

# **Species Characteristics**

## **Creeping Red Fescue**

- Creeping growth habit but fewer rhizomes than Kentucky Bluegrass
- Establishes faster than Kentucky Bluegrass – slower than Perennial Ryegrass
- Not as cold tolerant as Kentucky Bluegrass
- Superior to most cool season turfgrass in shade adaption
- Rapid leaf growth in shade
- Requires less water than Kentucky Bluegrass
- Medium wear tolerance
- No serious that problem

## **Chewings Fescue**

- Non-creeping bunch type
- Extensive tillering
- Good shade adaption
- Wear tolerance better than most cool season grasses
- Can accumulate an extensive thatch

## **Hard Fescue**

- Tufted growth habit with an extensive root system
- Better drought tolerance than Creeping Red Fescue
- Adapted to shade conditions
- Does not tolerate cutting below 1"
- Use in minimum maintenance, low quality, non-use areas

## **Perennial Ryegrass**

- Germinates quickly, ideal for overseeding
- Establishes rapidly, bunch type of growth habit
- Good wear tolerance, for sportsfields etc.
- Requires 1" water per week in peak growing season
- Requires a good level of nutrition
- Cutting height as low as ½" but likes 1" to 2"
- Adaption – cool, moist regions with mild winters
- Does not tolerate extreme cold, heat or drought
- Can stand partial shade
- No thatch problem

## **Kentucky Bluegrass**

- Slow to germinate and establish
- Spreads by means of rhizomes
- Ideal for sod production, good sod strength
- Excellent cold tolerance
- Good wear tolerance
- Needs regular watering and good nutrition
- Recuperative potential good
- Long lived perennial
- Adapted to cool humid, cool semiarid, and arid regions if irrigated
- Can withstand extended drought periods
- Likes full sun or slight shade only
- Prefers pH of 6 to 7 and will not tolerate acid soil
- Cutting height 1" to 2"
- Can produce extensive thatch