



Bromegrass

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Varietal Trials Results, January 2006



Bromegrass is generally grown for hay in mixture with alfalfa or is used as pasture in mixture with other grasses and legumes. Varieties can be classed as southern, intermediate and northern types. Varieties of the

southern type may not be higher yielding, but are generally less susceptible to leaf diseases and earlier in maturity than northern types. All varieties are winterhardy. Some stand losses may occur when bromegrass is managed under three and four-cut alfalfa harvest systems. Overgrazing also will reduce stands.

Varieties are generally evaluated in pure stands at Minnesota experiment stations with a three-cut harvest system. Nitrogen is applied at all locations in early spring and after the first two harvests at a rate of 50 pounds per acre for each application. Dry matter yields have generally varied little among varieties. At Rosemount in 1999 stand losses occurred after the first harvest in all varieties except York.

Dry matter yield, in tons dry matter per acre, of smooth bromegrass seeded at two locations in Minnesota.*

Variety	Rosemount	Morris
	1998-2000	1999-2001
Alpha	4.8	4.6
Badger	4.4	4.5
Bounty	4.8	4.7
Lincoln	4.5	---
York	5.2	4.7
LSD 5%	0.3	NS

* Data in the table are the most recent available.

Bromegrass Planting Rate and Date

Bushel Weight, Pounds	14
Seeds/Pound	136,000
Planting Rate, Pounds/Acre	
Alone	20
In Mixtures	5
Planting Rate, Seeds/Sq. Ft.	
Alone	50
In Mixtures	15
Planting Date	Early Spring or Late Summer