

An improved creeping red fescue that really spreads.

BREEDING AND DEVELOPMENT:

Garnet, tested in the NTEP as CRF1-03, is a new variety developed by the breeders at Pickseed. It is a synthetic variety, originated from tillers taken from elite selections of creeping red fescue that demonstrated better summer performance, disease resistance, high endophyte levels, superior rhizome formation and spreading potential compared to other fine fescue varieties.

DESCRIPTION:

Garnet is a tough, persistent, endophyte enhanced variety that is well adapted to deep shade, hot summers, lower fertility soils, higher salt conditions, and lower maintenance situations. Garnet has a pleasing dark green color, medium fine leaf texture, and will spread by producing long underground rhizomes and large numbers of basal tillers under favorable conditions. Garnet is very persistent and has improved heat and drought tolerance. It is a semi-dwarf type variety with a medium growth rate.

ADAPTATION:

Garnet is recommended wherever a persistent, high quality creeping red fescue with spreading ability is recommended. Garnet is well adapted to low fertility situations and tolerates acid soils and shady conditions very well. It will germinate and grow under higher salt conditions, even with water salt levels higher than 5,000 ppm total salts. It is recommended for lawns, parks, golf course roughs, and for sod production in the north. Garnet can be blended with other improved varieties of fine fescue such as Spartan II, Victory II, and Azay, and also mixes well with improved varieties of Kentucky bluegrass such as Crest, Mercury, Blue Velvet, Moon Shadow and Langara.

DISEASE RESISTANCE:

NTEP trials have demonstrated the broad overall disease resistance of Garnet. It has excellent resistance to red thread. It also has good resistance to leaf spot and net blotch. Like most fine fescues, Garnet can develop Pythium when the conditions are favorable for the disease. But, it generally develops the disease later than other varieties and recovers very quickly.

GARNET

CREeping RED FESCUE

ESTABLISHMENT:

Recommended seeding times are early to mid spring (good) or late summer to early fall (best). A seeding rate of 5 – 8 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. is recommended for new plantings. For overseeding existing turf a rate of 3 – 4 lbs / 1000 sq ft is best. Normally seedlings will emerge in 7 – 12 days after planting and the first mowing can be expected in 4 – 5 weeks.

TECHNICAL PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Year of Introduction	2007
Main Uses	Golf courses, lawns, shade, low maintenance
Seed Count	511,000 seeds / lb.
Normal Days to Germinate	7 - 12 days
Normal Days to First Mowing	35 days
NTEP Quality Ratings (2005 data)	Excellent – 5.7
Genetic Color	Dark Green – 6.5
Summer Stress Tolerance	Very Good
Leaf Texture	Fine – 6.3
Turf Density	Medium Dense – 6.3
Salt Tolerance (10,000 ppm)	Very Good
Sod Strength	Not Tested
pH Range	4.6 – 7.7
Winter hardiness	Excellent
Close Mowing	Excellent
Growth Rate	Medium
Mature Plant Height	Medium
Leaf Spot Resistance	Good – 6.7
Dollar Spot Resistance	Very Good – 8.0
Red Thread Resistance	Very Good – 6.5
Brown Patch Resistance	Very Good – 7.7