



Lygia

Chewings Fescue



Lygia Chewings Fescue (*Festuca rubra*)

Lygia chewings fescue (CT4028) is a New Zealand bred chewings fescue that originated from a collection made in the south west of France. The plants were selected for adaptation into the New Zealand environment for improved turf quality and increased seed production. Lygia chewings fescue presents a vibrant bright green colour, strong winter activity and improved levels of disease resistance; in particular, Red thread.

The production of chewings fescue seed in New Zealand has a rich history dating back to 1880 when George Chewings, a farmer in the Rimu district of Southland, produced the first crop. This heritage underpins the development and adaptation of Lygia chewings fescue to local conditions.

ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES

Drought Tolerance: Moderate

Shade Tolerance: Moderate to high

Heat Tolerance: High

Cold Tolerance: Very high

SOWING RATE

20 – 35 g/m² (200 – 350 kg/ha)

BENEFITS:

- Vibrant bright green colour chewings fescue.
- Excellent density and leaf fineness.
- Outstanding year-round growth.
- Scored highly on disease resistance, particularly against Red thread (*Laetisaria fuciformis*).
- The overall turf quality score of Lygia was significantly higher than similar fescue varieties.

MAINTENANCE AND MOWING

Height: 25 - 75 mm

Fertiliser: 100 – 200 kg/N per year. Apply during periods of active growth (September – November, March – May).

Mowing: Two times/week during active growth and remove no more than 1/3 of the leaf per mowing.

	COLOUR*	DENSITY	ESTABLISHMENT	FINENESS	GROWTH	DISEASE RESISTANCE (Red thread)	TURF QUALITY
LYGIA	4.0	6.4	6.9	7.0	7.8	5.7	6.5
MERLOT	5.5	4.5	7.1	6.0	5.1	4.1	5.7
SURVIVOR	6.4	6.3	7.1	6.2	5.6	3.4	6.0

*Colour scale: 1 (Light Green) - 9 (Very Dark Green)

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