

# Valuable forage crops species in COUNTRY mixtures



*Lolium perenne* 8\*

## Perennial ryegrass

Perennial ryegrass is a very valuable forage grass. The grass is well suited for perennial field forage, meadows, pastures, undersowing and one of the few species most suitable for reseeding.

**Recognition:** red stem base, emerging leaf folded, small auricles, shiny leaf underside, spike without awns



*Lolium multiflorum italicum* 7\*

## Italian ryegrass

Italian ryegrass is an important grass in field forage. It can be used for one season or up to a few years, but should not be established in permanent grassland due to its different growth rhythm and low persistence. The non-winterhardy form is the Annual ryegrass.

**Recognition:** red stem base, emerging leaf rolled, big auricles, shiny leaf underside, spike with awns



*Lolium hybridum* 7–8\*

## Hybrid ryegrass

Hybrid ryegrass is a cross between Perennial and Italian ryegrass. It is suited for field forage with annual-to perennial usage, but is not favourable in permanent grassland.

**Recognition:** cross between Perennial and Italian ryegrass: characteristics pronounced in one or other direction



*Dactylis glomerata* 7\*

## Cocksfoot

Cocksfoot is usually early heading and well suited for hay and silage mixtures with an early cut. It is insensitive to drought and also withstands harsh winters.

**Recognition:** stem shoots extremely flat, auricles absent, long and white ligule, leaves not shiny



*Festulolium* 4–7\*

## Festulolium

Festulolium is a cross between a ryegrass and a fescue. Therefore, there are different types of Festulolium available and the performance and utilization depends on the individual type. In general, it is more used for field forage than for permanent mixtures.

**Recognition:** cross between ryegrass and fescue: characteristics pronounced in one or other direction



*Festuca arundinacea* 4\*

## Tall fescue

Tall fescue is very universal to use as it either thrives well in dry and also wet conditions. It stores a lot of crude fibre and is used in mixtures where structure in the diet for the cow is needed.

**Recognition:** emerging leaf rolled, rough to sharp leaf edges, auricles lightly haired



*Phleum pratense* 8\*

## Timothy

Timothy is a very winterhardy, persistent and high-quality forage grass, which is suitable for all perennial uses in grassland and field forage. It is particularly suitable for horse pastures.

**Recognition:** emerging leaf rolled, auricles absent, bulbous base of the stem, ligule with pointed teeth on either side



*Festuca pratensis* 8\*

## Meadow fescue

Meadow fescue copes very well with dry and humid conditions, and is well prepared for more extensive use. The species is particularly suitable for meadows, but cannot tolerate more than four cuts per year.

**Recognition:** red stem base, emerging leaf rolled, short auricles, short ligule, leaf constrictions in upper third



*Poa pratensis* 8\*

## Kentucky bluegrass

Kentucky bluegrass is a very persistent grass, which is perfect for intensive grazing, but also extensive cultivation. It is slow establishing, but once there, it creates very dense and strong swards and is even able to close gaps.

**Recognition:** emerging leaf folded, short ligule, boat-shaped tip, rhizomes, slightly shiny leaf underside, double groove, auricles absent

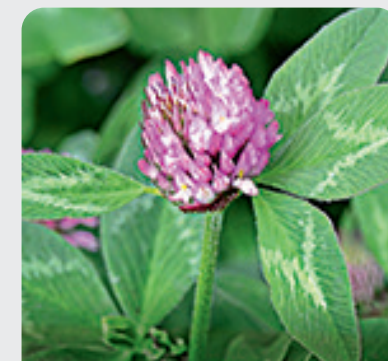


*Trifolium repens* 8\*

## White clover

White clover is persistent and forms many shoots from the stolon. It can be grazed or cut very frequent and the species is suitable for permanent grassland, field forage and undersowing.

**Recognition:** white flower, stolon, leaves not hairy



*Trifolium pratense* 7\*

## Red clover

Red clover is very high-yielding and suitable for intensive field forage and extensive grassland. The species is less tolerant to grazing. The long taproot allows it to survive dry periods well.

**Recognition:** red flower, velvet hairy leaves, upright growth, no stolon



*Medicago sativa* 8\*

## Alfalfa/Lucerne

Alfalfa has a deep rooting system and high demands on profundity and pH value of the soil. It delivers high yields and is suitable for three to four cuts in field forage production.

**Recognition:** upright, branched and slightly hairy stem; leaves tripartite, stalked, front toothed and hairy; spiral seed pods