



FORAGE FIRST®

Enhancer Italian Ryegrass

- **Diploid with high yield + improved forage quality**
- **High leaf to stem ratio: higher digestability**
- **Good drought & heat tolerance allowing persistence into late summer of second year**

Enhancer diploid Italian ryegrass was developed for both hay and silage production plus grazing. Enhancer has excellent forage quality. During seven years of research at the University of Kentucky, Enhancer demonstrated extremely good forage production.

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

FORAGE FIRST® FACTOR: Greater persistence mixed with better forage flexibility are reasons growers use Italian ryegrass. During the establishment year, Italian types remain vegetative, but will act as an annual after winter vernalization in year two and need to be managed as such. Improved varieties bring better winter hardiness and greater forage yield.

SEEDING RATES (LBS/ACRE)

SEED INFORMATION

MONOCULTURE	20 - 40	SEEDS/LB	227,000
MIX COMPONENT	5 - 10	DEPTH (IN)	1/4 - 1/2
		EMERGENCE (DAYS)	5 - 14

CHARACTERISTICS

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

PLANTING TIMES

SPRING PLANTING	MAR - MAY	LIFE CYCLE	ANNUAL
FALL PLANTING	AUG - SEP		

ADAPTATION

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

ESTABLISHMENT

Plant seed 1/4 to 1/2 inches deep in a well prepared seedbed. In general, the annual 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	25 - 30
STOP (IN)	3 - 6		

HARVEST MANAGEMENT

Cut boot to mid-bloom.

Allowing 7 to 10 inches of regrowth between grazings benefit yields 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.



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