

# MEROA

TETRAPLOID ITALIAN RYEGRASS

*“Meroa is a late-maturing, high quality, true tetraploid Italian ryegrass with good winter hardiness. It is ideal for dairy, beef, and other high-performance forage applications.”*

Meroa is both a tetraploid and an Italian ryegrass. This makes it very useful. First, as a tetraploid ryegrass it has twice the chromosomes as a diploid ryegrass, higher sugar content, and bigger, more succulent leaves. Meroa is also a true Italian ryegrass, meaning that when planted in cool-season regions it normally will not go to seedhead until following next summer. In warm-season climates, fall planting is recommended.

## HIGH YIELDS

Meroa has higher forage yields than many other annual ryegrass varieties in both northern and southern locations.

## LATE MATURITY

Meroa is later maturing, producing abundant forage throughout the entire spring growing season. It also has very good regrowth.

## DAIRY-QUALITY FORAGE

Meroa has exhibited high forage quality, even late in the season and is an excellent forage for high-demand livestock.

## DISEASE RESISTANCE

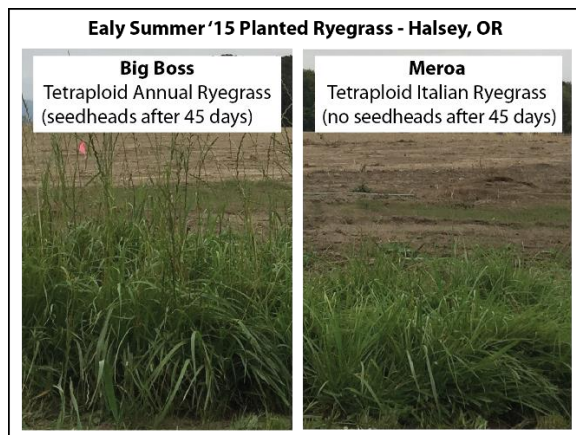
In 2015, Meroa exhibited virtually no susceptibility to grey leaf spot and rust, during a significant disease outbreak in North Florida.

## PLANT IT IN THE SPRING

Meroa exhibits all the best features of a true tetraploid Italian ryegrass. When planted in the spring/early summer in cooler climates, its true Italian parentage will prevent unwanted seedheads until the following year. Rather, Meroa will be able to provide abundant forage for high demanding livestock throughout the year and into the following spring.

## PLANT IT IN THE FALL

When sown in the fall, either as a cultivated planting or overseeding an existing pasture, Meroa's lush and leafy canopy will remain productive late into the spring season with forage yields continuing on until early summer. Meroa can be planted in both cool and warm season regions for winter forage. Meroa performs very well as a cover crop, providing good weed suppression and generous biomass.



## PLANTING INFORMATION

Seeding Rate: 35-45 lbs./acre for hay or grazing; 15-20 for cover crops

Optimal pH Range: 5-5-7.0

Planting Dates: Aug-Dec, Mar-May

Planting Depth: 0-1/2"

[Learn more about Meroa and other forage solutions at SmithSeed.com](http://SmithSeed.com)