Valley Diploid Perennial Ryegrass

*Lolium perenne*

- Kangaroo Valley germplasm – excellent persistence
- Extremely vigorous winter and early spring production
- Suited to marginal perennial ryegrass areas of 550+mm rainfall
- Widely adapted, semi-erect growth habit and is very deep rooted
- Frost tolerant and hardy cultivar, able to withstand periods of drought
- Summer dormant to enhance long-term persistence
- Establishes well to produce good early feed
- Excellent companion option with early seeded sub-clover or medics
- Ideal for sheep enterprises with fine wool or fat lambs
- Long term pasture option

**Seed agronomy table**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heading date</td>
<td>-17 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maturity</td>
<td>Early</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifespan</td>
<td>7 - 10 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min Rainfall (mm)</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeding Rate</td>
<td>Kg/Ha</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Dryland 8-14
High Rainfall / Irrigation 20-25

Heading date: 0 days = Nui perennial ryegrass.

**Blends using this Seed**

Grazier Blend

**Enterprises this seed is being used for**

Sheep
Beef Cattle
Diary Cattle
Horse
Hay & Silage

![Establishment Guarantee](image)

**Strengths**

- Easily established, highly productive and nutritious under grazing, moderate winter and summer growth, rapid regrowth.

**Limitations**

- Requires moderate to high soil fertility. Does not withstand heavy grazing pressure through drought. Susceptible to cockchafer and cricket damage.

**Plant Description**

**Plant:** Densely tufted, multi-tillered perennial with fibrous root system.

**Stems:** 30-90 cm.

**Leaves:** fine (~7 mm), dark green, hairless, under surface shiny, blade folded about mid-rib in young shoot, leaf-base usually dark red.

**Seedhead:** spike ~20 cm, spikelet usually <10 florets/spikelet; awnless lemma.

**Seeds:** fawn, flat, awnless, ~6mm long. Approx. ~520,000/kg (diploid cvv).

**Pasture type and use**

Grazing and fodder conservation. Most widely sown pasture grass in temperate regions.
Where it grows

Rainfall: > 550mm+.
Soils: Medium-heavy, moderate-high fertility (eg Olsen P >12, 0-10 cm). Tolerates slight salinity.
Temperature: Cold and frost tolerant, growth constrained by high temperature.

Establishment

Companion species:
Grasses: Perennial ryegrass.
Legumes: white clover, medics and sub clover.
Sowing/planting rates as single species: 10-25 kg/ha.
Sowing/planting rates in mixtures: 5-10 kg/ha.
Sowing time: Autumn and spring.
Fertiliser: P & possibly N at sowing.

Management

Grazing/cutting: Tolerates close, continuous grazing except if drought-stressed. Graze at 2.5-3 leaf stage to optimise yield under rotational grazing. Well suited to hay/silage.
Ability to spread: Will spread if allowed to seed.
Weed potential: Widely naturalised on fertile soils in temperate Australia.
Major pests: Red and black-headed cockchafer, black field cricket, white-fringed weevil, African black beetle, corbies, underground grass caterpillar.
Major diseases: Crown rust, stem rust, barley yellow dwarf virus, ryegrass mosaic virus.
Herbicide susceptibility: In considering selective herbicides consider the stage of growth of the ryegrass and what non-target companion species are present.

Animal production

Feeding value: High nutritive value.
Palatability: Palatable.
Production potential: High yields; highly responsive to fertiliser and irrigation.
Livestock disorders/toxicity: Cultivars with wild endophyte can cause perennial ryegrass toxicosis and ill-thrift. Bacterial infection of seedhead can occasionally occur and result in ergot poisoning.