

Serradella's suitability to the Southern Slopes PDS

2026 Regeneration Count Results

Regeneration counts of all paddocks were completed in the Autumn, and the results of the paddocks sown last year (June 2025) are presented below along with some interpretation. Note, that serradella can be sown two ways – as a bare seed (pod/shell removed) or as podded seed. NSW DPIRD staff assessed dry matter (DM) in October last year and these numbers give a relative indication of plant performance prior to seed set.



Serradella can be sown two ways – as a bare seed with pod/shell removed (Left) or as podded seed (Right)

Bare seed

Serradella sown as bare seed is expected to have a low regeneration count the next year (Year 2) due to the hard seeded nature of serradella. Most seed sown would germinate in the first year and, depending on the growing conditions and grazing pressure at flowering, the plants will set seed (pod) which will fall to the ground and begin the process of pod breakdown/softness over the summer and following year. Less than 20% of this seed will germinate the next year (Year 2).

As expected, the numbers below for both Avila and Margurita bare seeded plantings show low Year 2 regeneration counts, except for paddocks at Morven (nursery site paddock) and Tarcutta. Both paddocks had the highest dry matter in October last year, and it's assumed that this resulted in large numbers of seed produced, and some of the soft seed germinated this year.

Paddocks with low dry matter in October last year are unlikely to have set enough seed to allow them to persist, however this will be determined with future monitoring.

Avila (Yellow Serradella) Year 1 dry matter and Year 2 regeneration counts for paddocks planted as bare seed in June 2025.

Location	Year 2 regeneration counts (June2026) (plants/m2)	Year 1 dry matter (October 2025) (kg DM/ha)
Yerong Creek	0.4	11
Holbrook	5	220
Morven (paddock)	5	540
Wantagong	6	810
Morven (nursery)	122	959
Tarcutta	44	1850

Margurita (French/Pink Serradella) Year 1 dry matter and Year 2 regeneration counts for paddocks planted as bare seed in June 2025.

Location	Year 2 regeneration counts (June2026) (plants/m2)	Year 1 dry matter (October 2025) (kg DM/ha)
Morven (paddock)	0.2	260
Yerong Creek	0.8	13
Holbrook	2	17
Morven (nursery)	256	1460
Tarcutta	95	3100

Podded seed

Podded seed is expected to have low germination in the year of sowing (Year 1) as the pod needs time to decompose/breakdown, and is expected to have a high germination in Year 2.

Germination counts of the two paddocks planted as podded seed last year did not support this. Reasons for the low plant numbers this year may be due to the serradella being out competed by other species – wire weed /ryegrass at Morven and subclover/ryegrass at Holbrook.

Avila (Yellow Serradella) Year 1 dry matter and Year 2 regeneration counts for paddocks planted as podded seed in June 2025.

Location	Year 2 regeneration counts (June2026) (plants/m2)	Year 1 dry matter (October 2025) (kg DM/ha)
Morven (paddock)	7	28
Holbrook	16	2