

# **THUNDER**

## **FORAGE**

### **ANNUAL RYEGRASS**

Thunder annual ryegrass is the complete package! Excellent resistance to gray leaf spot and crown rust, amazing palatability, high digestibility, and trial topping dry matter forage yields!

We all know that the two most important attributes that a ryegrass can have is a consistent forage production from month-to-month and a high total seasonal yield. Thunder is an early maturing diploid (2N) variety which was bred to provide that consistent, high quality forage. Early maturity means that Thunder will provide forage at a time during the grazing season when other forage options are at their lowest. In addition to its other attributes, Thunder also has excellent 'standability'. This 'standability' helps to minimize soil contamination at harvest and therefore providing very high quality forage.

#### Plant Features

**Diploid**

**Earlier maturity**

**Rust resistant**

**Gray Leaf spot resistant**

#### Forage Benefits

**Earlier grazing**

**Improved forage quality**

**Aggressive tillering**



# THUNDER FORAGE ANNUAL RYEGRASS

Dry Matter Yields  
2004-2005 Growing Season  
University of Florida – Gainesville, FL  
Pounds per Acre

Table 1.  
Cultivar

	Jan. 11	Mar. 1	27-Apr	Season Avg.	Season Total
Marshall	3,258	2,512	7,556	4,442	13,326
<b>Thunder</b>	<b>2,738</b>	<b>2,444</b>	<b>7,800</b>	<b>4,327</b>	<b>12,981</b>
Passerel Plus	3,210	2,325	6,518	4,017	12,052
Surrey II	2,686	2,131	6,745	3,854	11,561
Big Daddy	2,929	2,297	5,368	3,531	10,594
Gulf	3,016	2,048	4,888	3,317	9,951

## Management Tips:

For the best performance, plant into a firm, well-drained seedbed and fertilize based upon a soil test.

Seeding rates vary from region to region and according to soil type. Consult your local professional seedsman for advice and assistance. In general, a seeding rate of 20 to 30 pounds per acre is recommended.

If harvested as hay or silage, optimum harvest timing will vary between stands grown as monostand and those stands blended with a legume. For monostands, the best yields are seen when harvest is delayed until the grass is in the boot stage. When blended with a legume, harvest should be timed to when the legume is at peak quality.

If Thunder is planted for grazing, the height of the stand should be maintained at 3 to 10 inches in height. Managed at this height, tillering is maximized and optimum grazing performance is realized.

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Gray Leaf spot resistant

## Forage Benefits

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