



## Steps for Successful Pasture Establishment

1. Premium Irrigated Pasture Blend contains proven grass varieties and sources, but producers should evaluate their haying and grazing goals, considering species adaptation, site characteristics, and management strategies.
2. Ensure the area is free of weeds, undesirable plants and residual herbicides.
3. Ensure a level, firm seed bed that will provide a seeding depth no greater than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch of packed soil. Drill application rate is typically 15 lbs per acre and broadcast rate is typically 25 lbs per acre, however, consider increasing the rate by as much as 50% when the seeding depth cannot be properly controlled or when attempting to establish on poor soils or problematic sites.
4. Eliminate competition with young seedlings by applying appropriate and recommended herbicides or cutting any weeds that compete for moisture, nutrients or sunlight.
5. Consider mixing a seed carrier with the seed to ensure an even seed flow within your application equipment. Starter fertilizer, cereal grains, cracked grain, rice hulls or corn grit can be used. If cereal grains are used, hay or mow them as early as possible, as they can rob new pasture seedlings of essential resources.
6. When broadcast seeding, lightly drag the field to cover the seed and establish good soil contact. Remember that ideal soil coverage is no deeper than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.
7. New pastures should not be grazed until seedlings have developed a sufficient root system. It may take a full growing season to establish a vigorous stand. Be patient and allow the seedlings to completely establish before cutting or grazing.

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