

Tall Fescue Cultivar Trials

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Tall fescue use in home lawns, parks, athletic fields, and low-maintenance situations has gained popularity in Michigan in recent years. Tall fescue was used as a forage grass and a utility turf for many years. It is considered a bunch grass, has a deep root system making it tolerate drought conditions, and is adaptable to many soil and environmental conditions. The traditional disadvantages of tall fescue include the relatively wide leaf blade and lighter green color. Recent advances in breeding have seriously addressed these earlier challenges and make tall fescue a great choice for many situations. The National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) trial here at MSU features the latest cultivars which are listed in the following table.

Over 100 cultivars are represented in 6 ft by 6 ft plots with three replications. These plots were seeded in the fall of 1996. The seeded plots were then stabilized with a hydro-mulch. A starter fertilizer, 15-30-15, was applied at planting at a 1 lb N/M rate. The height-of-cut is three inches and clippings are returned. Spring green-up, germination, color, and quality ratings were performed in 1997 and will be discussed during the stop. Conclusions for the season-long performance of this trial will be available in early 1998.

1996 National Tall Fescue Test

Entry #	Name	Sponsor
1	ATF-192	Advanta Seeds West, Inc.
2	ATF-196	Advanta Seeds West, Inc.
3	ATF-022	Advanta Seeds West, Inc.
4	ATF-038	Advanta Seeds West, Inc.
5	ATF-182	Advanta Seeds West, Inc.
6	ATF-020	Advanta Seeds West, Inc.
7	ATF-253	Advanta Seeds West, Inc.
8	ATF-257	Advanta Seeds West, Inc.
9	Tulsa	Advanta Seeds West, Inc.
10	Regiment	Advanta Seeds West, Inc.
11	AA-A91	Lofts Seed, Inc.
12	AA-989	Lofts Seed, Inc.
13	AA-983	Lofts Seed, Inc.
14	CU9501T	Clemson University
15	CU9502T	Clemson University
16	Arid	Standard Entry
17	J-98	Jacklin Seed Company
18	J-3	Jacklin Seed Company
19	DP 50-9011	DLF/ Trifolium
20	DP 7952	DLF/ Trifolium
21	J-5	Jaclin Seed Company
22	Pixie E+	Jaclin Seed Company
23	Alamo E+	Jaclin Seed Company
24	J-101	Jaclin Seed Company
25	Shortstop 11	Pickseed West, Inc.
26	Pick FA 15-92	Pickseed West, Inc.
27	Pick FA 6-91	Pickseed West, Inc.
28	R5AU	Rutgers University
29	LTP-4026 E+	Lebanon Turf Products, Inc.
30	Pennington-1901	Pennington Seed Company
31	TMI-RBR	Turf Merchants, Inc.
32	TMI-FMN	Turf Merchants, Inc.
33	TMI-N91	Turf Merchants, Inc.
34	TMI-TW	Turf Merchants, Inc.
35	TMI-AZ	Turf Merchants, Inc.
36	Bullet	Turf Merchants, Inc.
37	Bar FA 6D	Barenburg Holland
38	Bar FA 6LV	Barenburg Holland
39	Pick FA UT-93	Pickseed West, Inc.
40	Pick FA B-93	Pickseed West, Inc.
41	Mustang II	Pickseed West, Inc.
42	ATF-188	The Scotts Company
43	TA-7	J. R. Koos & Sons
44	WVPB-1B	Willamette Valley Plant Breeders
45	DLF-1	DLF/Trifolium
46	OFI-96-31	Olsen-Fennell Seed, Inc.
47	OFI-96-32	Olsen-Fennell Seed, Inc.
48	EC-101	Emerald Commodities
49	JSC-1	Jenks Seed Company
50	AV-1	Agrivesments
51	PC-AO	Pratum Co-op
52	RG-93	LESCO, Inc.
53	WVPB-1D	Willamette Valley Plant Breeders

54	WVPB-1C	Willamette Valley Plant Breeders
55	Koos 96-14	J. R. Koos & Sons
56	MB 26	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
57	MB 28	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
58	MB 29	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
59	MB 210	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
60	MB 211	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
61	MB 212	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
62	MB 213	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
63	MB 214	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
64	MB 215	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
65	MB 216	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
66	Marksman	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
67	Renegade	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
68	Southern Choice	E. F. Burlingham & Sons
69	Falcon II	Standard Entry
70	BAR FA6 US6F	Barenburg USA
71	Duster	Pennington Seed Company
72	Cochise II	Ampac Seed Company
73	WRS2	Willamette Valley Plant Breeders
74	WX3-275	Willamette Valley Plant Breeders
75	Crossfire II	Pickseed West, Inc.
76	Pick GA-96	Pickseed West, Inc.
77	Pick FA N-93	Pickseed West, Inc.
78	JTTFA-96	Japan Turfgrass II
79	JTTFC-96	Japan Turfgrass II
80	ISI-TF10	International Seeds, Inc.
81	ISI-TF9	International Seeds, Inc.
82	ISI-TF11	International Seeds, Inc.
83	Kentucky-31 w/endo	Standard Entry
84	ZPS-5LZ	Zajac Performance Seeds, Inc.
85	PST-5TO	Pure-Seed Testing, Inc.
86	PST-5E5	Pure-Seed Testing, Inc.
87	PST-R5TK	Pure-Seed Testing, Inc.
88	PST-R5AE	Pure-Seed Testing, Inc.
89	Gazelle	Zajac Performance Seeds, Inc.
90	Safari	Turf-Seed, Inc.
91	Coyote	Zajac Performance Seeds, Inc.
92	Tomahawk-E	Turf-Seed, Inc.
93	Tarheel	Pure-Seed Testing, Inc.
94	Coronado	Turf-Seed, Inc.
95	Apache II	Turf-Seed, Inc.
96	SS45DW	Smith Seed Services
97	SSDE31	Smith Seed Services
98	Titan 2	Smith Seed Services
99	Lion	Cascade International Seed Co.
100	EA 41	Cascade International Seed Co.
101	OFI-FWY	Olsen-Fennell Seed Co.
102	OFI-951	Olsen-Fennell Seed Co.
103	OFI-931	Olsen-Fennell Seed Co.
104	Finelawn Petite	Finelawn Research, Inc.
105	PSII-TF-10	Production Service International
106	PSII-TF-9	Production Service International
107	SRX 8500	Seed Research Of Oregon, Inc.
108	SRX 8084	Seed Research Of Oregon, Inc.
109	SR 8210	Seed Research Of Oregon, Inc.
110	PRO 8430	Seed Research Of Oregon, Inc.

111	Pick FA 20-92	Pickseed West, Inc.
112	Pick FA XK-95	Pickseed West, Inc.
113	Empress	Zajac Performance Seeds, Inc.
114	LTP-SD-TF	Lebanon Turf Products, Inc.
115	Leprechaun	Roberts Seed Company
116	PST-5M5	Pure-Seed Testing, Inc.
117	PST-5RT	Pure-Seed Testing, Inc.
118	Jaguar 3	Standard Entry
119	Pick RT-95	Pickseed West, Inc.
120	ZPS-2PTF	Zajac Performance Seeds, Inc.
121	Sunpro	Pickseed West, Inc.
122	Bonsai	Standard Entry
123	PST-523	Pure-Seed Testing, Inc.
124	BAR Fa6 US1	Barenburg Research
125	BAR Fa6 US2U	Barenburg Research
126	BAR Fa6 US3	Barenburg Research
127	BAR FA6D USA	Barenburg Research
128	Shenadoah	Standard Entry