FORAGE FIRST®

Bison 2 Tetraploid Perennial Ryegrass

- **Great for short-term pastures**
- **Excellent for overseeding existing pastures**
- **Increases dry matter yield when interseeded**
- **Very high leaf to stem ratio**
- **Tolerates intensive grazing**
- **Very high yield & extremely fast recovery**

Bison 2 is the newest development of DLF's successful forage intermediate ryegrasses with an increased dry matter yield and better leaf disease resistance. Persistence is the biggest advantage of Bison 2. Even into the third year, Bison 2 outyields a typical perennial ryegrass. For total accumulated forage in three years, Bison 2 is the clear winner.

Elite Variety symbols represent varieties in the Forage First® portfolio which demonstrate the highest industry standards in quality

FORAGE FIRST® FACTOR: Perennial ryegrass is best suited for milder climates, where drought and elevated temperatures aren't as common. Although improved varieties offer increased disease resistance, crown rust can easily overtake a population (even with varietals that offer some protection). Perennial ryegrass includes both diploid and tetraploid varieties. Tetraploid varieties are usually taller, with wider leaves and longer tillers – offering greater production consistently. Tetraploids are commonly less dense, which makes them a good option when mixed with legumes. They also tend to be more effective in grazing environments, however they typically don't persist as long as diploid options. While diploids often have deeper crowns, which make them more tolerant to stress and traffic, they also provide better sod coverage, which is valuable for quick establishment in multiple soil environments.

SEEDING RATES (LBS/ACRE)

MONOCULTURE	**30 - 40**
MIX COMPONENT	**6 - 10**

SEED INFORMATION

SEEDS/LB	**227,000**
DEPTH (IN)	**1/4 - 1/2**
EMERGENCE (DAYS)	**5 - 14**

CHARACTERISTICS

ESTABLISHMENT	**FAST**	PALATABILITY	**HIGH**
PERSISTENCE	**HIGH**	YIELD POTENTIAL	**HIGH**
DROUGHT TOLERANCE	**MED**	GRAZING TOLERANCE	**HIGH**
WINTER HARDINESS	**MED-HIGH**		

PLANTING TIMES

SPRING PLANTING	**FEB - MAY**	LIFE CYCLE	**PERENNIAL**
FALL PLANTING	**AUG - SEP**		

ADAPTATION

These grasses have a wide range of adaptability to soils, but thrive best on fertile soils with a pH between 5.5 to 6.5. They produce well in regions having mild climates. They do not withstand hot, dry weather or severe winters. They will stand fairly wet soils with reasonably good surface drainage. Perennial ryegrass is distributed throughout the entire United States.

ESTABLISHMENT

Seed should be planted in a well prepared seedbed. In general, the perennial ryegrass component of a mix should be 20% or less since it is very competitive, due to rapid germination and good seedling vigor.

ROTATIONAL GRAZING

BEGIN (IN)	**8 - 12**	AVERAGE DAYS REST	**15 - 30**
STOP (IN)	**2 - 4**		

HARVEST MANAGEMENT

Cut boot to mid-bloom.

Ryegrass is generally cut for hay when seed heads start to emerge. Pastures should be rotationally grazed when spring growth is 3 to 6 inches high. Allowing 7 to 10 inches of regrowth between grazings will benefit yield and persistence. On new seedings, harvest or grazing should be delayed until plants are 10 to 12 inches tall. Ryegrass responds well to good management, such as intensive rotational grazing and fertilizer applications. When used for turf, mowing height should be 1 to 2 inches. Mow frequently enough so no more than 1/3 of the total leaf area is removed. Perennial ryegrass requires moderate to high watering and moderate to high fertilizer requirements. Disease control measures may be needed depending on conditions during the growing season.

Brought to you by LA CROSSE SEED
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