



Genesee Grass Seed

Grass seed can be purchased at the Vista clubhouse office for \$10.00 per pound. 1 pound covers 500 sq. ft. with a properly calibrated spreader.

Genesee seed mix is a blend of Sideoats grama, Blue grama, Buffalo grass, Sheep fescue, Rocky Mountain Fescue, and Western wheatgrass.

Sowing instructions:

1. **Tilling:**
 - a. Till to 6-8 inches deep to reduce compaction from construction and prepare seedbed.
2. **Soil Preparation:**
 - a. Near house in higher maintenance areas: spread 3 cu. yards of organic matter (compost, peat, moss, etc.) Per 1000 sq. ft., use a grass starter fertilizer (high phosphorous) at applicable rates and till in 6-8-in. depth.
3. **Rake out rough grade:**
 - a. If left a little rough, it will resemble the undisturbed areas and may result in better establishment due to the moisture collected by roughness.
4. **Sow by drilling or broadcast spreading 20 lbs. per acre or 2 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft.:**
 - a. If broadcast sowing, cover seed with $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ in. soil by raking.
5. **Establish irrigation or no irrigation:**
 - a. **No irrigation:** Depending on the conditions of the season, sow between October 1 and April 1 to take advantage of natural precipitation.
 - b. **With irrigation:** sow immediately after last frost in spring and until end of June. Begin irrigation immediately and maintain a moist but soggy seedbed through daily light watering for 3 weeks. After 3 weeks, increase the amount of water applied but reduce the frequency to every other day for 2 weeks. Then, water once a week for a couple of weeks. After about 2 months, deep water every 2 weeks or as plant stress indicates for the first growing season.
 - c. **Long term care:** Deep water only during period of drought.

Percentages of the mix:

Sheep Fescue	30%
Western Wheatgrass	20%
Buffalograss	20%
Blue Grama	10%
Rocky Mountain Fescue	10%
Sideoats Grama	10%

What makes the grasses fire resistant?

All grasses will burn; these particular grasses are considered a fire mix because they are a “bunch” grass versus a “turf” grass, which won't carry a fire as well. The number of stems that grow from each bunch is small, usually one or two stems and the leaves will remain low to the ground. **It is still recommended to mow grasses to maintain a height no taller than 6 inches.**