

SEED RESEARCH OF OREGON

The germination of ideas

FEATURES

- Highly rhizomatous
- Rich dark green color
- Excellent disease and stress resistance
- Uses: Ideal for sports turf, home lawns, commercial landscapes, sod production, golf course roughs, parks and playgrounds

BENEFITS

- Rhizomes produce persistent self-repairing turf
- Excellent wear tolerance
- Reduced maintenance with fewer inputs
- Good sod strength
- Early spring green-up

SEEDING RATES

- Seeds/lb: 220,000
- Seeds/kg: 484,000
- New turf:
8–10 lbs/1,000 sq ft
or 40–50 gr/m²
- Overseeding/Interseeding:
6–8 lbs/1,000 sq ft
or 29–40 gr/m²

ESTABLISHMENT

- Germination: 7–10 days under ideal conditions
- First mowing: 21–30 days
- First limited use: 60–75 days



Trophy XRE Turf-Type Tall Fescue Mixture is a rich dark green blend of rhizomatous turf-type tall fescues. Rhizomes give plants the ability to spread densely across large areas, binding a lawn together and quickly filling in any damaged or open spots. The high incidence of rhizomes in Trophy XRE gives faster recovery from injury, superior wear resistance and better ability to recover from stress than other tall fescue blends.



In addition to rhizomes, Trophy XRE also has high levels of endophytes, which give it a natural resistance to many surface feeding insects. Since Trophy XRE is a blend, the combined genetics of several individual varieties result in excellent disease resistance and excellent winter and summer stress tolerance.

Adaptation

Trophy XRE is used across a wide region of the United States, Canada and across the world where tall fescues are adapted. It is adapted from the cool season turfgrass areas in the North, through the transition zone, into the upper Southern States and across the Western States. Trophy XRE is adaptable to a diverse range of soil types and will tolerate a pH range of 4.7 to 8.5.

Usage

Trophy XRE is recommended for home lawns, golf course roughs, parks, playgrounds, sports fields. It responds well to both high and low maintenance areas where top-quality tall fescue is desired. Trophy XRE's rhizomatous nature makes it a perfect choice for quality sod grass production. Trophy XRE can be combined with other improved varieties of turf-type tall fescues and may also be mixed with 5-10% Kentucky bluegrass or Texas X Kentucky hybrid bluegrass. A fall fertilization is best with a split application totaling 2 pounds of Nitrogen per 1,000 square feet (10-15 grams/sq. meter). Spring fertilization should be one pound of Nitrogen supplied partially by slow release fertilizers. Once established, Trophy XRE's irrigation requirements are much lower than those of Kentucky bluegrass or perennial ryegrass.

Turf-Type Tall Turf Fescue Management

If you read all the advertisements that have recently appeared, you would think the turf-type tall fescues are miracle grasses. Indeed, for many situations they may perform miracles, being cool season turfgrasses that are very heat, drought and wear tolerant. Tall fescues are the most drought resistant cool season turfgrass species, primarily due to a very well developed root system that can reach depths greater than six feet. This root system allows the plant access to larger ground water reserves. In fact, studies have shown that turf-type tall fescues have better-developed root systems than the older forage types. Often tall fescues are the only cool season turfgrass species that will remain green the entire growing season on a limited water budget. In addition, tall fescues often perform well in shaded areas, where they actually develop a finer texture. Tall fescues can provide an excellent turf for home lawns, athletic fields, golf course roughs and other high traffic areas. However, as with all grasses, they have specific maintenance requirements to obtain the best possible turf.

Adaptation

Tall fescues are best adapted to areas of the transitional zones, between the cool humid and warm humid regions of the United States. Tall fescue will also perform well in the arid regions of the Western United States provided water is available. Increasingly, the turf-types are being utilized in additional area where their drought resistance is an advantage, alone or in combination with Kentucky bluegrass. Tall fescues are adapted to a wide variety of soil conditions, from droughty soils to wet. They even can tolerate periods of submersion. Although they will grow on infertile soils, tall fescue does respond to fertilization. Tall fescues can also tolerate pH ranges from 4.7 to 8.5, but does best in soils with a pH ranging from 5.5 to 6.5.

Dwarf Types

Dwarf varieties of turf-type tall fescue have a slower rate of leaf growth. However, they will produce more tillers per unit area than do non-dwarf varieties, leading to a denser turf. The dwarf types may possess a finer leaf texture and a more prostrate growth habit than do non-dwarf varieties. The degree of dwarfness is related to the genetic inheritance of a variety. This factor will also influence the rate of establishment. The more dwarf the variety, the slower the establishment will be. The wear tolerance and recuperative potential may also be reduced in the more dwarfed varieties. Due to the higher density achieved with the dwarf varieties; there may be more incidence of disease such as brown patch, fusarium blight and pythium.

Mowing Heights

Turf-type tall fescues look the best when cut at 1.0 to 2.5 inches. Lower heights will result in thin turf. If persistent cutting occurs below the recommended height, there will be a gradual fading out of the tall fescue. This will leave areas open for the invasion of other weedy grasses and the tall fescue will develop into a coarse bladed turf with a weedy appearance. Initial trials suggest some of the newest varieties may tolerate a closer cut if other environmental factors are at optimum.

Seeding Rates

The seeding rate for turf-type tall fescues should range between 4 to 8 pounds per 1000 sq. ft. depending on environmental and site conditions at the time of planting. The lower end of the seeding range will result in slower establishment but will provide a dense, fine textured turf that is more vigorous due to an increase in tillering of individual plants. Higher seeding rates (12 lbs.) should be avoided with turf-type tall fescues because there will be less tillering due to excessive competition. The resulting plants will be weaker and thin out under adverse conditions. Since tall fescues are a bunch type grass, over-seeding may be required at rates of 2-3 pounds per 1000 sq. ft. annually. The idea is to keep the density of the stand high so the texture will remain fine; as sensitivity decreases, the leaf texture often becomes coarser. Using newer cultivars with rhizomes such as Trophy XRE helps reduce this requirement.