

# Lofa

*Festulolium pabulare*



Lofa was developed in the Czech Republic by crossing Italian Ryegrass with tall fescue. Selection was then based on ryegrass type plants showing high forage quality and fast growth. The result is plant that looks like a ryegrass, with the performance of an improved hybrid ryegrass.

## Forage Yield

From its Italian Ryegrass Parent, Lofa gets tremendous 1st year dry matter yield, and continues the high yield into the 2nd and 3rd year. In University trials, Lofa is typically in the highest group for forage yield, up through the 3rd production year. Growth starts early in the spring and then maintains high yields through the harvest season.

## Forage Quality

Another characteristic inherited from its ryegrass parent is high forage quality. Quality data from samples harvested late season at the DLF Hladke Ziovote Research Data, showed Lofa had a RFQ of 128 and RVR of 119. This placed Lofa above Meadow Fescue for forage quality and just under High Sugar Perennial ryegrass. In the UK, Lofa showed 15% sugar in DM, higher than the standard perennial ryegrass.

## Milk/acre

When DM yield is combined with forage quality, over the first two years, Lofa will produce more milk/acre than hybrid ryegrass, perennial ryegrass and tall fescue.

## Persistence

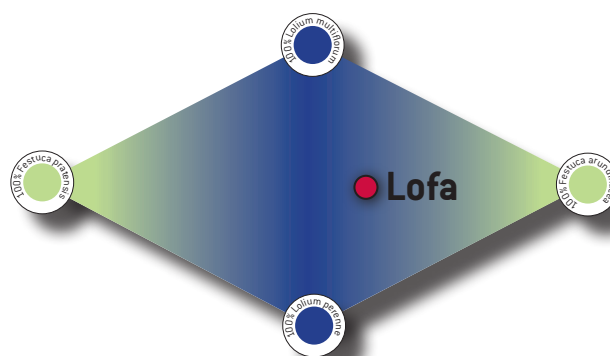
Tall fescue genetics contribute to the persistence of Lofa. A stronger root system, allows Lofa to maintain growth into the summer better than straight ryegrass. Winter cold survival of Lofa is better than hybrid ryegrass, and comparable to perennial ryegrass (based on Pennsylvania data).

## Adaption

Lofa is excellent for both grazing and machine harvesting. Uses include:

- A fast establishing component in high quality forage quality
- Companion planted with alfalfa or overseeded into winter damaged stands
- Emergency feed.

## Festulolium Diamond™



Ryegrass Type  
(Intermediate)

PLOIDY  
Tetraploid (4N)

GROWTH HABIT  
Perennial Bunch

ESTAB. RATE  
8-11 days

NITROGEN REQ.  
Very High >120 lbs/ac

ANEROBIC SOIL TOL.  
Good

pH RANGE  
5-8

MINIMUM RAINFALL  
>30 inches

DRY MATTER YIELD  
3-4 tons

REGROWTH  
Excellent

PRIMARY UTILIZATION  
Grazing & Silage

VEG REPRO TIL RATE  
High

ENDOPHYTE  
No

SEEDING RATE  
25-35 lbs/ac pure  
stand  
3-20 lbs/ac mixed

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## Trial Data

### University of Kentucky Yield (tons/acre)

*Lexington location sown 9/7/2010*

Ryegrass type festulolium	2011 total	2012 7-May	21-Jun	22-Oct	Total	2 year Total
Lofa	4.76	1.27	0.39	0.12	1.77	6.25
Barfest	4.02	1.63	0.36	0.33	2.33	6.35
Spring Green	4.57	1.19	0.32	0.18	1.69	6.26
Gain	4.4	0.79	0.33	0.07	1.18	5.58
Duo	3.8	1.31	0.36	0.21	1.88	5.48
Agula	4.18	0.76	0.27	0.1	1.12	5.30
Sweet Tart	3.73	0.86	0.27	0.32	1.45	5.19
Bonus	3.69	0.78	0.38	0.08	1.24	5.07
Mean	4.12	1.17	0.36	0.22	1.75	5.86
CV%	9.29	25.1	21.9	33.99	20.08	9.36
LSD, 0.05	0.56	0.42	0.11	0.11	0.5	0.8

### University of Wisconsin Yield (tons/acre)

*Arlington location sown 2011*

2011 Harvested yields (tons/acre)		7/4/2011	7/22/2011	9/20/2011	Total
Festulolium	Lofa	1.75	1.31	0.33	3.38
Hybrid Ryegrass	PPG-LHT 103*	1.62	1.26	0.39	3.34
Festulolium	Spring Green	1.66	1.17	0.36	3.27
Perennial Ryegrass	Calibra	1.14	0.86	0.41	2.40
Tall Fescue	KY 31 E-	0.6	0.83	0.54	2.28
	Mean	1.22	1.16	0.58	2.98
	CV%				10.5
	LSD 5%				0.6

### Pennsylvania Grazing Study

*Haller location sown 2003*

Forage Consumed (lbs/acre)		Spring 2006	Summer 2006	Fall 2006	Total 2006	Total 2005	Total 2004	% Stand 4/17/2006	% stand 10/6/2006
Festulolium	Lofa	2353	1650	1133	5135	3708	11425	69	79
Perennial Ryegrass	Aries	2580	894	1173	4647	2748	8543	73	85
Hybrid Ryegrass	Bestfor Plus	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	10	13
Perennial Ryegrass	Remington	2388	1603	1441	5431	2340	10134	96	91
Perennial Ryegrass	Tonga	2428	778	958	4165	2331	9183	68	78
	Grand Mean	2436	1289	1211	4936	2690	9362	62	71
	CV	14	40	20	19	24	9	20	10
	LSD(p=0.05)	NS	NS	NS	NS	936	1193	9	10