

# ALPINE FESCUE

*Festuca brachyphylla*



## ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

Native short grass, some-what sod-forming, culms 6 to 10" tall; occurs at higher elevations and northern latitudes. Grows in the cooler and higher regions of north- western U.S. Flowering head is a panicle, 1/2 to 2" long. Short awned heads. Leaves smooth, short and rather lax.

## GROWTH HABITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PREFERENCES

Found on rocky slopes at high elevations, mostly above timberline. Cold-tolerant. Occurring in the alpine and subalpine zones.

## CULTURE

Plant seed 1/4 – 1/2" deep on coarse textured soils and 1/4" or shallower on fine-textured soils. Better stands obtained on firm seedbed. Drill a minimum of 2 to 4 lbs. PLS per acre for satisfactory stands. Increase rate 50-100% for harsh sites, steep open exposures, poorer seedbeds and when broadcasting. Plant seed as soon after disturbance as possible in mountain environment. Mulching is recommended. Protect new seeding from grazing.

## USE AND MANAGEMENT

Use in seeding mixtures to revegetate big game ranges, roads, ski slopes, and mined lands. Also cultivated for boarder plantings and rock gardens. Palatability to all classes of livestock, elk and deer. Produces good forage that remains green throughout the summer.

## IMPROVED VARIETIES

None listed for Region.

PawneeButtesSeed Inc.

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