen pollution of as much as 24 percent. SucraSEED™ offers an additional advantage in the context of future farming practices, as well: the grasses were developed through traditional breeding methods, and therefore are not genetically modified organisms (GMO). This is of considerable market value since, according to the International Food Information Council (IFIC), consumers are increasingly reluctant to buy meat and milk from animals grazed on GMO grasses.

Grassland Oregon's SucraSEED™ product line includes mixtures specially formulated for specific livestock: Beef Bank (for cattle) Cash Cow (for dairy) and Great Gains (for sheep and goats). For complete information about Grassland Oregon and SucraSEED™, please visit: www.sucraseed.com.



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Grassland Oregon is a progressive seed company based in Keizer, Oregon, in the heart of the seed industry. The company markets turf grasses and specializes in forage grass seed mixtures specifically blended for use in grazing livestock