



Turf Type Tall Fescue

In cooperation with Rutgers and Peak Plant Genetics, VSP has released an exciting new tall fescue. Tested as PPG-TF257, now named Valsetz in honor of the Valsetz village in the Coast Range Mountains of Western Oregon.

Adaptation:

2018 and 2019 early Rutgers NTEP data showed good establishment and gray leaf spot resistance. It shows excellent turf quality particularly in the Mid-Atlantic States and California (it's ranked in the top 10 in a test of 134 newer varieties) with a medium dark green color, finer leaf texture and above average density.

Limited experimental certified quality seed available in summer 2021, Valsetz has been selected for a spreading growth habit (spreading both from smaller underground rhizome formation and aggressive tillering) as well as modern turf attributes such as tolerance to lower mowing and summer stress tolerance. It's endophyte enhanced for better insect and disease resistance.

Performance:

Valsetz was entered into the 2018 tall fescue NTEP, and first official NTEP data is now available. Early reports indicate it's one of the top varieties in the trials. 2018/2019 Rutgers and NTEP data showed good establishment and very good brown patch and gray leaf spot resistance. In local Oregon trials it's also exhibited outstanding turf quality and is a top variety in Western Oregon turf trials.

Valsetz mixes well (10-15% bluegrass recommended) with broader bladed varieties of Kentucky bluegrass. This makes an excellent sod or athletic field mix. It can also be mixed with turf perennial ryegrass, generally 20% perennial ryegrass is recommended. Like most improved tall fescues it is shade tolerant, drought tolerant and does well under lower management systems. Once established it has excellent wear tolerance and can be mowed down to 1.5 inches.



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