

# Merit

Kentucky Bluegrass

*Poa pratensis*



**Plant Breeder:** The Scott's Company  
Experimental Designation – BA-6255-M

*Merit Kentucky Bluegrass is a variety possessing good disease tolerance and vigorous seedling vigor. This variety exhibits improved resistance to Leaf Spot, Stripe Smut, Fusarium Blight, Leaf and Stem Rust, and Dollar Spot. Merit's low growth habit and moderately fine textured leaves produce a high quality turf even when grown under low to moderate fertility levels. It is moderately tolerant of shade and is a strong component of turf mixtures for areas of combined sun and shade conditions. It is a strong variety with good rhizome and tiller development.*

## **Characteristics:**

- Outstanding wear tolerance
- Good turf density, low growing
- Moderate shade tolerance
- Vigorous rhizome growth to form a strong well netted turfgrass
- Moderately fine textured leaf and rich green color
- Excellent tolerance to Leaf Spot, Stripe Smut, Fusarium Blight, and Dollar Spot

## **Recommended Uses:**

Golf Courses (Fairways, Tees, and Roughs), Parks, Home Lawns, Athletic Fields, and Sod Farms

## **Climatic Zones:**

3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 (may not be adaptable to all areas within each climatic zone)

## **Establishment & Maintenance:**

*Merit*, like all Kentucky Bluegrasses, requires about 3 weeks for complete germination. Color may be observed before that time, however, in good growing weather where soil temperatures are above 65° F (18° C), expect 3 - 4 weeks after germination for a complete turf stand. First mowing may be expected within six weeks from the date of planting. *Merit* possesses good mowing qualities and can be maintained at heights ranging from 1 inch to 2 1/2 inches. (2.5 – 6.4 cm). *Merit* does well in sand or heavy clay soils, and like all bluegrasses, performs best in soils with a pH of 5.5 to 8.

## **Seeding Rates:**

- Tees, Parks, Home Lawns 2 - 3 lbs/1000 sq ft  
(1 – 1 1/2 lbs/100 sq meters)
- Fairways 100 lbs/acre  
(112 kgs/hectare)
- Renovated Fairways 25 - 30 lbs/acre  
(28 – 34 kgs/hectare)
- Sod Farms/Athletic Fields 80 - 120 lbs/acre  
(90 – 134 kgs/hectare)