

# Variety Description

## Variety

## MERAPIDO

<b>Species</b>	Italian ryegrass
<b>Botanical name</b>	Lolium multiflorum ssp. italicum
<b>Ploidy</b>	2
<b>Seeding rate</b>	40-45 kg/ha
<b>Distance between rows</b>	Similar to cereals
<b>Sowing period</b>	April to August
<b>Sowing depth</b>	1-2 cm

### Agronomic figures\*:

Heading	4
Development after sowing	5
Tendency to winterkilling	-
Tendency to lodging	4
Susceptibility to rust	3
Susceptibility to bacterial wilt	5
Susceptibility to fusarium	-
Susceptibility to mildew	-
DM-yield total	6
DM-yield first cut	5
DM-yield in aftermath	7



### Clarification of figures\*:

1: very early, very low / 5: medium / 9: very late, very high

\* **Source:** Bundessortenamt [Federal Plant Variety Office] 2022, state variety tests

### Variety description

MERAPIDO is a diploid variety bred in Belgium. The variety can be characterised as healthy and stable, with higher yields observed in the later cuts. MERAPIDO complements the existing portfolio of Italian ryegrass cultivars with a very healthy, stable diploid variety that reliably and quickly suppresses weeds. As a good hay producer, the variety stands out for its high yield and low tendency to lodging.

### Most important characteristics

High yields, particularly in later cuts  
High resistance to diseases, especially rust and leaf spots  
Low tendency to lodging in the first cut, with increased yields in later cuts; especially important for horse farms

### Usage

Italian ryegrass differs from perennial ryegrass mainly in terms of its higher dry matter yields, higher growth rate and lower persistence. Under ideal conditions it can be cropped up to six times a year. An extra cut for feed can be obtained for the autumn if sown in good time after harvesting the main crop.  
Sowing rate for undersowing: 20-25 kg/ha in March/April

