

Longfellow II

CHEWING FESCUE

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	Med. 18-21	Very Good	2x Month	Fair-Good	High	Fair-Poor	Low-Med. 4-6 lb.*	Very Good	Very Good	Good	Medium 7-8	Yes >90%	6 Poor

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 and biotic factors.

BREEDER

Cebeco International Seeds, Inc./NJAES

DESCRIPTION

Longfellow II is the newest and best performing chewing fescue in North America. Longfellow II exhibits a distinct deep dark green, fine textured, turf. Recognized for its reduced rate of vertical growth (less mowing) and low maintenance attributes Longfellow II also exhibits low height of cut tolerance for tightly mowed fairways and winter overseeding of greens. It has good shade tolerance and is adapted to low fertility and moderately high soil pH conditions. Longfellow II requires soils with good to excellent internal drainage for optimal turf performance. Longfellow II is an endophyte enhanced chewing fescue with > 90% *Epichloe typhina* endophyte which provides resistance to a number of leaf and crown feeding insects and nematodes.

APPLICATION

Longfellow II is best utilized in polyspecies turfgrass mixtures for improved shade tolerance, LHC tolerance and reduced maintenance turfgrass in mild temperate climates. Longfellow II is compatible with Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, colonial bentgrass and other fine fescues. In addition, Longfellow II can be utilized in winter overseeding programs as a minor component in elite rapid transition turfgrass mixtures.

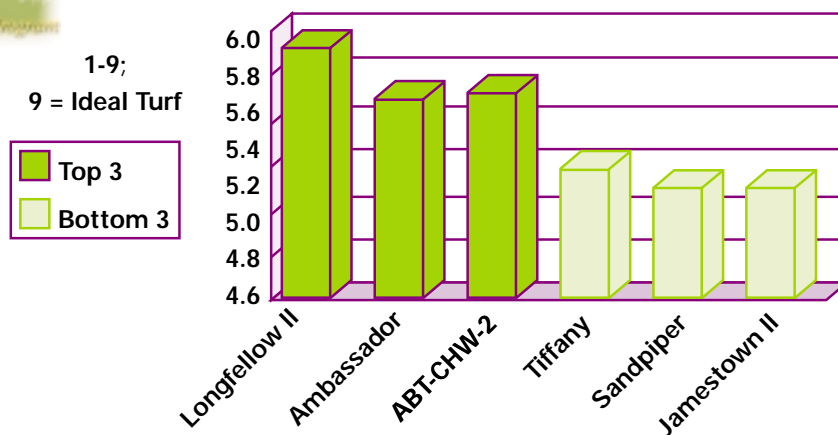
PERFORMANCE

Longfellow II was entered in the 1998 Fine Fescue NTEP Test along with 78 fine fescue and 23 chewing fescue varieties. Data from the most recent 2000 Progress Report conducted across 28 locations in the U.S. and Canada indicates that Longfellow II tied for 1st in turf quality among chewing fescue and fine fescue species combined. Longfellow II also exhibits good resistance to dollar spot incited by *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa*, red thread *Laetisaria fuciformi*, summer patch *Magnaporthe poae*, and moderate resistance to brown patch *Rhizoctonia solani*.



1998 National Fineleaf Fescue Test

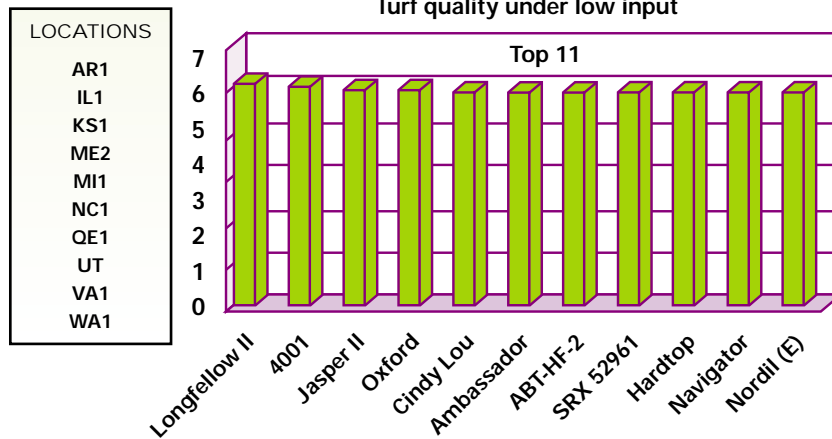
Progress Report 2000 NTEP No. 01-4



1998 National Fineleaf Fescue Test

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Turf quality under low input



SEEDING

Dates: Spring and fall when soil temperatures are above 60°F or higher. Fine fescue is generally slow to tiller once germinated, so higher soil temperatures and increasing photoperiod in the spring or warm soils with decreasing photoperiod in the fall provide an optimal environment for seedling establishment.

Rates: 4.0-5.0 lbs./1,000 sq. ft. or 19.5 -24.5 g/meter sq. Seed count of Longfellow II is generally 450,000-500,000 seeds per pound and dependent on the year of harvest, location of production and seed production practices.

Depth: Sow at 1/4 to 1/2 inch or 6.25 to 12.5mm.

CULTURAL PRACTICES

Soil preparation: Prepare firm seedbed free of clods, sticks and vegetative debris. Seed should be in contact with soil. Fine fescues are intolerant of poorly drained soils.

pH: Should be slightly acidic, 6.5 or less, for favorable growth.

NPK requirement: Of the cool-season grasses used for turf, fine fescues are more tolerant of infertile, dry soils and often predominate where there is competition from trees and shrubs for nutrients and moisture. For these reasons, fine fescues are an excellent choice for low maintenance turfs. Fine fescues may not perform well during hot, humid summers, particularly if they are over fertilized, grown in poorly drained soils or mowed too closely.

Water Use: Chewing fescue is recognized as a dehydration resistant and tolerant species (Beard, 1986) with improved drought tolerance. An ET rate of 7-8 mm per day is the best among the cool-season turfgrass species.

Thatch management: The dense bunch type growth habit of Longfellow II chewing fescue provides opportunities for development of thatch. Verticutting, tight mowing and dethatching are recommended for dormant sod or for grass breaking dormancy in the spring. During any dethatching never remove more than 1/2 inch of thatch. If a thatch layer of greater than one inch exists, removal must be done over a period of years.

Mowing height: Longfellow II can be mowed as tight as 1/2-9/16 inch or 12.5-13 mm on low maintenance golf course fairways to standard mowing heights for fine fescues of 1.0-2.5 inch or 25-62.5 mm. In winter overseeding it can be mowed as low as .125 inch alone or in mixtures containing improved perennial ryegrass, *Poa trivialis* or creeping, colonial or velvet bentgrass.

Weed control: (From *NCSU Pest Control Recommendations for Turfgrass Managers 2002* and *Pacific Northwest Weed Management Handbook 2001*.) For general broadleaf control in established turf: 2,4-D+dicamba, 2,4-D+MCPP, 2,4-D+MCPP+dicamba, 2,4-D+2,4-DP and others. Pre-emergent herbicides to control annual grassy weeds in established turf: benefin (Balan), bensulide (Pre-Far), dithiopyr+trifluralin, pendimethalin (Pre-M), prodiamine (Barricade). Post-emergence herbicides for annual grassy weeds dithiopyr and fenoxaprop. Sethoxydim (Poast) and fluzifop (Fusilade) are used as broad-spectrum herbicides to control broadleaf and annual grassy weeds in fine fescue seed production fields of Oregon.

Any and all reference to pesticides, herbicides and fungicides, whether generic or named products, is for general informational purposes only. Text reference is not intended as an endorsement, nor does omission imply criticism. Always read and follow labeled instructions



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