

Orca is a new variety of orchardgrass developed at the FFR Cooperative in Brookston, Indiana, and licensed exclusively to Pickseed. It was tested as OG 9201. Orca was first sold in 2005 and seed production is now available.



DESCRIPTION:

Orca is a versatile, lush-growing, high yielding new variety that is suitable for hay, pasture and other forage use. It is medium heading and usually slightly later than Potomac in heading and generally a few days later than Pennlate. When managed properly, Orca will persist for many years as a long lived perennial grass.

ADAPTATION:

In North America, Orca is similar in adaptation to other improved varieties of orchardgrass. It is particularly well adapted to the northeastern and mid-western states in the U.S. and into southern Canada. It is also well adapted to mountain valleys throughout the west. Orca grows best with 25 or more inches of natural rainfall but can be grown in dryer areas with irrigation. It can be used alone or mixed with other grasses or legumes commonly used for forage use.

USAGE:

Like most varieties, Orca is suitable for use as a long lived, high yielding hay crop, for green chop, silage, and as a pasture grass. With good fertility and management, Orca will yield more forage than most other varieties (see page 2).

ESTABLISHMENT:

For pastures and for hay, the normal seeding rate is 15 – 20 lbs. per acre. When mixed with a legume, add it at 2 – 6 lbs. per acre, depending on the species of legume planted with Orca. When mixed with perennial ryegrass, no more than 5 lbs. per acre of ryegrass is recommended as the ryegrass may dominate the stand.

2006 Ohio Forage Performance Trials

Variety	Marketer	TOTAL					Relative Yield 2003 - 2006	Harvest Maturity 5/22/06
		2006	2005	2004	2003	2003 – 2006		
ORCA*	Pickseed	6.79	5.97	7.12	3.03	23.00	111	3.2
Icon	SRO	6.66	6.04	7.1	2.97	23.00	110	4.6
Megabyte	Turf Seed	6.44	6.07	6.89	2.89	22.00	108	5.1
CIS-OG-4	Cebeco Int'l	6.29	5.84	6.93	3.05	22.00	107	4.0
Elise	Turf Seed	6.32	5.59	6.77	3.08	22.00	106	3.3
ECF 30	Radix Rsch Inc.	6.4	5.64	6.65	3.00	22.00	105	5.2
Pennlate	Public	6.62	5.57	6.64	2.76	22.00	105	3.6
Command*	SRO	5.85	5.86	6.8	2.95	21.00	104	3.9
Harvestar*	Radix Rsch Inc.	5.86	5.47	6.78	3.21	21.00	103	4.1
LG-31	DLF-Jenks	5.56	5.02	6.22	2.63	19.00	94	1.5
Athes	DLF-Jenks	5.12	4.98	6.05	3.01	19.00	93	1.5
Potomac	Public	4.84	4.7	5.36	2.81	18.00	86	5.0
Abertop	Pennington Seed	4.32	3.18	4.09	2.23	14.00	67	4.0
Mean		5.93	5.38	6.42	2.89	21.00	--	3.8
LSD (0.05)		0.55	0.41	0.52	NS	1	--	2.4
CV%		6.5	5.3	5.67	10.09	5	--	43.9

* Variety Tested