**New York's Top Twenty Ryegrasses**

Ryegrasses are attractive, and very easy and quick to establish.

No wonder they are becoming the grass of choice on athletic fields, golf course fairways, tees, roughs, and other areas.

Perennial ryegrasses have gained wide acceptance in the turfgrass industry. Ryegrasses are attractive, and very easy and quick to establish. No wonder they are becoming the grass of choice on athletic fields, golf course fairways, tees, roughs, and other areas. The proliferation of ryegrass cultivars on the market has made it difficult, if not impossible for most people to keep track of them all.

In the fall of 1987, we established the National Perennial Ryegrass Test in Ithaca and Plainview, Long Island. Sixty five entries were evaluated and compared during the 1988 and 1989 seasons for quality and disease resistance. Rankings were made for both locations, and the final top twenty determined based on weighted averages of the two locations. Many new cultivars are on the top twenty list, with a few of the older ones still performing well. Listed below are the Top Twenty Perennial Ryegrasses in New York State.

An indication of "not available" means that the cultivar is not yet on the commercial market.

**SR-4000**
- Ranked 1 in Ithaca, 5 in Plainview.
- Dark green, medium-fine texture, high density.
- Excellent wear tolerance and good brown patch resistance. Has insect resistance due to the presence of endophyte.

**Bar LP 454**
- Ranked 3 in Ithaca, 4 in Plainview.
- Dark green, medium-fine texture.
- Excellent Fusarium patch resistance.
- Not available.

**SR-4100**
- Ranked 4 in Ithaca, 3 in Plainview.
- Dark green, medium-fine texture.
- Excellent red thread resistance. Has insect resistance due to presence of endophyte.

**Ranger**
- Ranked 4 in Ithaca, 5 in Plainview.
- Medium dark color, medium fine texture, medium density.
- Good heat, drought, and wear tolerance and good resistance to brown patch and Fusarium patch.

**Saturn**
- Ranked 6 in Ithaca
  3 in Plainview.
- Dark green color, fine texture.
- Good Fusarium patch and red thread resistance. Has insect resistance due to presence of endophyte.

**PSU-222**
- Ranked 6 in Ithaca
  3 in Plainview.
- Medium dark color, medium fine texture, medium density.
- Good red thread resistance.
- Not available.

**Pennfine**
- Ranked 5 in Ithaca, 6 in Plainview.
- Medium dark color, medium fine texture.
- Good drought tolerance and excellent brown patch resistance.

**Riviera (Pick 647)**
- Ranked 6 in Ithaca, 4 in Plainview.
- Dark color, medium fine texture, high density.
- Medium Fusarium patch resistance.
PSU-333
- Ranked 6 in Ithaca, 8 in Plainview.
- Medium color, texture, and density.
- Good red thread resistance.
- Not available.

DEL-946
- Ranked 7 in Ithaca, 6 in Plainview.
- Medium color, medium-fine texture, medium density.
- Very good red thread resistance.
- Not available.

Derby
- Ranked 7 in Ithaca, 6 in Plainview.
- Medium dark color, fine texture, medium density.

PST-2ME
- Ranked 11 in Ithaca, 2 in Plainview.
- Dark color, medium-fine texture, medium-high density.
- Good red thread resistance
- Not available.

Ovation
- Ranked 9 in Ithaca, 6 in Plainview.
- Medium color, fine texture, good density.
- Excellent brown patch resistance.

Honorable Mention
- Acrobat, Omega II, Dasher II, Pick 715, SR-4031, Pavo, Blazer II, Allaire, Citation II, Gator, Manhattan II, and Goalie. Cultivars that have performed well in past tests, but not included in this test include All*Star, Blazer, Dasher, Elka, and Premier.

Runaway
- Ranked 8 in Ithaca, 7 in Plainview.
- Medium dark color, medium texture, medium density.
- Good Fusarium patch and red thread resistance.
- Not available.

Repell
- Ranked 11 in Ithaca, 1 in Plainview.
- Dark color, medium-fine texture, medium-high density.
- Good brown patch and red thread resistance.
- Has insect resistance due to presence of endophyte.

SR-4000 Ranked 1 in Ithaca.

Repell Ranked 1 in Plainview.