



UNDERSTANDING GRASS SPECIES

Species	Kentucky bluegrass	Perennial ryegrass	Fine fescue	Tall fescue
Ideal temperature for seeding	15 – 25 °C	20 – 25 °C	18 – 25 °C	20 – 30 °C
Germination period	14 – 28 days	5 – 10 days	7 – 14 days	7 – 12 days
Drought tolerance	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate to high	High
Shade tolerance	Low to moderate	Moderate	High	Moderate to high
Recommended mowing height	5 – 7.5 cm 2–3"	4 – 7.5 cm 1.5–3"	5 – 7.5 cm 2–3"	5 – 7.5 cm 2–3"

WEEDS AS INDICATORS OF OTHER ISSUES

Weed species	Conditions that favour growth
Black medick	Low nitrogen, drought
Buttercup	High soil moisture
Dandelion	Full sun, compact soils, thin turf
Wild violet	High soil moisture, shade
Chickweed	High soil moisture, shade
Clover	Low nitrogen, drought, compaction
Crabgrass	Low nitrogen, compaction, high salt
Plantain	Low nitrogen, compaction, low mowing height, drought
Prostrate knotweed	Compaction, low nitrogen



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ADAPTED FROM TABLE 3-1 OMAFRA PUBLICATION 845: IPM MANAGEMENT FOR TURF

