

# GRASSES

## NEW TECHNOLOGY, WITH TRADITIONAL WISDOM

In recent years, we have seen dramatic improvements in grass varieties available that hold many great advantages in forage production. Quality Seeds has been an early adapter in the forage industry and now utilizes the newest grasses in order to achieve the best returns in the field.

Newer grass varieties bring superior fiber digestibility and palatability with an added level of persistence in today's harsh climate. These late maturing grasses will not push your cutting schedule, but most importantly, come back for consistent regrowth in all cuts.

We firmly believe that grasses as a companion to alfalfa are the most resilient and profitable forage stands for the climate and production across Canada.



This year we are introducing the MD (Maximum Digestibility) designation on our most digestible grasses. Grass varieties that are marked MD are significantly higher in fibre digestibility (NDFD) than other varieties of the same species. These grasses offer maximum fiber digestibility and increased intakes to help promote higher milk production and beef gains.

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT GRASSES

The days of two-cut, 80/20 alfalfa/timothy for profitable dairy production are long behind us, yet some farmers are still stuck in that comfort zone. With the new generation of soft-leaf tall fescues, tetraploid/diploid meadow fescues and late maturing orchardgrass, farmers can now gain exponentially more from their field and tap into previously unrealized yield and quality potential. These new grasses help boost the bottomline, no doubt about it.

## BREEDING PARTNERS

We are not plant breeders and we do not pretend to be. We have gone to great lengths building relationships worldwide with the best breeders in the business. Due to the cooler wetter climate in parts of Europe, grasses are a significant part of their forage ration. This allows them to focus on grasses, breeding the best genetics for use in today's forage production fields.

## FEEDING YOUR GRASSES FOR MAXIMUM PRODUCTION

As a general rule, 60 lbs/ac N should be applied to mixed stands with one-third to one-half legume. For stands with less than one-third legume, a rule of thumb is to apply 45 lbs N per tonne of expected dry matter yield. For many grass stands in the spring, an initial application of 90 lbs/ac N may be optimum.



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