

# SEED RESEARCH REPORTS

**SR 8200**

## Turf-Type Tall Fescue

SR 8200 dwarf-type tall fescue has the qualities you look for in the newest cultivars. It is lower-growing and forms a fine-textured, dark green, dense turf.

This dwarf-type growth habit didn't happen overnight but is the result of many years of breeding. The 474 progeny from 32 clones that comprise the parents of SR 8200 are the result of multiple cycles of selection oriented toward the selection of lower-growing plants along with other desirable characteristics.

### SURVIVAL

The germplasm utilized in the development of SR 8200 was from an extensive plant exploration program designed to find those outstanding plants that over time had survived environmental stresses such as close-mowing, traffic, excessive shade, drought, cold, and disease. This germplasm then underwent additional cycles of selection to find superior, attractive, low-growing plants that could survive frequent close-mowing, severe competition, and disease.

The result is SR 8200, a variety with a dwarf-type growth habit combined with the traditional attributes of tall fescue. These include excellent wear tolerance, cold tolerance, the ability to survive in poor soils, and good root development. It maintains the ability to thrive in acid or alkaline soils and under saturated or dry conditions.

### ENDOPHYTE-ENHANCED

SR 8200 has high levels of endophyte. It takes extra years of breeding to incorporate the endophyte into improved turf-type tall fescues. The benefits in the tall fescues include excellent resistance to the following turf insects: sod webworms, billbugs, chinch bugs, armyworms, and aphids. It has now been documented that it also provides protection against white grubs and some nematodes. The presence of the endophyte also contributes to improved osmotic adjustment and stress tolerance so it shows better summer survival, enhanced fall recovery, and reduced weed invasion. This enables SR 8200 to keep growing when other tall fescues without the endophyte have a dull green color from stress.

### DISEASE RESISTANCE

SR 8200 was bred for very good resistance to stem rust (caused by *Puccinia graminis* Pers.). It also shows good resistance to net blotch (caused by *Drechslera dictyoides* F. sp. *dictyoides* Drechs.) and crown rust (caused by *Puccinia coronata* Cda.).

### MAINTENANCE

SR 8200 has real advantages when it comes to maintenance. SR 8200 can tolerate close mowing and still maintain its high turf quality. Also, the slower growth rates will significantly reduce mowing requirements throughout the growing season. Furthermore, SR 8200 has such a rich, dark green color that nitrogen applications can be reduced without sacrificing appearance.

### OUTSTANDING TURF QUALITY

- Rich, dark green color
- High tillering, compact dense turf
- Fine leaves
- Dwarf growth, reduced mowing
- Excellent shade tolerance
- Superior turf performance

**PVP**

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