

Prana is a high yielding variety of tetraploid perennial ryegrass developed in Holland. Prana is being widely and successfully used in the most northern and coldest parts of Europe, and is now in the United States. Prana is a later heading variety with a cutting date similar to alfalfa.



DESCRIPTION:

Prana is a tetraploid perennial ryegrass. This means it has double (28) the chromosome number of the older diploid (14) varieties. Compared to other older diploid types, it is more productive and palatable, produces bigger leaves and stems, and a more robust plant. Its sugar and starch content is higher. It has excellent disease resistance and very good winter hardiness.

SEEDING:

Prana germinates quickly, has excellent seedling vigor and establishes much more rapidly than other grass species such as orchardgrass, bromegrass or tall fescue. With proper moisture and adequate temperatures, it can establish successfully on poor seedbeds. When used alone or for new hay or pasture stands, Prana should be seeded at a rate of about 20 – 25 lbs. / acre. Prana also mixes well with alfalfa. For hay production, seed about 16 – 20 lbs. alfalfa plus 5 – 8 lbs. of Prana per acre.

MANAGEMENT:

Prana is very compatible with alfalfa and other legumes. It is a bunch grass, and unlike other grasses, it does not tend to crowd out alfalfa even in intensely managed hay or pasture stands.

Prana requires proper nitrogen fertilization for maximum production of protein. As a general recommendation, 60 – 70 lbs. of N per acre is needed in early spring to get top yields. Further topdressing of 40 lbs. should occur in early August to produce top yields.

Prana establishes quickly and can be used to improve existing pastures even if the land cannot be tilled. In overseeding, use 15 – 20 lbs. of seed per acre. Fertilize if possible, and watch those barren slopes of turf green with protein enriched forage. With adequate moisture and temperatures, Prana will establish on even poor seedbeds.

Prana is well-suited to a rotational grazing program, and when properly fertilized, will carry more animals per acre than conventional pastures. In addition, Prana will tolerate 2-4D and other herbicides commonly used for broad leaf weed control when applied according to label specifications.

Prana is tolerant to moderately acid soils. However, adequate lime should be applied if the land will be utilized for other crops at a later time. A pH between 6 and 7 is best. With proper care, Prana tetraploid perennial ryegrass will persist for many years, thereby reducing the cost of re-establishment. Leave 3 – 4 inches of top growth before winter sets in. Be sure and consult your local agronomist for the exact fertilization and herbicide recommendations.

REMEMBER:

Prana tetraploid perennial ryegrass – cows love it in hay or pastures. It is highly palatable. It also makes excellent feed for sheep, goats, horses and all small grazing animals.