

Forage Newsletter

Fall 2015



New Forage Harvester in KY

DLF's Boyd, KY Research Station received its brand new, state of the art, plot harvester this spring.



The machine will cut, weigh, sample and analyze through an onboard NIRS scanner, dry matter content and forage quality in real time. The collected data is fed into the onboard computer, which is uploaded into DLF's worldwide research network database at the end of the work day.



Forage Seed Harvest 2015

The drought on the West Coast and the enormous wild fires that came with it, have covered many news headlines. The Rocky Mountains have been a great divide of weather patterns not only this summer, but also during the preceding winter and spring. We have seen totally different patterns between Eastern and Western parts of the country. In the PNW, where most of the forage seeds are produced, a mild winter was followed by a relative dry and warm spring. Seed matured (too) fast, early heat spells caused poor pollination and the normal, but early, summer drought had a large effect on the late maturing species and varieties. Seed yields were negatively impacted, with more yield depression for the later maturing production fields. There is quite a large variation between fields of the same species, but overall we see the results per species as follows:

- Ryegrass (annual, Italian, intermediate, perennial) – 15-20% below average
- Forage tall fescue – 30% below average
- Orchard grass – 10-15% below average
- Crimson clover – average or better
- White clover – average
- Red clover – 15% below average

Most commodity prices have moved up from spring levels in response. Especially orchard grass prices have seen a strong increase. Not only due to the lower seed yield but also as a result of low inventories and the steady decline of seed production acres. Proprietary orchard grass varieties are also expected to be in short supply.

Coated orchard grass seed may be offered in the market, to lower the cost/lb. Beware of the coating percentage and coating type, it can vary per lot. Seeding rates need to be adjusted to get the desired stand density and ratio between species.

Field Day at KY Research Station

On September 17, 2015 DLF will host a Field Day at the Boyd, KY Research Station. If you would like to attend, please call Jerome Magnuson for details and to register. 800-445-2251 or direct: 541-369-1852





Grasshancer Product Guide

DLF has released its new line of Grasshancer products for winter and spring. For overseeding and short term grass rotations, they are based on the ryegrass type festulolium varieties, suffix FL and with suffix “FLC” when clover is added. Use the QR code to link to the Grasshancer Product Guide online.



Grasshancer – Frost Seeding Formula

Frost seeding is an excellent method to “Grasshance”. It is quick, leaves no tracks or compaction from your equipment in the field and the seed is there when the conditions for germination finally arrive. That may be well before you are able to drive onto the field to use a drill or slit seeder to plant the seed and thus creating a significant head start. For clovers this has been the common and successful way of overseeding. DLF has formulated special Grasshancer mixtures based on fast germinating and persistent festulolium varieties to allow the grass to be frost seeded. The Frost Seeding Formula consists of a seed coating with fungicide on the festulolium seed and when added, coated and inoculated red and white clover in the proper ratios to produce a balanced stand.

The coating will improve the ballistic properties of the grass seed, to allow for application with a fertilizer spreader. In addition, the coating will improve seed – soil contact, important when the seed is just dropped on top of the soil. The fungicide protects the seed and seedling during the prolonged period of germination and establishment.

The clover coating is added to avoid separation from the grass seed in the seeder and to deliver and protect the inoculation with rhizobia bacteria.

Frost Seeding Formula products can be used for regular seeding as well. Important is to use the proper seeding rate to account for the coating. The Grasshancer Product Guide has a recommended seeding rate table.

Frost seeding is best done towards the end of winter.

 **Grasshancer 200FL** ❄️
Frost Seeding Formula

 **Grasshancer 200FLC** ❄️
Frost Seeding Formula

 **Grasshancer 300FL** ❄️
Frost Seeding Formula

 **Grasshancer 300FLC** ❄️
Frost Seeding Formula

 **N-hancer** ❄️
Frost Seeding Formula

A balanced mixture of red and white clover, coated and inoculated.

View Grasshancer Product Guide

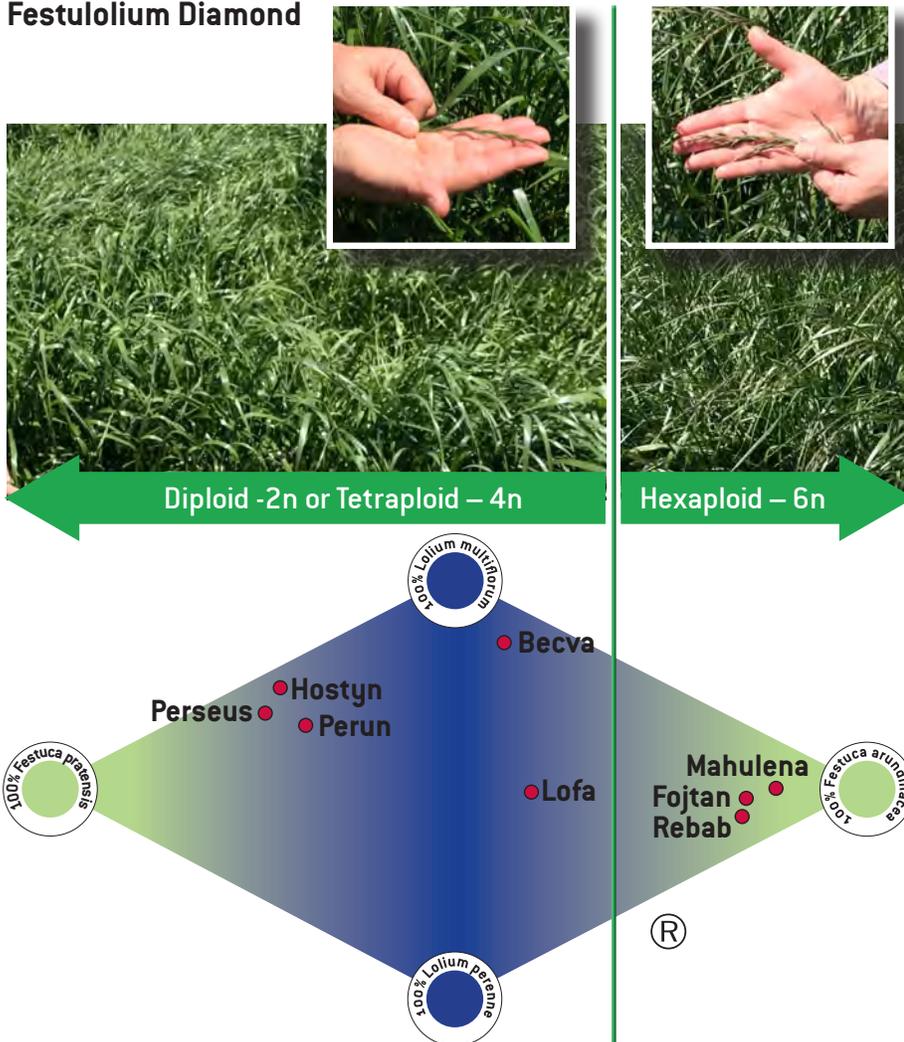
To view the new Grasshancer Product Guide, scan the QR code below or visit:
<http://www.dlffis.com/upload/grasshancerpg.pdf>



Festulolium Ploidy and Type

The morphological expression of festulolium is often described as either “Ryegrass type” or “Fescue type”. From the Festulolium Diamond® it is already clear that morphological expression does not necessary tell much about the genetic background of a variety. In general, varieties closer to the centerline will have ryegrass as the dominant genetic component and thus most likely look like ryegrass. Another way of identifying the tall fescue types is by ploidy. All tall fescue type festuloliums are hexaploid (6n) as is tall fescue, whereas the ryegrass types and the meadow fescue types are mostly tetraploid(4n) but can also be diploid (2n).

Festulolium Diamond



Learn More.

To learn more about DLF Forages, scan the QR code below or visit us at:
www.dlfis.com/Forage.aspx



Scan QR code to learn more about Festulolium Diamond®



Seeding Time for *Protek*[®] Novel Endophyte Tall Fescues

Martin2^{Protek} and Tower^{Protek} are available for fall seeding season. Our distributors have fresh seed on hand with high levels of viable *Protek*[®] endophyte. Contact the distributor near you:

Martin 2 ^{Protek}		
Cisco	IN, IL, OH, KY	800-888-2986
King's Agriseeds	PA, VA, NC, SC, GA, TN	717- 687-6224
MFA	MO Contact: Pat McCartney	573-876-5345
S&S Seed	MO, KS, AR	417-276-3995
Tower ^{Protek}		
Byron Seed	IN, IL, OH, MO, KY, TN	800-801-3596

Scan QR code to learn more about Martin2^{Protek}



Learn more about Tower^{Protek}

