

CREeping MEADOW FOXTAIL

Alopecurus arundinaceus



ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

Native to Eurasia. Introduced as a forage plant and distributed over northern U.S. Adapted in moist areas of the northern Great Plains, Pacific Northwest and Intermountain region. Medium-sized, cool-season, long-lived, vigorous sod former. Stalks 2 to 4' tall, leafy at base, broad, flat, smooth leaves. Moderately-deep and extensive root system with strong rhizomes.

GROWTH HABITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PREFERENCES

Thrives in moist, fertile, deep silty and clayey soils in cooler sub-humid zones. Not very vigorous on sandy and dense clay soils. Best per-

formance in 20 to 22" ppt. but useful and naturalized in overflow and sub-irrigated areas. Will survive complete inundation in spring and shallow water during the summer. Good frost tolerance and winter hardiness. Adapted to high mountain meadows.

CULTURE

Plant at 1/2 – 3/4" depth on fine to coarse soils, respectively. Cover broadcast seed similarly. Use 1.5 to 3.0 lbs PLS per acre and increase seeding rates if broadcast. Keep area moist during seedling establishment. Seed wetland areas when accessible or use late fall seedings. Needs weed control during establishment and in seedling stage for first year.

USE AND MANAGEMENT

Used for irrigated pasture and hay on poorly drained and acid soils from sea level to high mountain meadows. It is a very high forage-producing and palatable grass with high protein. Also, moderately tolerant of saline and alkaline soil conditions. Starts growth early in the spring and has good spring growth and recovers rapidly after cutting or grazing. Fertilize for high production.

Also adapted to some industrial liquid waste management systems in conjunction with pastures and hay production. High user of nitrogen.

IMPROVED VARIETIES

'Garrison' released from North Dakota and Wyoming.

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