

Grass
Ryegrass, Perennial
Lolium perenne



PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 4 DATASET

COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

Cool-season grass that forms clumps rather than spreading via rhizomes. A short-lived perennial in New England except when intensely managed - prone to dying out under summer stress. Commonly grown for turf or in pastures. Heat-, drought-, and cold- tolerant. Tolerates some shade. Establishes rapidly. Good for forage and grazing. Good in mixes with clovers. Good nurse crop for yellow sweetclover.



Ryegrass, Perennial - Ziegler [2020]

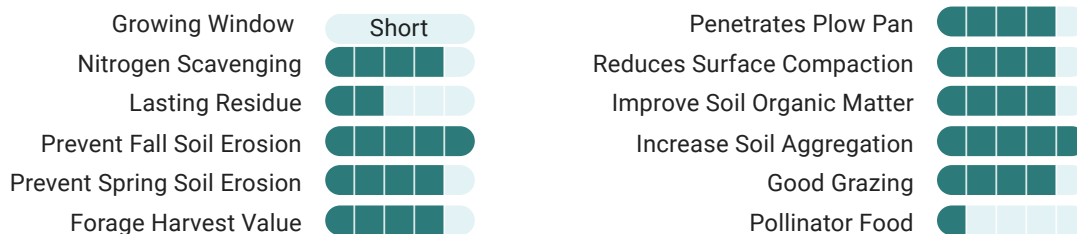


Ryegrass, Perennial - Ziegler [2020]

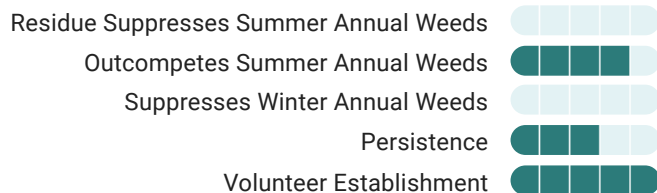


Ryegrass, Perennial - Salon [2020]

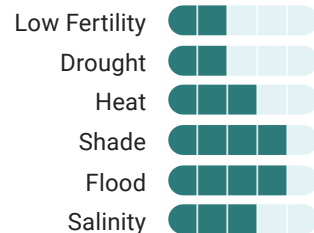
GOALS



WEEDS



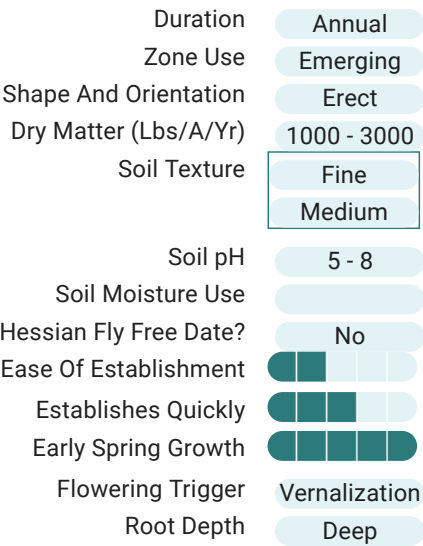
ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES



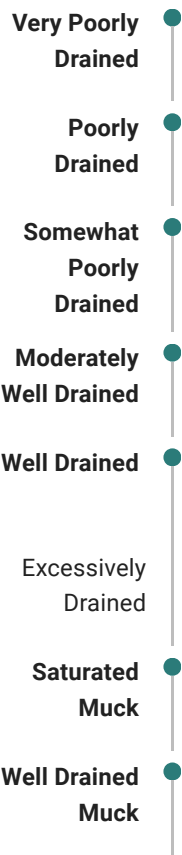


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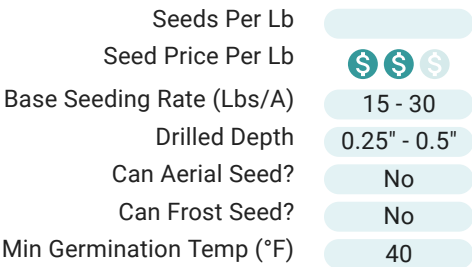
Growth Traits



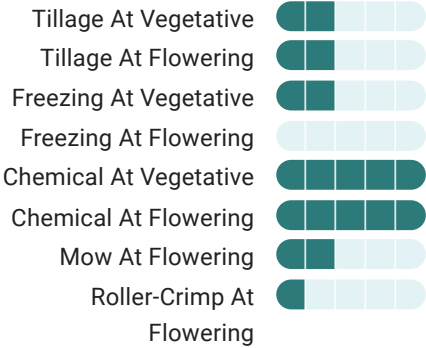
Soil Drainage



Planting



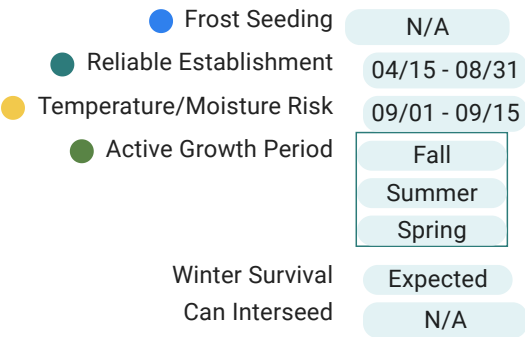
Termination





PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 4 DATASET

Planting and Growth Windows



Extended Comments

Weeds: If mowing, leave 3-4" to ensure regrowth; Must be killed before it joints or after heading

Forage and Grazing: Excellent forage

Goals: Excellent forage; not as winterhardy as other perennial forage grasses but establishes quickly so may still be useful as a cover crop.

Taxonomy: For low-growth, high traffic areas like alleys use the turf type. For high biomass needs, use the forage type.

Nematodes: Host for dagger, lesion, sting, and some species of root-knot nematode

References & Resources

Selecting Forage Crops for Your Farm, University of Maine Cooperative Extension