

# COOL SEASON PERENNIAL GRASSES GUIDE

## **Tall Fescue**

Highlights: Great for stockpiling, most stress tolerant

Seeding rate: New stand 25-30lbs/A,  
Interseeding 15lbs/A

Seedling vigor: High

Drought tolerance: Moderate

Flood tolerance: Moderate

Fertility requirements: Low to moderate

## **Orchardgrass**

Highlights: High palatability and spring yield

Seeding rate: New stand 20-25lbs/A,  
Interseeding 10-12lbs/A

Seedling vigor: Moderate

Drought tolerance: Low

Flood tolerance: Low

Fertility requirements: Moderate

## **Prairie Brome**

Highlights: Quality maintained throughout life cycle, reseeds itself, best for rotational grazing or dry hay

Seeding rate: 25 to 30lbs/A

Seedling vigor: Low to moderate

Drought tolerance: Low to moderate

Flood tolerance: Moderate

Fertility requirements: Moderate to high

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## **Festulolium**

Highlights: Most palatable, stockpiling ability

Seeding rate: New stand 25-30lbs/A  
Interseeding 15lbs/A

Seedling vigor: High

Drought tolerance: Moderate

Flood tolerance: Moderate

Fertility requirements: Low to moderate

## **Bluegrass**

Highlights: Palatability and grazing tolerance, density of plant

Seeding rate: New stand 20-25lbs/A,  
Interseeding 10-12lbs/A

Seedling vigor: Moderate

Drought tolerance: Low

Flood tolerance: Moderate to high

Fertility requirements: Moderate

## **Timothy:**

Highlights: Treat as an annual, easy to dry down for hay

Seeding rate: 10-15lbs/A

Seedling vigor: Low

Drought tolerance: Low

Flood tolerance: Low

Fertility requirements: Low

# Relative Maturity

Based on the North American Forage Maturity Index and Rating System

Species	1 (Earliest)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 (Latest)
Tall Fescue		Cajun II	Martin II	Tower II & Bar Optima						
Orchardgrass		Olathe	Endurance	Echelon						
Prairie Bromegrass				Persister	Matua					
Festulolium					Fojtan					
Bluegrass			Balin							
Timothy										Zenyatta & KY Early