

Variety Description

Variety

MELSPRINTER

Species	Italian ryegrass
Botanical name	Lolium multiflorum ssp. italicum
Ploidy	4
Seeding rate	40–45 kg/ha
Distance between rows	as cereals
Sowing period	April to August
Sowing depth	1–2 cm

Agronomic figures*:

Heading	4
Development after sowing	6
Tendency to winterkilling	4
Tendency to lodging	5
Susceptibility to rust	2
Susceptibility to bacterial wilt	3
Susceptibility to fusarium	4
Susceptibility to mildew	3
DM-yield total	6
DM-yield first cut	6
DM-yield in aftermath	7



Clarification of figures*:

1: very early, very low / 5: medium / 9: very late, very high

* **Source:** Bundessortenamt [Federal Plant Variety Office] 2024, state variety tests

Variety description

MELSPRINTER variety was newly approved in the year 2017. Its merits include excellent yield characteristics and uniformly high yields. In terms of the total DM-yield, MELSPRINTER is the first and currently the only variety with grade 7. Added to these is its extremely low susceptibility to diseases, particularly rust (grade 2!). Furthermore, MELSPRINTER exhibits high mass formation in the early development and low tendency to winterkilling.

Most important characteristics

High-yielding in first cut as well as in aftermath
Low susceptibility to diseases
Particularly good rust resistance
Low tendency to winterkilling
High mass formation after sowing

Usage

Italian ryegrass differs from perennial ryegrass mainly in terms of its higher dry matter yields, higher growth rate and lower persistence. Under ideal conditions it can be cropped up to six times a year. An extra cut for feed can be obtained for the autumn if sown in good time after harvesting the main crop.
Sowing rate for undersowing: 20–25 kg/ha in March/April

