

Technical Data and Information Product Sheet

NATIVE BIOSWALE SEED MIXTURE

DESCRIPTION

A mixture of California native grasses that exhibit extensive root systems and grow in a wide range of soil types and conditions. It is an ideal product for use in bioswale landscape areas because of its adaptability and low water use. It can be either mowed or unmowed. Grasses in this mixture are classified as "California Friendly" by California Water Agencies and recommended for use in landscapes as a low water user. This product is available in seed or sod. Please contact our office for more information.

CHARACTERISTICS

Features

All California native grasses All perennial grasses Excellent seedling vigor Extensive root system

Benefits

No non-native invasive species Longer lived stand Fast establishment Reduces soil erosion

USES

* Bioswales

*Roadsides

* Erosion Control

*Commercial Sites

SEEDING RATES

Suggested seeding rate for new establishment is 5 pounds per 1000 square feet or 200 pounds per acre. Lighter rates can be used for overseeding depending on the existing stand.

ESTABLISHMENT

Best times for seeding are September through April. Summer seeding can be achieved with supplemental irrigation. Weed control prior to seeding with glyphosate is recommended.

Seed-to-soil contact is critical for success either by seed drilling, hydroseeding or hand seeding with mulching. In the absence of natural rainfall, short, frequent applications of water are necessary for 4-6 weeks.

CULTURAL INFORMATION

Water Requirements

The native grasses in this mixture will withstand prolonged periods of drought. If some green vegetation is desired then supplemental summer irrigation is necessary. If no summer irrigation is provided the grasses will become a dormant golden color and green up in the fall with rainfall. It is recommended that supplemental irrigation is supplied through one summer season in order for the grasses to establish deep root systems.

Climate Conditions

This seed mixture is suitable for foothill, valley and coastal regions of California.

Soil Conditions

This mixture performs best in clay or sandy soils with a pH range of 5.5 to 8.5.

Fertilization

Use of a starter fertilizer when seeding is highly recommended. While fertilizer on native grasses is not critical it is recommended to promote growth and increase establishment. Fertilize during periods of active growth in Spring and Fall with a balanced fertilizer. Avoid using products with a high nitrogen (N) content as such use increases water use. Apply no more than 4 pounds of N per 1,000 square feet per year.

Mowing

It is not necessary to mow the Bioswale Mixture but it can be mowed if a neater look is desired. Mowing height should be no lower than 3 inches. Never mow more than 1/3 of the leaf blade on a mowing cycle.

SPECIFICATIONS

NATIVE BIOSWALE SEED MIXTURE:

Molate Creeping Red Fescue (Festuca rubra 'Molate'). Perennial, cool season, fine textured native bunch grass that also spreads by rhizomes. An attractive ornamental grass either mown or unmown. Popular for natural landscapes and low maintenance buffer areas.

California Barley (Hordeum californicum). Perennial, cool season, California native bunch grass. Loose green foliage. Exhibits good mowing tolerance and grows in full sun to light shade. Salt tolerant.

Creeping Wildrye (Leymus triticoides). Perennial, cool season, rhizomatous grass. California native. Vigorous grower. A vigorous, rhizomatous perennial grass that grows on a wide range of soils. It is well adapted to alkaline soils and tolerates high summer temperatures.

Purple Needlegrass (Nasella pulchra). Perennial, cool season bunch grass. Official California State Grass. Once established, it is tolerant to extreme heat and drought. Attractive and interesting seed panicles with a purple cast. Widely distributed.

Tufted Hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*) Perennial, cool season bunch grass. California native. A densely tufted, fine textured, dark green grass. A large, densly-tufted coarse bunchgrass.

Sandberg Bluegrass (Poa secunda). Perennial, cool season. A medium-sized bunchgrass with soft foliage. Summer dormant.

HELPFUL LINKS

For more information visit www.stoverseed.com

