



# 360 Forage

soil health + plant health + animal health

## Brutus TALL FESCUE *Festuca arundinacea*



### Purpose & Fit

Tolerant of continuous stocking, Brutus tall fescue can be grown for pasture, hay, and silage. Benefits to operations include long grazing seasons, persistence, low-input requirements, yields, seed production, and adaptation in forage environments. Transition zone operations see immense benefits with a high-quality forage available to spring-born calves. With the inclusion of legumes, supplements, and irrigation during summer months, calves can remain on pastures until fall weaning.

### Growth Pattern

Brutus tall fescue is a bunchgrass with leaves that typically have ribs on the upper surface and a smooth and shiny underside.

### Climate & Soil

Preferential to colder, humid climates, Brutus tall fescue is particularly suited to areas located in the transition zone. Tolerant of low soil fertility, Brutus tall fescue continues to produce growth even when temperatures reach down to 40°F. Flooding is not commonly an issue for Brutus tall fescue.

### Planting

Prevention of weed invasion is essential during the early stages of establishment. Plant seed to allow at least 60 days growth before temperatures drop below 50°F. Spring seedings should occur early enough to avoid weeds and early droughts.

### Grazing

Determine plants are of the right height by pulling on plants to make sure they won't be uprooted by grazing activity before stocking the pasture.

### Quick Data

Seeds/LB:  
227,000 - 230,000

Optimum Growth Range:  
40°F - 86°F

Seeding Depth:  
0.25" - 0.50" Depth  
Min Time To Emergence:  
14 days (or after the first rain)

Planting Rate (Monoculture):  
20 - 25 Lb/A  
Tons of Dry Matter an Acre:  
5 - 7

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