



Lolium perenne



Plant Breeder:

Dr. William Meyer, Pure Seed Testing, Inc.
Experimental Designation - PST-2R3

Sonata is a fine textured, attractive turf-type perennial ryegrass with superior overall turf quality ratings. It has also exhibited excellent disease resistance, and excellent performance as an overseeding perennial ryegrass in the south. Sonata forms a very fine dense turf with a superior Brown Patch resistance and drought tolerance

Characteristics:

- Excellent Leaf Rust resistance
- Excellent fall performance
- Dark blue-green color
- Fine-textured leaves, dense turf
- Winter color retention
- Good performance under low maintenance conditions
- Superior Brown Patch and Red Thread resistance
- Drought tolerant north of the transition zone

Recommended Use:

Golf Courses, Parks, Home Lawns, Athletic Fields, and Overseeding Warm Season Turfgrasses

Climatic Zones:

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 (may not be adaptable to all areas within each climatic zone)

Establishment & Maintenance:

Lime soil to 6.0 pH and follow soil test recommendations for fertilization. Under ideal conditions, germination begins in 6 days. If overseeding, care must be taken to ensure adequate seed to soil contact. Subject to germination rate, first mowing may begin at 21 days after sowing.

Seeding Rates:

- Lawns, Parks, Permanent Turf 5 - 10 lbs /1000 sq ft
(2 – 5 kgs/100 sq meters)
- Fairways and Roughs (overseeding) 5 - 15 lbs/1000 sq ft
(2 – 7 kgs/100 sq meters)
- Greens (overseeding) 25 - 35 lbs/1000 sq ft
(11 – 15 kgs/100 sq meters)
- Tees (overseeding) 15 - 20 lbs/1000 sq ft
(6 1/2 - 9 kgs/100 sq meters)

Quality Ratings:

Table 1.

**MEAN TURFGRASS QUALITY RATINGS OF PERENNIAL RYEGRASS CULTIVARS
GROWN AT THIRTY LOCATIONS IN THE U.S. AND CANADA
1995 - 98 DATA FROM 1994 TEST
TURFGRASS QUALITY RATINGS 1-9; 9=IDEAL TURF**

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
PALMER III (LRF-94-MPRH)	6.3
SONATA	6.0
TOP HAT	6.0
PRELUDE III	6.0
BRIGHT STAR	6.0
BLAZER III	5.9
ADVANTAGE	5.8
LINN	3.5
LSD VALUE	0.1

Table 8.

**LEAF TEXTURE RATINGS OF PERENNIAL RYEGRASS CULTIVARS
1995 - 98 DATA FROM 1994 TEST
LEAF TEXTURE RATINGS 1-9, 9 = VERY FINE**

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
CALYPSO II	7.0
SONATA	6.9
TOP HAT	6.7
PRELUDE III	6.7
BRIGHTSTAR	6.7
ADVANTAGE	6.7
BLAZER III	6.6
LINN	4.6
LSD VALUE	0.2

Table 34.

**LEAF RUST RATINGS OF PERENNIAL RYEGRASS CULTIVARS
1995 - 98 DATA FROM 1994 TEST
LEAF RUST RATINGS 1-9, 9 = NO DISEASE**

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
DLP 1305	8.3
SONATA	8.0
BRIGHTSTAR	7.3
ADVANTAGE	7.0
BLAZER III	7.0
PRELUDE III	6.3
TOP HAT	6.0
SR 4400 (SRX 4400)	4.0
LSD VALUE	1.9

These examples represent 8 out of 96 varieties tested in the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program, Final Report 1995-98, NTEP No. 99-11 from 1994 test. For complete trial data go to www.ntep.org