

RTF[®] Sod

Rhizomatous Tall Fescue



High Sod Strength



Self Repairing



Deep Rooting

Key features

- Develops extensive deep root system
- Produces a thick, durable stand with improved turf density
- Saves 30% water over comparable cool season turf grasses
- Moderate salt tolerance

Rhizomes shooting from an RTF Plant



Specifications

Seeding Rate:	8-10lbs./M*
Mowing (Recommended)	2.5-3"
Mowing (Down to)	0.750"
*M=1,000 square feet	

RTF[®] is the market leader among unique turf-type tall fescue varieties. It gets its name by creating a mesh or large network of roots and underground stems called rhizomes.

RTF Sod is the most advanced and unique tall fescue product available, providing the benefits of rhizomes not found in any other varieties. While other spreading varieties describe "potential" rhizome development or "aggressive tillering," the deep-rooted and heat-tolerant RTF Sod has been proven to mend damaged turf and maintain both uniformity and density.



Technical Information

Uses

RTF Sod is designed to reduce overall inputs while maintaining plant density, especially in areas that are hard to grow grass! The benefits of RTF Sod are often utilized in areas like golf course bunkers, rough areas, and low maintenance sports fields and parks. Home owners appreciate its durability as a lawn grass, standing up to pets and kids alike. RTF Sod also does well in naturalized no-mow areas where little to no maintenance is the norm. With RTF available in a sod form, end users can quickly turn their grass areas into a durable surface, thriving across various environments.

Maintenance

Thankfully, most of the establishment phase is completed at the sod farm, where RTF is meticulously prepared for the eventual end user. RTF creates such a strong network of underground roots and rhizomes that a lot of growers don't even need to use sod netting! Fewer inputs and labor means a healthier environment, benefiting the sod grower and ultimate end user enjoying this turf. This strong sod quickly roots when laid down for a lawn or other athletic purposes, leading to faster establishment in its final stop. RTF will perform best when it receives at least 2 pounds of Nitrogen per thousand square feet. In the first year or so it might require up to 3 pounds of Nitrogen, depending on the soil type and intended purpose of the turf. If more recovery from traffic is needed, then more Nitrogen may need to be applied. RTF is very drought tolerant and can handle deep and infrequent irrigation. In certain regions, RTF might not even require irrigation at all! As all Tall fescue products go, the lowest input requirements will be experienced when setting mowing heights as tall as possible, usually between 3-4 inches.

Trial Data

2018 RTF Trial - Rhizome Counts

While many Tall Fescues are capable of producing rhizomes, RTF varieties are bred for rhizome count as well as length, leading to significant tillering and spreading capabilities.

VARIETY	NEW RHIZOME COUNTS - AVERAGE OF 60 PLANTS				AVG. RHIZOME LENGTH (CM)	TOTAL RHIZOME LENGTH (CM)
	2 MONTHS	4 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	TOTAL AT 6 MONTHS		
Barmesh RTF	0.1	0.8	5.2	6.1	8.7	53.3
Labarinth RTF	0.1	1.0	1.8	2.3	9.2	26.9
Barbwire RTF	0.1	1.2	3.1	4.4	4.0	17.7
Palladio	0	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.2
Barcesar	0	0.1	0.3	0.4	0	0

2018 RTF Sod Trial - Sod Strength

RTF produces a high quality sod with the help of its spreading rhizomes, leading to a sod that makes harvesting simpler for growers, and a safer, stable product for end users. With specially formulated RTF products, you can expect both high turf quality as well as high tensile strength.

VARIETY	2019 MEAN TO*	SOD TENSILE STRENGTH (STS) IN LBS**
RTF	6.8	72
Thor	6.8	39
RTF Exp. 1	6.7	75
Barvado/BarRobusto	6.7	48
Barvado/BarRobusto + RTF	6.5	56
RTF Exp. 2	6.3	59
Black Beauty	6.0	39
Midnight (KBG)	5.8	83

*1-9 scale, 1 = no turf, 9 = perfect **Bold = top group** **spring 2018 plant, harvested fall 2019

Rhizomatous Index*

*percent of plants with rhizomes x number of rhizomes/plant x rhizome length

