

# ELKA II



## TURF MAINTENANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Growth Habit	Estab. Rate Days	LHC Tol. 1/2"	Mowing Freq.	Traffic Tol. (Brinkman)	Thatch Prod.	Comp. Mix	N Req.	Shade Tol.	Cold Tol.	Drought Tol.	ET Rate mm/day	Endophyte	Salinity Tol. mmhos
Bunch	Fast 7-10	Very good	2x week	Very good	None	Fair-good	Med-high	Fair-good	Fair-good	Fair	High 9-10	Yes >90%	11 Good

LHC= low height of cut ET=evaporation N=nitrogen\*per 1,000 sq. ft. rates may increase or decrease based on location, soil type, irrigation practices, desired turf quality, humidity & other abiotic an biotic factors.

### BREEDER

Cebeco International Seeds, Inc.

### DESCRIPTION

Elka II is a new concept in perennial ryegrass utilization. Elka II represents many years of back cross breeding to effectively retain the favorable attributes of Europe's most popular turf type perennial ryegrass, Elka (true dwarf, winter active growth, very fine leaf texture) while building attributes important to the turfgrass users of North America. Elka II exhibits darker green turf color, endophyte enhancement (>90%), higher seed production potential and better resistance to crown rust, stem rust and winter brown blight than Elka. Elka II has a very high seed count (290-300,000 seeds per pound).

### APPLICATION

Elka II will be target marketed for permanent polyspecies turfgrass blends and mixtures in mild temperate climates where heat and humidity do not limit perennial ryegrass utilization. Elka II is compatible with other improved perennial ryegrasses; Kentucky bluegrass; chewings, slender creeping and strong creeping red fescue; and colonial bentgrass. Because of Elka II's superior winter activity, fine leaf texture and rapid transitional qualities, it is highly recommended as a component in winter overseeding mixtures and blends on greens, tees and fairways where quick transition is desired.

### HIGH PERFORMANCE

Elka II tied for 4<sup>th</sup> ranking in turf quality in the 1990-1994 NTEP Perennial Ryegrass Final Report (No. 95-12) at 24 locations across North America and Canada. In the mild climate test locations (Pacific Northwest, New England, British Columbia) permanent turfgrass performance has been verified as superior.



### SEEDING

- **Dates:** Spring and fall when soil temperatures are 60°F or higher. Perennial ryegrass is the fastest establishing cool-season turfgrass species available to the lawn care professional and homeowner. Late-autumn and winter turf quality ratings of newer varieties like Elka II demonstrate that they can rapidly develop and maintain an attractive turf cover into late autumn and winter.
- **Rates:** 6.0-15.0 lbs./1,000 sq. ft. Seed count of Elka II is approximately 280,000 seeds per pound and dependent on year of harvest, location of production and seed production practices.
- **Depth:** Sow at 1/4 to 1/2 inch.

### CULTURAL PRACTICES:

- **Soil preparation:** Prepare firm seed bed free of clods, sticks and vegetative debris. Seed should be in contact with soil. Improved elite perennial ryegrass such as Elka II prefers well-drained loamy soils.
- **pH:** Should be slightly acidic 5.5 - 6.5 for favorable growth.
- **NPK requirement:** Of the cool-season grasses used for turf, improved perennial ryegrass requires moderately high to high levels of available soil nitrogen to maintain proper basal tillering and growth. When soil nitrogen levels are low or absent, perennial ryegrass turf will gradually thin and be replaced by low nitrogen adapted grass, broadleaf and unsightly weeds species. In northern regions 5-7 lbs. N/year; transitional climates 7-9 lbs. N/year; overseeding 2-4 lbs. N/growing month.
- **Water use:** Elka II and other improved perennial ryegrasses are recognized as high water users with ET rate of 9-10 mm per day. Lower mowing heights, managed soil nitrogen levels and infrequent but deep soil profile irrigation practices will help reduce perennial ryegrass water requirements. Elka II will enter summer induced dormancy and prematurely senescence or die if not properly hydrated (irrigated) during persistent low moisture soil conditions.
- **Mowing height:** Elka II recommended mowing height for permanent turf in blends and mixtures is 1.0-1.5 inch. On permanent turf or winter overseeded golf course fairways, recommended mowing height is .75 inch. On overseeded greens and lightly mowed tees Elka II can be mowed at 9/64-3/16 inch.

A product of:  **CEBECO INTERNATIONAL SEEDS**

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