

SeaLink is a new variety of salinity tolerant slender creeping red fescue. It was entered into the 1998 fineleaf fescue NTEP trial under the experimental designation ASR 049.

DESCRIPTION:

SeaLink was developed as a shade tolerant attractive turfgrass adapted to both low fertility and to salt and salinity conditions. SeaLink has a very fine leaf texture, and forms a dense attractive turf that is well adapted to conditions of shade, low fertility low pH and salinity. It has excellent cold tolerance. It spreads from the production of slender rhizomes. SeaLink has an attractive medium dark green color that mixes and blends well with other turfgrasses.

USAGE:

SeaLink is well adapted throughout areas normally using cool season grasses. It is intended for use as a fine textured attractive perennial turf. It is usually blended with other species of fine leaf fescue such as Jasper II creeping red fescue, Windward chewings fescue, Spartan II hard fescue, and Azay or Azay Blue sheep fescue. SeaLink also mixes beautifully with Kentucky bluegrasses such as America and Langara, and with perennial ryegrasses such as Blazer 4 and Fiesta 3. SeaLink can be used in home lawns, parks, for low maintenance areas and in shady areas. It is particularly well adapted to areas subject to applications of roadside salt for winter ice and snow control.

SEEDING:

The recommended seeding rate is 4 – 6 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. Normally, germination will occur within 6 – 14 days based on soil temperatures. SeaLink can also be successfully dormant seeded in northern areas after the period of fall seed germination is over. A pre-plant application of a complete fertilizer helps initial establishment. The amount should be based on soil testing but generally a rate providing one pound actual NPK per 1000 sq. ft. is recommended.



MAINTENANCE:

Like all fine fescues, SeaLink does best under low to moderate fertility. SeaLink tolerates mowing to nearly one half inch, but also does well under minimal or low mowing situations. Once established, SeaLink can be maintained at low to medium fertility levels ranging from 0 – 3 lbs. actual N per 1000 sq. ft. per year. Once established, SeaLink has good drought tolerance and requires little supplemental irrigation.

TECHNICAL PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Year of Introduction	2004
Main Uses	Salinity and saline soils, shade, low maintenance
Seed Count	460,000 seeds / lb.
Normal Days to Germinate	5 – 7 days
Normal Days to First Mowing	24 days
NTEP Quality Ratings (2005 data)	Excellent – 6.1, 50% in top 25%
Genetic Color	Dark Green – 7.3
Summer Stress Tolerance	Very Good
Leaf Texture	Medium Fine – 7.3
Turf Density	Very Dense – 7.3
Pink Snow Mold Resistance	Excellent – 15% damage
Sod Strength	Not Tested
pH Range	4.9 – 7.9
Winter Injury	Good – 38% ND,WI
Close Mowing Tolerance	Very Good
Growth Rate	Medium
Mature Plant Height	Medium
Brown Blight Resistance	Good – 8.3
Gray Leaf Spot Resistance	Fair – 5.3
Brown Patch Resistance	Excellent – 7.4
Pythium Blight Resistance	Very Good – 7.7
Red Thread Resistance	Very Good – 8.0