

# Hybrid ryegrass

## Introduction

Hybrid ryegrasses, also known as 'short rotation' ryegrasses, are generally produced by plant breeders crossing Italian or annual ryegrass with perennial ryegrass. Hybrid ryegrasses fall between Italian and long rotation ryegrasses in growth and persistence.

Most persistent ↑ ↓ Least persistent	Perennial ryegrass
	Long rotation ryegrass
	<b>Hybrid ryegrass</b>
	Italian ryegrass
	Annual ryegrass

Hybrid ryegrass gives better winter production than perennial or long rotation ryegrass, and in summer wet areas, most varieties will persist for up to 5 years. In summer dry environments hybrids generally last for 2-3 years. Some varieties are available with endophyte which enhances their insect resistance and persistence.

## Heading dates of hybrid ryegrasses\*

Variety	Days
<i>Delish (T)</i>	+11
<i>Harper</i>	+13
<i>Maverick GII</i>	+17
<i>SF Momentum</i>	+17
<i>Storm (T)</i>	+18

\* Day 0 is typically around 22 October, but this can vary from year to year. See page 91 for more.

