



Reed Canarygrass

REED CANARYGRASS was introduced into the U.S. from Europe. Although this grass is native to North America and found naturally in small areas in Nebraska, practically all of the present acreage in the mid-west region resulted from introduced seeds. **Reed Canarygrass** is a tall, perennial that starts early and grows through the summer if enough moisture is available. Stems are leafy and leaves are smooth and broad. The striped variety is used as an ornamental in some cases.

DESCRIPTION:

Since this grass is most at home in the cool humid climates, it is best suited for wet or swampy grounds. If planted in a pasture situation where irrigation is possible, **Reed Canarygrass** produces large amounts of forage on into the summer months. There is good response to fertility on either light or heavy soils. Because it has good strong rhizomes, the grass will spread rapidly. Even if the plants are submerged for long periods of time, it will continue to survive. **Reed Canarygrass** has the ability to grow through many inches of silt such as might occur after a flood situation. During the dry seasons, the grass will go dormant, only to resume its growth when the rains return. **Reed Canarygrass** is high in acid tolerancy, and moderately tolerant of saline and alkaline conditions.



USAGE:

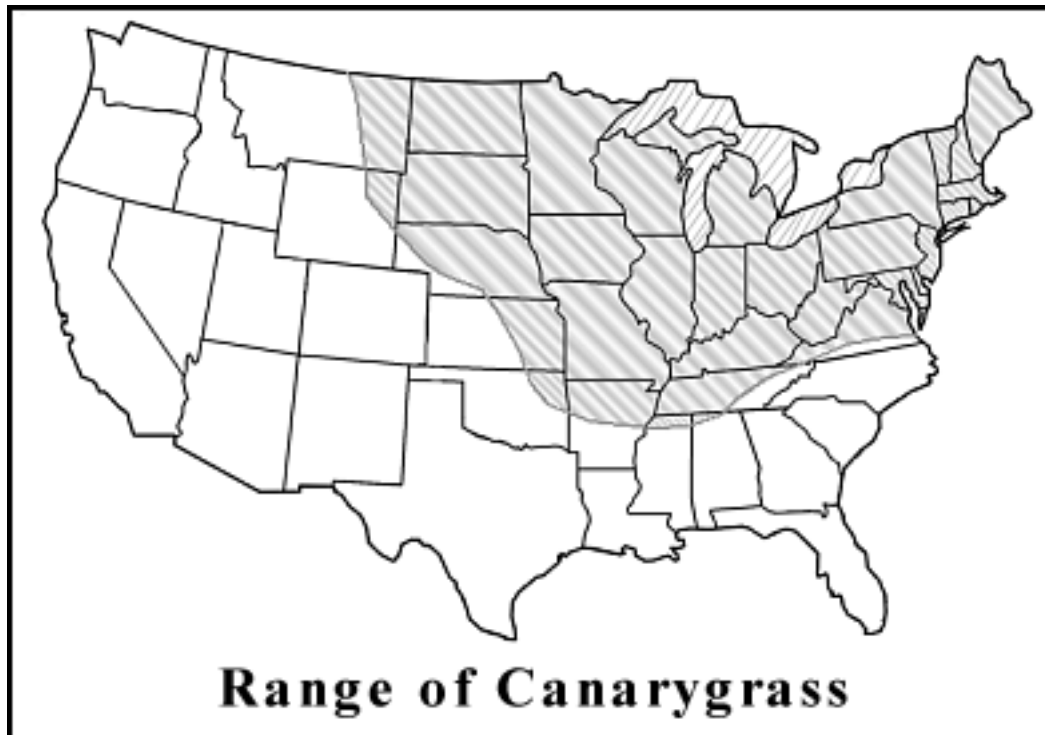
Reed Canarygrass furnishes high yields of good quality hay, but its main use is for pastures and special conservation plantings. Best quality hay results from pasturing a thick stand early to produce finer and leafier stems for a late hay cutting. Because livestock do not relish older taller growth, the best pasture results from close grazing. This grass is ideal in reclaiming seep areas or healing wet gullies. It should not be used as a rotation grass in low-lying fields because it is difficult to kill once established. Because of its acid tolerancy, **Reed Canarygrass** can be used on mine spoils or any land needing revegetation. It is often planted around the shorelines of new ponds and on spillways because of the excellent erosion control it affords. Streambanks, levees, and roadways are often seeded in **Reed Canarygrass**.

One problem of **Reed Canarygrass** is that the seed viability is not strong. Germination rate declines after about 16-18 months in storage; therefore, you should purchase your seed directly from a reliable company such as SHARP BROS. SEED CO. When purchasing from such sources, you can be assured of quality seed that will germinate into a productive stand. If you have doubts about the seed you are purchasing, SHARP BROS. SEED CO. will present to you on request, a copy of the seed test, informing you as to seed quality, purity etc.

OTHER VARIETIES:

Loreed was developed for usage by the Soil Conservation Service in Iowa. A rapid-developing, vigorous sodding, productive perennial, breed has consistently produced more forage than any other strain or variety of **Reed Canarygrass**. It competes well with other plants and is an excellent grass for higher rainfall zones and especially very wet areas.

Palaton was developed by the Land O'Lakes Company in an attempt to find a grass that would have all the strengths of a Canarygrass, but would prove to be more palatable, for a longer period of time, to cattle raised around the Great Lakes in the Dairy belt. This grass has a low alkaloid level (a by-product of plant metabolism that cattle dislike), making it highly palatable to all livestock.



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