



Martin II/Protek

FEATURES

- Early-medium tall fescue with Novel Endophyte
- High yielding forage that is more heat and drought tolerant than endophyte free tall fescues
- Improves pastures and hay as compared to KY-31 tall fescue
- Stockpiles well

Tall fescue is a relatively deep-rooted bunch grass found throughout much of the United States. It can tolerate a wide range of soils and fertility. It matches well with forage legumes, especially red and ladino clover. KY-31 tall fescue makes up 75% of all tall fescue grown. Under proper management it can be a productive and profitable grass; however, with new low endophyte varieties, other tall fescues should be considered.

The endophyte found in KY-31 is a fungus that grows between the plant cells and makes it tough, but it also reduces animal performance and causes animal health problems in extreme cases. KY-31 is not recommended for horses. All other low endophyte or friendly endophyte tall fescues are safe for horses or livestock.

FORAGE TALL FESCUE FEATURES

Plant type: Perennial Grass

Planting dates: March–May or Aug–Sept

Soil pH: 5.0–8.0

Soil adaption: Wide, dry-wet

Planting depth: 1/8"–1/4"

Approximate seeds/lb: 227,000

Seeding rate: 10–30 lbs/A ; 10–15 lbs/A mix

Days to germination: 10–12

Main usage: Pasture, hay, stockpiling

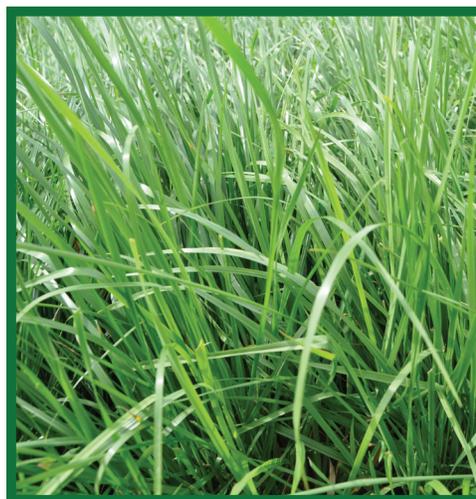
Height at maturity: 24"–40"

Length of stand: 10+ years

Reproduces by: Seed, short rhizomes

Pounds per bushel: 25

Precautions: KY-31 Endophyte Fungus, KY-31 not recommended for grazing animals



Martin 2 Protek™ is a new novel endophyte tall fescue, combining the proven genetics of Martin 2 forage tall fescue with the enhancement of the Protek™ endophyte.

BENEFITS

The value of replacing toxic KY31 pastures with novel endophyte tall fescue is well documented and includes, but is not limited to:

- Stocker calves – higher weight gain, smoother hair coat
- Cows – higher body scores, increased conception rate, shorter calving interval
- Bulls – higher semen quality

ANIMAL SAFETY

Oregon State University conducted an animal safety study with grazing ewes measuring the effect of the Protek™ endophyte on performance and health. Included in the study with Martin 2 Protek™ was the endophyte free Martin 2 and KY31 with the toxic wild type endophyte. See sidebar on second page.