



GrassWorks Inc.



Byron Seeds™

KF GrassWorks® Grazing Mixes

Placement and management considerations to get the most out of the mixes

One of the top benefits of grazing is the resilience and persistence of perennial pastures when they are managed well. With so many perennial grass and legume species adapted to the Upper Midwest, farms can select species that thrive in their specific soil type, terrain, micro-climate, and management style.



The KF GrassWorks® Mixes were developed through a partnership between GrassWorks and Byron Seeds. GrassWorks receives a portion of each purchase to support their non-profit mission. These mixes have tremendous forage potential with meadow fescue as their cornerstone. Meadow fescue is known for its exceptional forage quality, and is complemented by festulolium, perennial ryegrass, red clover and white clover in the basic mix. The KF GrassWorks® D (diverse) Mix expands the basic mix with orchardgrass, alfalfa, birdsfoot trefoil, plantain and chicory to enhance performance under certain conditions. To get the most out of these mixes, and to protect your investment long-term, there are two important considerations:

1. Plant the GrassWorks® Mixes in the Right Setting to Reach Their Full Potential

What conditions are essential for the GrassWorks® Grazing Mixes to thrive?

- Medium-fine textured soils – silt loams and clays
- Moderate to good soil drainage – not sandy soils
- Seasonlong plant available water – not droughty
- Sustained soil fertility levels
- Good grazing management (residual, rest, rotation) to avoid overgrazing, selective grazing of meadow fescue, and overall loss of diversity

What is different about the GrassWorks® D Grazing Mix?

- Adapted to a broader range of soils but performs best with consistent soil moisture
- The additional grasses and legumes can ensure uniform establishment in areas where terrain and drainage are variable – high spots and low spots
- Additional grasses and legumes have upright structure – can aid in drying for making hay

For more information on selecting the right forage species for your farm, find the UW-Madison Extension publication **What Should I Plant in My Pasture?** at go.wisc.edu/extensiongrazing

2. Manage the GrassWorks® Mixes to Minimize Selective Grazing & Maintain Pasture Diversity

- **Do not overgraze** – maintain a residual height of at least 4" and rotate livestock to allow for at least 30 days of regrowth before re-grazing. Grazing too low or too frequently results in selective grazing of certain species, which may lead to species like meadow fescue disappearing and an overall loss of diversity.
- **Keep the stand vegetative** – once all the grasses have fully emerged seedheads, manage in a way to eliminate all seedheads and seedstalks from the pasture for the remainder of the season. This can be done by trampling with high density grazing, clipping of seedstalks that remain after grazing, harvesting extra acres for hay, or a combination of all three. Doing this is essential to maintaining diversity in the stand for long-term. This also helps to reach the full forage quality potential of the GrassWorks® Mixes.