



NORTHSTAR SEED LTD.

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Meadow Fescue Seed Production

Meadow fescue is cool season perennial bunch type grass, that yields well on heavy fertile soils, but can also be grown on lighter ground. Meadow Fescue is used in pasture and hay blends in North America because of its slender leaves that are highly palatable and digestible. The straw provides good feed value and the fall regrowth can be grazed making Meadow Fescue seed production an excellent fit on mixed farms



Contracts: Are for 3 seed crop years

Field Selection Meadow Fescue does well on a wide range of soil types, it has good tolerance to saline soils and can handle periods of standing water. Fields with high wild oat populations and quackgrass should be avoided. The field should also be free from residual herbicides which can hamper establishment.

Seeding: At a rate of 3.5-4 lbs/ac and at a depth of about half inch.. Seeding with an air seeder in rows 12" to 14" apart into a firm seed bed works really well. Can be sown under a cover crop but if so should be seeded early, without cover crop can be seeded through to the end of July depending on the year.

Crop Protection While grassy weed herbicides are limited there are a number of broadleaf chemicals available, our production advisors are able to assist with making herbicide selections and timing.

Harvest: Needs to be swathed which usually takes place mid July with combining 5-7 days later. Meadow Fescue is fairly easy to thresh.

Yields: Have ranged from 300-800 lbs/ac with an average yield being around the 400-500 lbs/ac

Post Harvest: Meadow Fescue seed should be put in an aeration bin to get moisture level below 12% which is safe for storage. Meadow fescue straw should be baled and removed as soon as possible. It does contain some nutritional value and will yield a substantial amount per acre. Regrowth should be mowed or grazed and fertilizer applied in late fall for the following year.

Contact Us

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