

# King's Native Grass Mix

Best time to plant:

Mid-February to Early June

**Planting Rate:** 

5-10 lbs per acre

**Planting Depth:** 

1/4 inch. Rake and press

Sunlight: 6 to 8 hrs per day

**Soil Type:** Prefers clay to clay loam soils

Regions: Texas, Oklahoma

#### Irrigation:

- Day 1 to 10—every day
- Day 10 to 2nd month water 2x a week
- 2 to 4 months— water2x a month

Height: Varies.

It should not be grazed prior to reaching 18-24 inches

Mix contains 7 native grasses



This native mix developed by Douglass King Seed combines 7 hearty grasses for use in pasture seeding, native restoration, and golf course applications.

The diversity provides nutrient-rich grazing matter, seed formation beneficial to wildlife and birds, and drought tolerance necessary for production in South Texas.

Caution should be taken not to graze to quickly or too rigorously. While the stand may take longer to establish than a crop like oats, with patience it can provide a lasting and economic improvement to rangeland.

**Components:** Blue Grama, Buffalograss, Green Sprangletop, Sideoats Grama, Bristlegrass, Big Bluestem, Little Bluestem, Indiangrass.

Planting methods and soil bed preparation are critical to having successful results when establishing grasses.

Planting: Apply seed with a broadcast seeder, a "whirlwind" type spreader, or preferably a native grass seed drill. Existing weeds should be controlled mechanically or with herbicides. The seedbed soil should be freshly disturbed prior to planting. Roll or drag lightly to cover seed to a depth of no more than 1/4 inch. Rolling is generally preferred to dragging.

Grazing: The question is often asked, "How many days, weeks or months will it require before a pasture can be grazed?" It depends on

the grass variety planted. It depends on weather and how quickly the seed germinates. Most of all it depends on the growth stage of the new plants.

Newly planted perennial grasses should not be grazed before the young plants reach a height of 18" to 24". At this stage grazing should be kept to a minimum and only in short duration with a low number of animals.

In many instances emergence is not uniform and you should exercise caution not to graze a newly planted pasture based only on the largest plants. There is the possibility that late emerging plants will be grazed before they can establish.

During the drought of the late 1990's one of our customers planted 50 acres of seed in the Rocksprings area. Four years later, after it rained, the grasses finally germinated and came to a complete stand. The gentleman called and asked if we'd ever heard of seed lying dormant for four years before establishment? Our reply, "No, we've never met anyone with that much patience before."

Remember, perennial grasses don't typically come up like oats or wheat. Patience will be required.

To place an order, please call us at

1-210-661-4191 or 1-888-DKSEEDS and our seed specialists can help you.

Visit us online at www.dkseeds.com

## Getting the Best Success from Your Seed

The key traits of a person who has a "green thumb" are patience and attention.

Patience is needed because all of your seed will not germinate at once. Attention is needed to ensure that you plant your seed at the right depth and at the optimal time.

Seeds have limited energy, if planted too deep they use up their energy before reaching the surface and die. However, if you plant to shallow the seed could dry out, blow away, or be eaten by birds.

### Focus on the things you can control:

- 1. Planting Depth—Pay attention to the recommended planting depth for each species. For many of the species we sell, a quarter-inch deep is all that is needed.
- 2. Timing is Everything!—It's very important to know when to plant. If you get it in the ground during the optimal windows of time, the plants know when to grow. They need adequate moisture and ideal soil temperature. Moisture is something we can control; temperature we cannot. Plant during the recommended planting time and, if possible, irrigate the area for ideal moisture.
- 3. Know Your Region—Plant the right seed for your region. If you don't know what your region is, ask us!
- 4. Prepare the Seedbed—Preparing the seedbed before you plant is very important. Try to remove all the other vegetation prior to planting by tilling or spraying an herbicide. The soil should be soft but not too loose. A good indicator is if your shoes leave a print in the soil, but don't sink in.
- 5. Know Your Seed Type—Getting your seed spread out in an even matter will help you ensure a successful planting. Seed spreaders can help, but only if you get the tool that works best with your type of seed. For small areas, like a garden, hand spreading will work. It is important to match your seed to your planter or your planter to your seed!

### Ask For Advice From the Pros!

If you have any questions, we are just a phone call away! But we are not the only ones with a wealth of knowledge. State and federal wildlife agents are invaluable sources of information and advice. County Extension Agents with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service (https://agrilifeextension.tamu.edu/),