



# Tetrax Meadow Fescue

Tetrax is a tetraploid variety that excels in digestibility and is less aggressive than traditional improved diploid varieties. It also has excellent winter hardiness and disease tolerance. These combined attributes make Tetrax ideal to seed with alfalfa seeding in areas in which many grasses compete too heavily with alfalfa (such as high summer rainfall areas that are north of I-80 or areas further south with high elevation). Plots or fields with Tetrax are less dense and the dry matter yield, on average, is about 6% lower than that of the best diploid varieties. But this is balanced out by a significantly higher digestibility.

Of all the different grass species, meadow fescue has one of the broadest ranges of application. From dry hay to pasture, from heavy soils to light, meadow fescue can provide good tonnage and excellent quality. Meadow fescue is a semibunch type, cool season, European grass that has great winter hardiness. It will yield slightly less than tall fescue and orchardgrass but has better fiber digestibility and palatability for grazing applications.

### Establishment

Meadow fescue will establish faster than tall fescue or orchardgrass but will still benefit from a nurse crop. Use a low rate of a small grain or combine with festulolium or ryegrass to help suppress weeds. Meadow fescue is a good no-till option but will not express itself until the following year.

### Management

Meadow fescue needs fertile soils for optimum performance. It works well in intensively managed grazing or hay production if not mowed lower than 3 inches.

Characteristics	TETRAX	Mean
Yield	4,9	4,6
General impression	2,8	3,3
Juvenile development	2,3	3,1
Competitive ability	3,7	4
Persistence	3	3,2
Resistance to winter damage	4,7	4,9
Resistance to leaf diseases	2,1	3,1
Digestible organic matter	3,7	5,3
Suitability for higher altitude	3,2	3,9
Index (weighted average of all marks)	3,4	4

Scoring: 1= very high, very good; 9 = very low, very bad

### At A Glance

#### Key Features

- Tetraploid meadow fescue
- Ideal companion for alfalfa
- High yielding
- Digestible
- Disease resistant
- High energy
- Winter hardy
- Adapted to cooler climates

#### Establishment

Use the large box of the drill

Seeding Rate: 35-45 lbs/A  
Seeding with alfalfa: 3-8 lb/A

Seeding Depth: 1/4" - 1/2"

Speed: Rapid



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