

Persister

Prairie Brome Grass - *Bromus catharticus*



Prairie Brome grass (*Bromus catharticus* or wildenowil), also called 'Rescue grass' in the US has become an important and useful forage grass species during the last ten years. Prairie brome is an erect, open-crowned and active species. Its high palatability, tolerance to rotational grazing, and winter-active habit is a great advantage in areas of mild winter climates. In areas with severe winters Prairie Brome may act as a reseeding annual. It has found acceptance among producers in both types of climate.

Persister Prairie Brome provides a high quality pasture throughout the year. Crude protein levels are approximately 1-2% higher than perennial ryegrass. Dense tillers and a soft, palatable leaf make it perfect for rotational grazing. Rapid regrowth and quick dry down make it great for hay crops as well. Persister prefers not to be stockpiled in winter, but we do advise continuous rotational grazing for maximum productivity.

Persister is a problem solver for producers who are in climates with moderate dry seasons or supplemental irrigation. Its production out-yields other cool season grass species hands down. Persister has significantly improved cold tolerance for such a highly active species is quite unique. Traditional varieties of Prairie Brome can be successfully used as short-lived perennials in US hardiness zones 6-9. Persister can be taken one zone farther north (zone 5). This greatly increases its potential market area and puts it another foot ahead of the competition for persistence.

Seasonal growth patterns for Persister begin when winter soil temperatures reach near 40-45°F. During the heat and drought of summer, it will continue to produce if there's moisture to be had. As summer turns to fall, and fall to winter, it remains active until temperatures dive into the 20's.

Benefits of Persister

- High Forage Production
- Quick Establishment
- Good Grazing Tolerance
- Good Cold Tolerance
- Disease Resistant



PLOIDY
Hexaploid (6N)

GROWTH HABIT
Bunch

ESTAB. RATE
7-10 days

NITROGEN REQ.
Med-High

ANEROBIC SOIL TOL.
Fair

pH RANGE
5-8

MINIMUM RAINFALL
>20 inches

DRY MATTER YIELD
2-5 tons

REGROWTH
Fair

PRIMARY UTILIZATION
Grazing and hay

VEG REPRO TIL RATE
High

CP%
15-25

NDF
47-55

ADF
30-35

ENDOPHYTE
No

SEEDING RATE
25-30 lbs/ac



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Cool Season Forage Grass Variety Trial

Pennstate University (Planted Spring 2002)

	Yield (DM, tons/acre)				Persistency	
Prairie Brome Grass	2003	2004	2Yr Total	%Of Average	Stand 10/14/2004	% Of Average
Persister	3.82	3.49	7.34	106%	63.5	128%
Matua	4.12	3.43	7.58	110%	47.1	95%
Lakota	3.01	2.76	5.8	84%	38.8	78%

Cool Season Forage Grass Variety Trial

Pennstate University (Planted Spring 2002)

Quality First Cut, 2004	Protein	Adf	Ndf
Matua	20.1	35.0	52.9
Persister	17.9	35.9	52.7
Lakota	15.2	43.6	59.5



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