Variety Description

Variety	MELFEST
Botanical name	Festulolium
Ploidy	4
Seeding rate	25–30 kg/ha
Distance between rows	as cereals
Sowing period	April to August
Sowing depth	1–2 cm



Agronomic figures*:

Heading	8
Development after sowing	3
Tendency to winterkilling	3
Tendency to lodging	2
Susceptibility to rust	3
Sward density	7
DM-yield total	6
DM-yield first cut	4
DM-yield in aftermath	7

Clarification of figures*:
1: very early, very low / 5: medium / 9: very late, very high

*** Source:** Cultivator classification

Variety description

MELFEST is a new Festulolium variety bred in Belgium. As a cross between Festuca pratensis and Lolium perenne, it combines the positive characteristics of both species. The variety is characterized by exceptional endurance, high winter hardiness, and high yield potential even under difficult site and weather conditions. MELFEST is particularly impressive in subsequent growth cycles due to its high performance, thereby contributing to a consistent yield distribution throughout the entire growing season. In addition, the variety exhibits excellent plant health, very good lodging resistance, and outstanding quality characteristics. This makes MELFEST ideally suited for high-performance yet sustainable grassland management.

Most important characteristics

Very high persistence
High sward density
Good stability
Low tendecy to winterkilling
High yield potential in subsequent cuts

Usage

Festulolium is known as an intergeneric hybrid of Festuca and Lolium. The objective of the hybridisation was to combine the advantages of both species. The focus was on properties like persistence, winter-hardiness and yield.