



Perennial Ryegrass

Introduction:

Metolius (PPG PR-165) is new from Vista Seed Products having been developed at Rutgers and Peak Plant Genetics and licensed to VSP. Released for production in 2014, Metolius is an elite lower growing, dense dark green variety and has demonstrated excellent establishment and turf quality for both perennial turf in the north and for overseeding in the south. Metolius has been entered in the current (2010) National Turfgrass Evaluation Trials (NTEP) and is showing overall excellent results.

Usage:

Metolius is a persistent long-lived perennial turfgrass in the North. It's ideal for sports turf (being one of the most wear tolerant varieties in NTEP trials), home lawns and for golf course use. In the south it is recommended for use an elite turfgrass for use in overseeding dormant southern grasses. It can be used alone or in blends with other perennial ryegrasses such as in VSP Triple Rye blend.

Disease and Insect Resistance:

Metolius has excellent resistance to Gray Leaf Spot and Brown Patch and good to excellent resistance to most of the major diseases of perennial ryegrass such as Pythium, Red Thread, Leaf Spot and Dollar Spot. Thanks to its very high endophyte level, Metolius provides good resistance to surface and crown feeding insects, such as sod webworms, army worms, billbugs and others.

Seeding and Establishment:

Metolius is a fast starter having the fastest establishment of any variety in the 2011 NTEP. In the North a seeding rate of 6-8 lbs per 1000 sq ft is recommended. For southern overseeding a seeding rate of 10-20 pounds per 1000 sq ft for fairways and roughs is recommended. For overseeded southern golf course greens, 30-40 lbs. of Metolius per 1000 sq. ft gives best results. In normal circumstances with warm soils you can expect germination in from 4-6 days after planting. Results will be slower in cooler soils.

Management:

For perennial turf in the north and for southern overseeded turf, Metolius the best mowing height is 1/2" - 2". However, on overseeded golf greens and tees you can mow extremely low—down to 1/8". As a general guideline, use applications of balanced fertilizer supplying 1/2 to 3/4 lbs. actual N/ 1000 square feet per month of growing season. Metolius tolerates labeled applications of all commonly used turf herbicides.

Key Characteristics

- Developed at Rutgers and Peak Plant Genetics
- Lower growing
- Dark green color
- High density
- High wear tolerance - ideal for sports fields
- Superior disease resistance
- Excellent for overseeding dormant grasses

Resistances

- Gray Leaf Spot
- Brown Patch
- Pythium
- Red Thread
- Leaf Spot
- Dollar Spot
- Surface and crown feeding insects (webworms, army worms, billbugs, etc)

Seeding Rates

- **Northern Areas**
6-8 lbs/1,000 sq ft
- **Southern Areas**
10-20 lbs/1,000 sq ft

Establishment

- Germination: 4-6 days (warm soils)
- Overseeded Turf Mowing Height Recommendation: 1/2" - 2"
- Overseeded Golf Greens and Tees Mowing Height Recommendation: >1/8"



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