SMITH SEED SERVICES

Technical Report

Spring Green

Festulolium

VARIETY SUMMARY

Originating from the breeding work of Mike Casler at the University of Wisconsin, Spring Green first came to the market around 1999. Selections of grazed plants in Wisconsin pastures were made specifically for improved cold tolerance and drought survivability. While there have been numerous other festuloliums developed since then, Spring Green remains one of the standard top-performing festuloliums.

HARDINESS/LONGEVITY

Spring Green has better-than-average winter hardiness, is a consistent high yielder, and usually has a 2-3 year life span. It is best adapted to regions where that experience period of cool temperatures and humidity during the year. Due to its deep and robust root system, Spring Green can tolerate a wide range of climatic stresses after establishment including heat, drought and cold. Spring Green has a wide geographic adaptation, stretching from Southern Canada to the Northern half of the transition zone.

STRENGTH OF THE PARENTS

Spring Green is a cross between fescue and tetraploid ryegrass, capitalizing on the strengths of each, including:

- Quick germination and fast establishment
- Highly palatable and easily digestible.
- Relative feed value similar to tetraploid ryegrass
- Better summer grazing over ryegrass, especially under higher temperatures
- Deeper rooted than ryegrass

USES

Spring Green can be grazed, hayed or green chopped. It mixes well with other grasses and legumes and can be fed to all livestock categories.

Spring Green is fast establishing, and early maturing capable of production 5-9 tons of DM/acre. Spring Green has been evaluated at numerous university sites throughout the years providing ample comparison data.

SUGGESTED SEEDING INFORMATION

Sow in early spring or fall for best establishment.

New plantings: 25-30 lbs/acre
Overseeding pastures or in mixes with legumes: 15-20 lbs/acre

Spring Green has been widely tested and is the standard check variety in many trials. These locations include:

University of Wisconsin
Cornell University
University of Kentucky
Michigan State University
Ohio State University
Penn State University
University of Tennessee
University of Illinois