SUMMARY OF DETAILS OF VARIETAL IDENTIFICATION FOR HERBAGE SEED CROP INSPECTORS

While positive identification of herbage species is possible, individual varieties cannot usually be identified absolutely. However, trueness to type can be authenticated according to general conformity in overall habit to known characteristics. The inspector is asked to comment on trueness to type; the following tables give some varietal characteristics.

GRASSES

Time of ear emergence is often the most distinguishing varietal character within a species, and is shown in the tables as either time in days after 1 March or early, intermediate and late. The heading data given is to be used for guidance only.

Heading dates for Ryegrass species, are determined by using three example varieties: Lilora, Barplus and Iroque. Dates are generated through DUS testing. Lilora has a heading date of 78.58, Barplus has 90.86 and Iroque has 98.44. Any variety with a heading date before 78.58 is considered an early, a heading date between 78.58 and 90.86 is considered intermediate. Between 90.86 and 98.44 is late and anything after 98.44 is very late.

The ideal stage for crop inspection is between 5% and 25% when off-types can be recorded correctly.

However, ear emergence times should NOT be interpreted in terms of precise dates of inspection but only in relative times for one variety when compared to another.

Therefore it is good practice to check actual emergence times for early species, or early varieties within a species, at the start of each season. Consult NIAB for information on individual seasons.

Individual crops of a variety will also vary, comparatively, in emergence time according to site and management. Second harvest year crops generally reach 5% ear emergence 2 to 3 days later than first harvest year crops.

In crops of Italian or Hybrid ryegrass that have been defoliated, time of recovery to 5% ear emergence is about three weeks from cutting date.

Ploidy is a supportive identification character to ear emergence in ryegrasses, in which tetraploids usually can be seen to have larger, darker, shinier leaves than diploids.
In Timothy, diploid varieties are contrastingly short growing and fine-leaved compared with the hexaploid varieties.
In general, amenity ryegrasses are of fairly compact habit.

In the description tables the following abbreviations are used:-

Ploidy	Heading Time	Height	Leaf Length	Leaf Width
DIP - Diploid	E - Early	VT - Very Tall	VL - Very Long	W- Wide
TET - Tetraploid	I - Intermediate	T - Tall	L - Long	I - Intermediate
HEX - Hexaploid	L - Late	I - Intermediate	I - Intermediate	N - Narrow
OCT - Octaploid		S - Short	S - Short	VN -Very Narrow
			VS - very Short	

NOTE: Crops should be inspected within 3 days following 5% Ear Emergence (EE)

VARIETY	AMENITY	PLOIDY	5% EE DAYS AFTER 1ST MARCH	HEADING TIME cf TO CONTROL FOR THIS SPECIES	AT EAR EMERGENCE			REMARKS
					Height	Leaf Length	Leaf Width	
BROWN TOP								
Aberregal		TET	71		S-I	I	I	
AberRoyal		DIP	87		I	I	I	
COCKSFOOT								
Abertop		TET		I-L	VS-V	S	M	
Baraula		TET	76		S	VS	I	
Bartyle		TET	83		I-T	I-L	N-I	
Intensiv		-	74	-	-	-	-	
FESTULOLIUM								
Aberniche		TET	73		T	I	W	
Aberroot		TET		I	I	S	VN	
Lofa		TET	74		T	I	I	
MEADOW FESCUE								
Aberpaddock		DIP	61		S-I	I	I	
RED FESCUE								
Abercharm		HEX	70		VS-S	S	VN	
Absolom		HEX		L	I	I-L	N-I	
Barcrown		HEX	66		I	S	I	Mid green
Barlineus		OCT	60		S-I	I	I	
Barnoustie		HEX		I	S	S	N	
Barquess		HEX		I	M	S-M	N-M	
Barpearl		HEX	59		I	S-I	N	Dark Green
Borluna		HEX	46	I	I	I-L	I	
Cezanne		HEX	58		S-I	I	N	Mid-dark Green
Nigella			51					
Ramona		HEX		L	S-I	I-L	N-I	
Reggae		HEX	48		S-I	VS	I	Medium-dark green
Staybo		OCT		E-I	M-T	S-M	M	
Viktorka	Y	HEX	66		S-I	S-I	I	
HARD FESCUE								
Hardtop		Hex		E	S-I	I	-	
SHEEPS FESCUE								
Aberfleece	Y	TET	69		S	S		Mid green
TALL FESCUE								
Bardoux		HEX		I-L	I - T	I - T	I	
Barolex		HEX	80		T	L	I	
Kiowa		HEX		I-L	T	I-L	I	Light to mid green
RGT Nouga		HEX		I	T	I-L	I	Light green

VARIETY	AMENITY	PLOIDY	5% EE DAYS AFTER 1ST MARCH	HEADING TIME cf TO CONTROL FOR THIS SPECIES	AT EAR EMERGENCE			REMARKS
					Height	Leaf Length	Leaf Width	
TIMOTHY								
Baronaise		HEX		E-I	I	I	N-I	
Erecta		HEX	96		T	L	I	
Motim		HEX	101					
PERENNIAL RYEGRASS								
Aberavon		DIP	85		T	L	I	
Aberbann		DIP	90		T	L	N	
Aberbite		TET	90		I	L	W	
Aberchoice		DIP	94		VT	I	N	
Aberclyde		TET	79		T	L	I	
Aberdart		DIP	77		T	I	I	
Aberdon		DIP		L	T	L	N	
Aberesk		DIP		M	T	L	N	Medium green
Aberforth		TET		L	VT	L	W	Light green
Abergain		TET	87		VT	L	W	
Abergreen		DIP	83		VT	I	N	
Aberlee		DIP	87		T	I	N	
Abermersey		DIP		M	T	L	M	Very light green
Aberliffey		DIP		L	T	L	M	
Abermagic		DIP	82		VT	I	N	
Aberplentiful		TET	92		T	L	W	
Abersevern		DIP		I	VT	L	M	
Aberspey		TET	85		VT	I	I	
Abertest		DIP		L	T	I	N	
Aberthames		DIP		L	T	L	M	
Abertorch		TET	64		T	L	W	
Abertweed		DIP		I	VT	I	I	
Aberwin	Y	DIP		L	I	S	VN	Medium green
Aberwolf		DIP	83		T	M	N	
Aberzeus		DIP	83		VT	I	I	
Agreement	Y	DIP	74		S	VS	VN	
Altivo	Y	DIP		I	S-I	S	VN-N	
Ardress		TET		L	T	VL	VW	Mid green
Astonenergy		TET	86		VT	VL	W	
Astonvision		TET		I	VT	VL	W	
Ballintoy		TET	88		VT	L	W	
Ballyvoy		DIP		L	T	I	I	
Banbridge		TET		I	VT	L	I	

VARIETY	AMENITY	PLOIDY	5% EE DAYS AFTER 1ST MARCH	HEADING TIME cf TO CONTROL FOR THIS SPECIES	AT EAR EMERGENCE			REMARKS
					Height	Leaf Length	Leaf Width	
Baradona	Y	DIP	85	I-L	I	S	VN - N	
Barbasten	Y	DIP		L	I	S	VN	
Barcristalla	Y	DIP		I	M	VS	VN	
Bardorado	Y	DIP	70			VS	N	
Baromario	Y	DIP	90	I-L	S	VS-S	VN-N	
Barolympic	Y	DIP	92		I	I	N	
Barorlando	Y	DIP	75	I	T	VS	VN	
Barpersie	Y	DIP		L	I	VS	VN	
Barprium	Y	DIP		I	S	VS	VN	
Barsignum	Y	DIP	87	L	S-I	S	N	
Bartui		DIP		M	VT	L	M	Mid green
Bijou		TET	85		VT	VL	VW	
Cabrio	Y	DIP	91	L	I	VS	VN	
Caledon		TET	82		VT	VL	VW	
Calico	Y	DIP	87	L	I	VS	VN	
Callan		DIP	85		VT	L	I	
Cancan		DIP	96		T	L	N	
Cavendish		DIP	87		T	L	I	
Chardin	Y	DIP	82	I	I	VS	VN	
Chloe	Y	DIP		L	I	VS	VN	
Coletta	Y	DIP		I	S	VS-S	N	
Concerto	Y	DIP	76		S	S	N	
Crossgar		DIP		L	VT	L	M	
Django	Y	DIP		I	I	VS	VN	
Drumbo		DIP	89		VT	L	I	
Dundrod		DIP		L	VT	L	I	
Dunluce		TET	83			L	I	
Escapade	Y	DIP	90	L	I	VS	VN	
Esquire	Y	DIP		E-I	S-M	VS-S	N-M	
Evocative		DIP	85		T	L	I	
Fancy	Y	DIP	72		I	S	N	
Fandango	Y	DIP	72		I	S	N-I	
Fintona		TET	78		T	L	W	
Galgorm		DIP	77		VT	L	I	
Glenariff		DIP	80		T	I	I	
Glenarm		DIP	88		T	L	I	
Gosford		DIP	83		T	L	W	
Gracehill		TET		L	VT	L	I	

VARIETY	AMENITY	PLOIDY	5% EE DAYS AFTER 1ST MARCH	HEADING TIME cf TO CONTROL FOR THIS SPECIES	AT EAR EMERGENCE			REMARKS
					Height	Leaf Length	Leaf Width	
Harrenhal		DIP		L	T	L	M	
Kendal		DIP	84		T	L	I	
Kent Indigenous		DIP	83		I	I	N	
Killylea		TET		L	VT	VL	VW	
Moira		DIP	78		VT	I	I	
Monroe	Y	DIP	84		I	VS	VN	
Moyola		DIP	64		VT	I	W	
Nashota		TET		L	VT	VL	W	
Nifty		DIP	78		VT	L	I	
Nolwen		TET	81		I-T	I	I-W	
Oakpark		DIP		L	I	I	I	
RGT Klaxon	Y	DIP		I	M	VS	VN	
Richill		TET		L	T	L	VW	
Roy		TET	79		T	L	I	
Seagoe		TET	77		VT	VL	VW	
Singapore	Y	DIP		I	T	S	VN	Dark green
Strangford		DIP		I	VT	I	I	
Tollymore		TET		I	VT	VL	W	
Vertech	Y	DIP	76		S	VS	VN	
Youpi		TET	87		I	VL	W	
ITALIAN RYEGRASS								
Abys		DIP	78		I-T	I	N-I	
Alamo		DIP	73		I	S	N	
Barimax		TET		I	T	I	I	
Barmultra II		TET	77		VT	I	VW	
Fox		DIP	76		VT	S	N	
Jaccar		DIP		I	VT	M	N	
Melprimo		DIP	76		S-I	S-I	N-I	
Meribel		DIP	76		I	S	N	
Messina		TET	80		VT	I	W	
Steel		DIP	77		T	S	I	
Syntilla		DIP	75		T	I	I	
HYBRID RYEGRASS								
Aberecho		TET	72		I	L	I	
Aberedge		TET	75		VS	I	I	
Abereve		TET	78		I	I	N	
Abergarnet		TET		I	M	VL	M	
Aberimage		Tet		E	I	S	N	

VARIETY	AMENITY	PLOIDY	5% EE DAYS AFTER 1ST MARCH	HEADING TIME cf TO CONTROL FOR THIS SPECIES	AT EAR EMERGENCE			REMARKS
					Height	Leaf Length	Leaf Width	
Aberopal		TET		I	M	L	N	
Astoncrusader		TET		I	I	I	I	
Baradil		TET	69		I	I	I	
Barclamp		DIP	83		VT	S	VN	
Barlaunch		DIP		I	T	S	VN	
Bannfoot		TET	79		VS	I	I	
Barsilo		DIP	80		I	S	N	
Dorella		TET	71		VS	I	I	
Enduro		TET		E-I	M	L	I-W	
Hymer		TET	77		I	L	I	
Kirial		TET	79		S	L	I	
RGT Cordial		TET	76		VS	I	N	
Tetragraze		TET	75		S	S	N	
Utopial		TET		E	S	M	M	
WESTERWOLDS								
Barspectra II		TET	78	I-L		L-VL	W-VW	Westerwolds

AWNING IN HYBRID RYEGRASS

A reduction in the proportion of spikelets carrying awns can be expected with later spring defoliation. Tests on hybrids have shown a reduction from approximately 80% awning with no defoliation or defoliation up to mid-April, to 60% awning with early May defoliation to 30-40% awning by cutting at the end of May. There are indications that dry conditions appear to exaggerate this effect. Italian ryegrass is normally only slightly affected in this way.

DAYS AFTER THE FIRST OF MARCH

Date	March	April	May	June	July
1	0	31	61	92	122
2	1	32	62	93	123
3	2	33	63	94	124
4	3	34	64	95	125
5	4	35	65	96	126
6	5	36	66	97	127
7	6	37	67	98	128
8	7	38	68	99	129
9	8	39	69	100	130
10	9	40	70	101	131
11	10	41	71	102	132
12	11	42	72	103	133
13	12	43	73	104	134
14	13	44	74	105	135
15	14	45	75	106	136
16	15	46	76	107	137
17	16	47	77	108	138
18	17	48	78	109	139
19	18	49	79	110	140
20	19	50	80	111	141
21	20	51	81	112	142
22	21	52	82	113	143
23	22	53	83	114	144
24	23	54	84	115	145
25	24	55	85	116	146
26	25	56	86	117	147
27	26	57	87	118	148
28	27	58	88	119	149
29	28	59	89	120	150
30	29	60	90	121	151
31	30		91		152

Where heading date is not available

Heading dates pre 78.58 days are considered early

Heading dates between 78.58 and 90.86 are considered intermediate

Heading dates between 90.86 and 98.44 are considered late

Heading dates post 98.44 are considered very late

Please note heading data provided is a guide only, contact the grower for crop specific progress prior to inspection