Forage Tech Sheet

King's Reed Canarygrass Blend

Reed canarygrass is a tall-growing, perennial grass which is widely adaptable. It is particularly well adapted to wet soils and soils with a pH below 6.0. However, newer varieties of reed canarygrass are equal in quality to other cool-season grasses when harvested at similar stages of maturity. Yield of reed canarygrass is closely related to the rate of N fertilization.

When using reed canarygrass for pasture, excessive forage growth must be avoided to maintain quality and palatability. Growth starts early in the spring with grazing generally available by the third or fourth week in April. Approximately 60 percent of the total yield of reed canarygrass is produced by July. Maintain the grass below 12 inches tall during the rapid spring growth of May and June. Short duration rotational grazing with a heavy grazing pressure will allow the best utilization and greatest animal gains per acre. In addition, rotational grazing is recommended to allow hay harvesting of the ungrazed pastures during the spring. Reed canarygrass should not be grazed closer than 3 to 4 inches above the ground. A recovery period following grazing will also improve productivity.

King's blend contains 2-3 low alkaloid varieties. We strive to select the best varieties possible. By blending varieties together, the strength of each variety will ideally be expressed throughout the growing season.



At A Glance

Key Features

- Widely adapted
- Good on wetter and more acidic soils
- Early spring growth
- Good for pasture, hay, haylage/baleage
- Goes from high to low quality faster than most other species, requires close management to get high quality
- High tolerance to frequent harvests
- Medium to late relative maturity
- Excellent persistence
- Optimal seeding times— August 15—September 1

Establishment

Use the small box of the drill Seeding Rate: 12-18 lbs/A Seeding Depth: 1/8" - 1/4"



1828 Freedom Rd. Suite 101 Lancaster, PA 17601 (717) 687-6224