

ColorGrass® Festuca Festina

(*Festuca cinerea*/*Festuca glauca*)

Germination

Approximate seed count (multi-seed pellet): 1,813 S/oz. (64 S/g)

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free soilless media with a pH of 5.5-6.2 and an EC of 0.75 mmhos/cm (2:1 extraction).

Sowing

Plug Tray Size:

Can be produced in a 288 cell tray (European size: 264) or a similar size plug tray. Cover the seed with vermiculite .

Stage 1 – Germination takes approximately 4 to 6 days.

Germination temperature: 64 to 72°F (18 to 22°C)

Light: Light is optional.

Media moisture: Keep the media medium wet (level 4) during germination.

Relative humidity: Maintain 85 to 90% relative humidity until cotyledons emerge.

Plug Production

Stage 2

Temperature: 68 to 72°F (20 to 22°C)

Light: Can be up to 2,500 f.c. (26,900 Lux).

Media moisture: Reduce soil moisture slightly (level 3) to allow the roots to penetrate into the media.

Fertilizer: Apply fertilizer at rate 1 (less than 100 ppm N/less than 0.7 mS/cm EC) with a nitrate-form fertilizer with low phosphorous. Maintain a media pH of 5.8 to 6.2 and EC at 0.5 to 0.7 mS/cm (1:2 extraction).

Stage 3

Temperature: 68 to 72°F (20 to 22°C)

Light: Can be up to 2,500 f.c. (26,900 Lux)

Media Moisture: Moisture level can be reduced to medium to medium dry (level 3 to 2). Do not allow the seedlings to wilt.

Fertilizer: Increase the fertilizer rate to 2 (100 to 175 ppm N/ 0.7 to 1.2 mS/cm EC). Maintain a media pH of 5.8 to 6.2 and EC at 0.7 to 1.0 mS/cm (1:2 extraction).

Stage 4

Temperature: 65 to 67°F (18 to 19°C)

Light: Can be up to 5,000 f.c. (54,000 Lux)

Media moisture: Maintain wet/dry cycle. Do not allow the seedlings to wilt.

Fertilizer: Keep the fertilizer rate to 2 (100 to 175 ppm N/ 0.7 to 1.2 mS/cm EC). Maintain a media pH of 5.8 to 6.2 and EC at 0.7 to 1.0 mS/cm (1:2 extraction).

Growth Regulators

Not needed.

Growing On to Finish

Media

Use a well-drained, disease-free soilless media with a pH of 5.5 to 6.2 and an EC of 0.75 mmhos/cm.

Temperature

Nights: 64 to 66°F (18 to 19°C)

Days: 66 to 74°F (19 to 23°C)

Plants can be grown under temperatures as low as 50°F (10°C) but the crop time will increase significantly.

Light

As high as possible.

Irrigation

Grow plant on dry side. Do not keep media too wet as it may cause root rot or lean and lanky stems.

Fertilizer

Starting a week after transplant, apply fertilizer at rate 3 (175 to 225 ppm N/1.2 to 1.5 mS/cm) once a week

from nitrate-form fertilizer with low phosphorus.

Growth Regulators

Not needed.

Pinching

Not needed.

Container Size

306 premium pack: 1 plug per cell

2.5-in. (6-cm) pot: 1 plug per pot

4-in. (10-cm) pot: 1 plug per pot

6-in. (15-cm) pot: 3 plugs (space out) per pot

1-gallon (18-cm) pot: 3 plugs (space out) per pot

Crop Scheduling

Sow to transplant (288/264-cell plug tray): 6 to 7 weeks

Transplant to saleable size (from 288 cell):

Container Size: 306 premium pack

Plants per Pot/Basket: 1

Weeks from Transplant: 6 to 7

Total Weeks: 12 to 14

Container Size: 2.5-in. (6-cm) pot

Plants per Pot/Basket: 1

Weeks from Transplant: 5 to 6

Total Weeks: 11 to 13

Container Size: 4 to 4.5-in. (10 to 11-cm) pot

Plants per Pot/Basket: 1

Weeks from Transplant: 6 to 7

Total Weeks: 12 to 14

Container Size: 6 to 6.5-in. (15 to 16-cm) pot

Plants per Pot/Basket: 3

Weeks from Transplant: 7 to 8

Total Weeks: 13 to 15

Container Size: Gallon

Plants per Pot/Basket: 3

Weeks from Transplant: 7 to 8

Total Weeks: 13 to 15

Common Problems

Insects: No serious problems.

Diseases: Root rot when grown too wet.

Note: Growers should use the information presented here as a starting point. Crop times will vary depending on the climate, location, time of year, and greenhouse environmental conditions. Chemical and PGR recommendations are only guidelines. It is the responsibility of the applicator to read and follow all the current label directions for the specific chemical being used in accordance with all regulations.

