ATHOS is one of the latest maturing varieties available on the market, with a heading date that is usually at least one week later than Pennlate. Most of the late maturing orchard-grasses originate in Europe, and Athos is no exception. Although this variety is new to the United States, it has performed well in Europe. Athos ranked number one in yield in the official NIAB forage grazing trials in the UK. In addition to high yield, Athos is noted for having good fall growth, which translates to an even yield distribution over the entire growing season.

Late maturity orchardgrass is in high demand for use in mixtures with alfalfa. The maturity of Athos is similar to the flowering date of alfalfa. Therefore, by using Athos, the orchardgrass and alfalfa will be ready to harvest at the same time - resulting in much higher forage quality compared to using an earlier maturing orchardgrass variety.