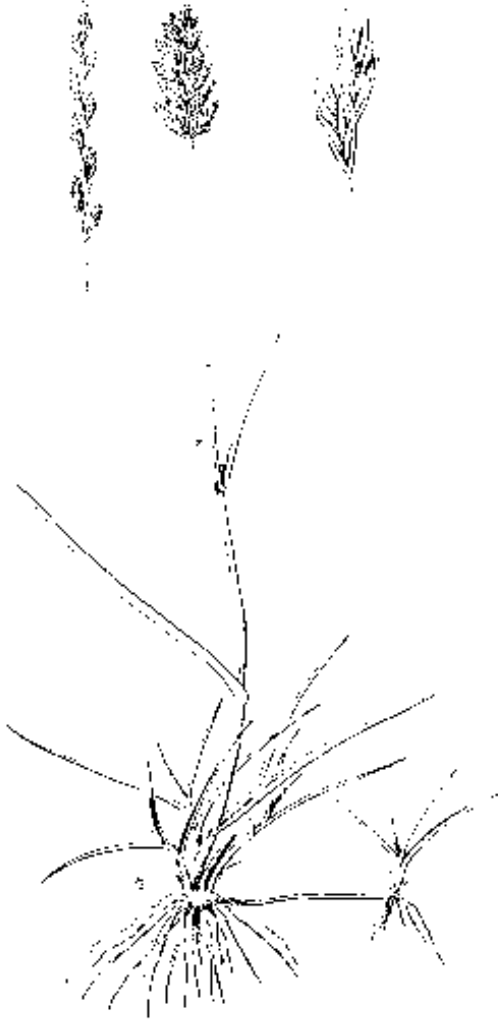


PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

Lolium perenne



ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

Important cool-season, short-lived, bunchgrass, native to Europe, naturalized in many areas of the U.S. Culms erect or decumbent 1 to 2' tall. Foliage glossy. Spike 3 to 6" long. Starts growth early to midspring, varying with latitude and altitude. Matures in mid to late summer and makes fair volume of fall regrowth in wet sites.

GROWTH HABITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PREFERENCES

Thrives best in cool moist regions with mild winters, and grows well on heavy soils. No

marked soil texture limitation when moisture is abundant, otherwise best on clay loam and loam soils. Tolerant of moderately acidic and nutritionally poor soil. Tolerant of semi-shaded environments. Moderately competitive and slightly aggressive with weaker turf species.

CULTURE

Seed no deeper than 1/2", preferably shallower on finer-textured and moist soils. Cover broadcasted seed very shallow. Seed may be pressed into soil with a cultipacker. Rates for drill seeding 4 to 8 lbs. PLS per acre. Commonly used rates of 8 to 10 lbs. per acre for broadcasting seeding with poorer seedbeds and harsh sites. Increase seeding rate to 7 – 9 lbs. per 1,000-sq.ft. for turf grass. Plant one month before most favorable conditions for rapid germination and seedling growth. Best times are usually early spring and early fall.

USE AND MANAGEMENT

Used widely for pastures, hay, lawns, golf greens and erosion control. Rapid seedling growth will retard weed invasion. Good palatability to livestock in spring and early summer. Good grazing resistance.

Used in seed mixtures, which include other turf grasses, with or without legumes. Provides quick cover for slower developing species on restoration and disturbed lands.

IMPROVED VARIETIES

Both pasture and turf varieties are available. One hundred and eight strains or cultivars are listed in 1994 Grass Varieties of the United States, USDA SCS Handbook 170. Consult with state or local plant materials specialists for varieties best adapted to specific sites and purposes.

PawneeButtesSeed Inc.

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