

Reed Canarygrass

Phalaris arundinacea



Description

Coarse, sod-forming, perennial grass with short rhizomes and short, broad leaves. Grows 2 to 5 feet tall in seed head stage. Thrives in wet soils and tolerates drought. Older varieties have alkaloids that limit palatability and animal performance. Low-alkaloid varieties are available.

Uses

Pasture and hay.

Advantages

Well adapted to wet, saturated, flooded sites. High yielding and highly responsive to nitrogen applications.

Disadvantages

Slow to establish. Shorter stand life than tall fescue. Does not tolerate close, continuous grazing.

Seeding

Rate: 8-12 lb/a

Depth: ¼-½ in

Primary Date: Aug 15-Oct 1

Secondary Date: Feb 1-Apr 15

Harvest

First harvest: May 10-June 10

Annual yield: 1-5 tons dry matter/a



Reed canarygrass is a coarse, robust grass with round stems and short, broad leaves. Leaf blades are flat with rough edges. Reed canarygrass has a prominent ligule.

