

# MEROA

TETRAPLOID ITALIAN RYEGRASS

*“Meroa is a late-maturing, high quality, true tetraploid Italian ryegrass with good winter hardiness. It is ideal for dairy, beef, and other high-performance forage applications.”*

Meroa is a tetraploid Italian ryegrass. This makes it very useful. First, as a tetraploid ryegrass it has twice the chromosomes as a diploid ryegrass which gives it higher sugar content, and bigger, more succulent leaves. Meroa is also a true Italian ryegrass, making it a biennial that will not grow reproductive until vernalization has occurred over a winter season. This lack of heading out in year of seeding gives it flexibility to be planted alone as a pure stand or in mixes with other forages such as a companion crop when establishing a new perennial field or with warm season grass such as sorghum/sundangrass mixtures providing an extra cutting in late fall followed with an additional cut the following spring.

- **Fast Establishment & High Yield** – Great for forage and cover crops
- **Soil Improvement** – Reduces erosion, improves organic matter
- **Livestock Benefits** – High-quality forage with excellent digestibility
- **Winter Resilience** – Can be used as a winter cover crop in many climates

## PLANT IT IN THE SPRING

Meroa exhibits all the best features of a true tetraploid Italian ryegrass. When planted in the spring/early summer in cooler climates, its true Italian parentage will prevent unwanted seedheads until the following year. Rather, Meroa will be able to provide abundant forage for high demanding livestock throughout the year and into the following spring.

## PLANTING INFORMATION

Seeding Rate: 35 – 45 lb. / acre for hay or grazing  
15 – 20 lb. / acre for cover crops

Optimal pH Range: 5-5-7.0

Planting Dates: August – December / March – May

Planting Depth: 0 – ½”

## PLANT IT IN THE FALL

When sown in the fall, either as a cultivated planting or overseeding an existing pasture, Meroa’s lush and leafy canopy will remain productive late into the spring season with forage yields continuing on until early summer. Meroa can be planted in both cool and warm season regions for winter forage. Meroa performs very well as a cover crop, providing good weed suppression and generous biomass.

