



Product Guide 2026

Next Generation Forage Seed



Innovation for
your growth

www.dsv-northstar.com

As a worldwide breeding and seed company with 100 years of experience, Deutsche Saatveredelung AG (DSV) offers its customers innovative varieties and complex cultivation methods. DSV is a full-service provider for the entire agricultural crop rotation and turf grasses. We are a successful breeder of oilseed rape and cereals, as well as grasses and small-seeded forage legumes. Furthermore, we are specialists in cover crops and offer a wide-ranging maize portfolio as well as sorghum. We provide turf customers with several solutions, beginning with single varieties for all kind of turf use, high-quality mixtures for professional or private use up to complete programs for the do-it-yourself market. Our activities encompass not only the breeding and production of new varieties with the properties and combinations of features desired by our customers, but also expert advice, high-quality service and extensive marketing through a global distribution network. Working on the 'one-stop shop' principle, we are a full-service supplier in the seed sector.



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DSV Northstar: Innovation for your Growth

In 2022 Northstar Seed merged with Deutsche Saatveredelung AG (DSV) and DSV Northstar Ltd. was built. With this union 100 years of European experience in plant breeding and research was joined with 40 years of Western Canadian seed production and agronomic service excellence. The combination of the strengths of both companies would benefit seed producers across Western Canada. DSV Northstar stands for extensive breeding and testing on forage grass species and small-seeded legumes. This includes Italian, Annual and Hybrid ryegrass, Timothy, Meadow fescue, Tall fescue, Orchardgrass as well as different clover species and alfalfa.

DSV as a grass breeder selects new forage crops not only for yield, tolerance to diseases and abiotic stress factors, they also place a special focus on forage quality. The aim is to select forage plants for a high milk yield and beef production. Therefore varieties are especially selected for an extraordinary digestibility and a high nutrient concentration. Once the varieties have been selected for yield and quality, cold weather testing and climate suitability takes place in our testing facilities in Neepawa, Manitoba. Varieties have to endure and thrive in the harsh Canadian climate before they can go out in a DSV Northstar branded seed bag.

Prior to Northstar Seed joining DSV, 30 years of experience in testing and producing of DSV varieties were present. After intensive testing, DSV products such as NOVIO Timothy, PREVAL Meadow fescue and DOLOMIT Italian ryegrass were made available through Northstar Seed. The result of this strategic relationship finally resulted in the formation of DSV Northstar Ltd.

Cover crops and soil health are important topics of conversation today. Experience from 100 years of breeding has taught that healthy soil is the basis for sustainable growth. Without a profound understanding of the interactions and processes, resource-conserving agriculture is not possible. DSV breeds healthy, nutrient-efficient varieties and are experts in sustainable crop rotation systems, such as cover crops and undersowing crops.

All this is based on effective quality management, which is called Integrated Quality (IQ). This approach encompasses all divisions of the company to implement one integrated and comprehensive product offering that is based on high production standards. DSV Northstar sales agronomists listen to their customers and provide extensive and individualized advice, relaying customers' needs back to the breeders.

Our goal is to help to create a forage and cover crop plan that will benefit your animals, your soil, and your income. **Innovation for your Growth.**

Top Highlighted Products for 2026

ENFORCER Alfalfa

The name says it all

Power, persistence, and premium performance: **ENFORCER** is the alfalfa variety that lives up to its name – commanding top-tier yield, elite forage quality, and unshakable resilience. Developed through a non-GMO breeding program, the new variety is built to dominate fields with its tap and branch root system, brilliant dark green canopy, and very high multi-leaf expression. With excellent yield potential and premium digestibility, **ENFORCER** delivers the kind of performance that turns heads and fills bunkers.

Whether you are pushing for yield, quality, or stand durability, **ENFORCER** is your go-to alfalfa. It is not just tough – it is top-performing. When you need a variety that won't back down.

Unmatched forage output

- **Elite disease resistance**
ENFORCER boasts a 34/35 disease resistance index (DRI) and high resistance (HR) to a full spectrum of threats – including bacterial wilt, fusarium wilt, verticillium wilt, phytophthora root rot, and both anthracnose race 1 & 5 – making it one of the most robust varieties in the field.
- **Rooted for success**
Its tap/branch root architecture ensures deep anchoring, nutrient access, and regrowth strength – ideal for producers who demand stand longevity and consistent performance.
- **Visual & nutritional appeal**
With a brilliant dark green color and very high multi-leaf expression, **ENFORCER** delivers both eye-catching stands and high-energy feed.

Agronomic Highlights		
Fall dormancy	3.8	Excellent winter survival with strong seasonal growth
WSI Rating	1.5	Superior standability and stress tolerance
Recovery after cutting	average	Reliable regrowth for multiple harvests

Aphanomyces resistance: race 1 – R



JACKKNIFE Alfalfa

The triple threat in forage performance

JACKKNIFE is the ultimate multi-tool in your forage arsenal – engineered to deliver exceptional yield, premium quality, and unmatched adaptability. Developed through a non-GMO breeding program, the new variety combines the best of all root systems – branching, tap, and creeping – to thrive across diverse conditions and management styles. **JACKKNIFE** consistently delivers top-tier tonnage and digestibility, making it a standout performer in both hay and haylage systems.

Whether you are chasing yield, quality, or stand longevity, **JACKKNIFE** delivers – no compromises, no shortcuts. It is the alfalfa that adapts, performs, and endures. The alfalfa that works as hard as you do.

Elite forage yield and quality

- **Elite disease resistance**

With a 34/35 disease resistance index (DRI) and high resistance (HR) to major alfalfa diseases – including bacterial wilt, fusarium wilt, verticillium wilt, anthracnose race 1, and phytophthora root rot – **JACKKNIFE** is built to last.

- **Rooted for success**

Whether you are pushing for aggressive regrowth or long-term stand persistence, **JACKKNIFE** adapts with its branching root base, taproot depth, and creeping root spread – a rare trifecta that supports both vigor and longevity.

- **Visual & nutritional appeal**

With a very dark green canopy and 50 % multi-leaf expression **JACKKNIFE** delivers the visual and nutritional traits that livestock producers demand.

Agronomic Highlights

Fall dormancy	4.2	Balances winter hardiness with strong regrowth
WSI Rating	1.6	Excellent standability and stress tolerance
Recovery after cutting	average	Dependable regrowth for multiple harvests

Aphanomyces resistance: race 1 – HR / race 2 – R



Top Highlighted Products for 2026



AAC RENEGADE Crested wheatgrass

A hardy, early-spring forage for dryland systems. Excellent drought tolerance and winter survival. Fast establishment with strong seedling vigor. Ideal for grazing and hay production. Reliable performance backed by the Ag Canada breeding program.



FORCE MAX Italian annual ryegrass blend

50% SENDERO & 50% DOLOMIT

DSV Northstar offers producers another great option with this high-yielding, exceedingly palatable and digestible blend by combining the strengths of SENDERO and DOLOMIT.

FORCE MAX will deliver results whether you are planting for silage, hay or using in a cover crop.

Benefits of combining diploid and tetraploid genetics in a grass blend:

Tetraploid ryegrasses usually have higher water and sugar content than diploids, which can improve palatability and animal intake. This combination makes the blend attractive to livestock, leading to better grazing and feed efficiency.

A mix of diploid and tetraploid ryegrass can improve resilience against diseases, environmental stress as well as produce higher yields. Tetraploids often have better tolerance to drought and disease, while diploids tend to withstand cold weather and close grazing.

The balance of traits in a diploid-tetraploid blend can create a versatile, resilient, and nutritionally valuable pasture option suited for diverse climates and management practices.



JUNGLE Italian ryegrass

A tetraploid variety with vigorous growth and thick tillers. Lush, wide leaves offer exceptional palatability and digestibility. High sugar content delivers superior energy and feed quality. Fast regrowth after grazing, ideal for intensive systems

Perfect for haylage, green crops, pasture renovation, or dry hay.



RADDE Timothy

A premium early-medium maturing Timothy variety bred for northern climates. Exceptional winter hardiness and regrowth vigor. High-yielding with superior forage quality. Ideal for hay and pasture systems. Trusted genetics from DSV for consistent performance.



Alfalfa Selection Guide

Variety	Fall dormancy	Winter hardiness	Root type	Key features
JACKKNIFE All-in-one 	4.2	1.6	Branching Tap Creeping	The triple threat in forage performance – Combines branching/tap/creeping root systems – Complete disease package – Sunken crown
ENFORCER Stand strong 	3.8	1.5	Branching Tap	The name says it all – Very high multi-leaf expression – Tap/branching root architecture – Excellent yield potential and premium digestibility – Complete disease packages
AAC MEADOWVIEW Acid tolerant	2	3	Branching Tap	Acid tolerant variety ideally suited for the foothills of AB and Peace region of AB and BC – Deep set crowns – Erect spring growth habit – Rapid regrowth after cutting
EXCEED Branch root	4	1.8	Branching	Very high forage quality with large multifoliate and trifoliate leaves – Excellent forage quality – High yielding branch rooted variety – Strong disease resistance package combined with branch root technology for all soil moisture conditions
REVOLUTION MD Maximum digestibility	3.7	1.7	Tap	Exceptional forage quality – High RFQ (Relative Feed Quality) rating and rate of digestion – Large leaf area with an increased leaf to stem ratio – Outstanding disease and pest resistance package – Excellent winter hardiness combined with high yield potential
PERFECTION Rapid growth	4	2	Tap	The latest advancement in StandFast Technology – Selected for high forage DM and NDF levels – High multifoliate expression and fast recovery – Well suited for silage production & dairy producers
RUGGED ST Salt tolerant	3	2	Tap	A very hardy variety – Large, broad, deep set crowns – Tolerance to increased salt level
SIDEWINDER Creeping root	2	1.6	Creeping	Selected for high forage yield with excellent winter hardiness and persistence – Later maturity which adds value to a grass blend – Deep set crown with wheel traffic tolerance – Excellent disease resistance package – Multipurpose variety for forage hay or pasture
HAYGRAZER Grazing tolerant	4	2	Fibrous	A flexible variety that is bred for high hay yields as well as grazing tolerance – Aggressive fibrous root system – Sunken crown stands up to grazing pressure and high traffic from equipment – Tolerant to defoliation by the Alfalfa Weevil

Fall dormancy: 1–4 dormant, 5–7 semi-dormant, 8–11 non-dormant | Winter hardiness: 1 extremely hardy – 6 non winter hardy

Variety	Fall dormancy	Winter hardiness	Root type	Key features
ALFALFA BLEND 10-5 Adapted to variable conditions	Mix of 2-4	Mix of 1.5-2	Creeping, tap, branch and fibrous	Premium blend of five certified varieties with unique traits that enhance plant population across variable field conditions – Now contains AAC MEADOWVIEW, HAYGRAZER, EXCEED, RUGGED, and SIDEWINDER alfalfa
RANCHERS CHOICE BRAND Common #1 Blend	n/a	n/a	Combined creeping and tap	Consistent performing alfalfa blend – Blend of multifoliate, trifoliate and creeping root varieties that are consistent performers

Fall dormancy: 1–4 dormant, 5–7 semi-dormant, 8–11 non-dormant | Winter hardiness: 1 extremely hardy – 6 non winter hardy

Legume Selection Guide

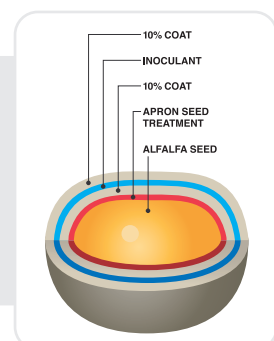
Species	Hay	Pasture	Flood tolerance	Drought tolerance	Key features
AAC MOUNTAINVIEW Sainfoin	•	•		•	– Non bloating – Similar maturity and regrowth to alfalfa – Suited for multi cut hay or grazing with alfalfa
Cicer milkvetch		•		•	– Non bloating – Very competitive once established
Birdsfoot trefoil		•	•		– Non bloating – Reseeds itself – Excellent feed quality
Yellow blossom sweet clover	•			•	– Biennial – Improves soil drainage – Harvest early for best quality
Red clover	•	•	•		– Tolerates wetter and more acidic soils than alfalfa
Alsike clover	•	•	•		– Tolerates wet soils with poor drainage
White Dutch clover		•			– Good for grazing – Good regrowth, also spreads by rhizomes and reseeding itself
Berseem clover	•				– Annual crops only – Low bloat – Tolerates wet soils
Crimson clover	•				– Annual crops only – Grows on many different types of soil

Stratum protective coating

Stratum creates a protective barrier that separates the Apron® fungicide treatment from the inoculant, safeguarding the viability of nodule-forming bacteria. This intelligent formulation ensures effective nitrogen fixation and supports vigorous plant development.

Key Feature:

20% total coating by weight for optimal protection and performance.



Forage Grass Selection Guide

Variety	Hay	Pasture	Saline tolerance	Flood tolerance	Drought tolerance	Key features
AAC MAXIMUS Meadow brome grass	•	•			•	– Taller than FLEET meadow brome grass – More upright growth habit than FLEET
CARLTON Smooth brome grass	•	•	•	•	•	– Widely adaptable – Sod forming – Moderate saline, moisture and drought tolerance
AC KNOWLES Hybrid brome grass	•	•	•	•	•	– Smooth and meadow brome grass hybrid – Yields like smooth brome with a longer growing season similar to meadow brome – Improved leaf expression compared to smooth brome
FALLADINO Annual ryegrass	•	•		•		– Tetraploid variety – Outstanding rust resistance – Good option for inter & intra cropping
DOLOMIT Italian ryegrass	•	•		•		– Tetraploid variety – Perfect yield especially in the first cut – Improved disease package
VALERIO Perennial ryegrass	•	•				– Tetraploid variety – Late maturity – Strong yield – Excellent persistence
SATIN Soft leaf tall fescue	•	•	•	•	•	– SATIN provides excellent forage quality combined with a strong disease package – Very compatible in a stand with other legumes – Very adaptable to high moisture stress and early signs of salinity
COURTENAY Tall fescue	•	•	•	•	•	– Good flood and saline tolerance – Large basal leaves, high quality – Exceptional yield potential – Improved winter hardiness
TUNDRA Late orchardgrass	•	•	•	•		– Exceptional orchardgrass that demonstrated above average winter hardiness – Excellent companion when blended with alfalfa – Moderate drought and flooding tolerance – Selected for high quality (leafy)

Variety	Hay	Pasture	Saline tolerance	Flood tolerance	Drought tolerance	Key features
PREVAL Meadow fescue	•	•	•	•		– Tolerates wet soils – Withstands close grazing, excellent for rotational grazing – Use in hay and pasture blends
TETRAX Meadow fescue	•	•	•	•		– Extremely robust tetraploid variety – Winter hardy – High digestibility values
BOREAL Creeping red fescue		•		•		– Great performance in pastures under high moisture conditions – Tolerates close grazing – Good quality in fall to freeze up
ATURO Timothy	•	•		•		– Good yielding and persistent – Low tendency for lodging – Large soft leaves
NOVIO Timothy	•	•		•		– Export quality with medium maturity – Large soft leaves – Extremely winter hardy
RADDE Timothy NEW!	•	•		•		– High-yielding with superior forage quality – Ideal for hay & pasture systems – Winter hardy
AAC RENEGADE Crested wheatgrass	•	•			•	– Ideal persistence – Performed well in all soil zones in Canadian Prairies – Out performs KIRK
SPRING GREEN Festulolium	•	•		•	•	– Meadow fescue x perennial ryegrass cross – Improved tolerance to dry conditions and cold stress due to its deep root system – Very good winter hardiness for a festulolium

Max Seed Blends Hay

PREMIUM HAY MAX

A very hardy mixture that includes ATURO Timothy, our high quality leafy timothy and alfalfa blend 10-5, our premium alfalfa blend. This blend delivers a multi-cut hay stand under good management and variable soil conditions.

MAXI

High production blend for producers wanting a top quality alfalfa and timothy hay. ATURO Timothy performs well in low lying areas, and will assist in holding up the swath.

SALINE HAY MAX

This salt tolerant blend is suited for productive soils that are showing the early signs of salt stress.

RANCHER'S HAY MAX

A very adaptable blend that will deliver high yield potential under good fertility and moisture conditions.

LOWLAND MAX

The ideal blend for hay or pasture in areas with poor drainage as it has tolerance to increased moisture conditions.

MEADOW MAX

Designed for its robust winter hardiness, with fast spring regrowth, high digestibility, recovery time after grazing or cutting, and its ability to adapt to a wide range of soil types and growing conditions.

FORCE MAX

High yielding, exceedingly palatable, and digestible blend combining the strengths of diploid and tetraploid genetics.

65 %	ALFALFA BLEND 10-5
30 %	AAC MAXIMUS Meadow brome grass
5 %	ATURO Timothy
Seeding rate 10 – 12 lb/ac*	

90 %	ALFALFA BLEND 10-5
10 %	ATURO Timothy
Seeding rate 10 – 12 lb/ac*	

40 %	COURTENAY Tall fescue
30 %	RUGGED ST Alfalfa
20 %	CARLTON Smooth brome grass
10 %	Tall wheatgrass
Seeding rate 10 – 12 lb/ac*	

50 %	RANCHER'S CHOICE BRAND Alfalfa
30 %	AAC MAXIMUS Meadow brome grass
20 %	CARLTON Smooth brome grass
Seeding rate 12 – 14 lb/ac*	

50 %	COURTENAY Tall fescue
30 %	PALATON Reed canary grass
20 %	ATURO Timothy
Seeding rate 10 – 14 lb/ac*	

50 %	TETRAX Meadow fescue
50 %	PREVAL Meadow fescue
Seeding rate 10 – 12 lbs/ac*	

50 %	SENDERO Italian ryegrass
50 %	DOLOMIT Italian ryegrass
Seeding rate 12 – 14 lb/ac*	

Varieties subject to change due to availability

Dual Purpose: Hay or Pasture

DUAL MAX

This blend of high quality grasses, that have very good regrowth habits and prefer medium to heavy soils, is suited to most grazing or haying systems.

50 %	AAC MAXIMUS Meadow bromegrass
25 %	CARLTON Smooth bromegrass
20 %	HIGH ARCTIC BRAND Orchardgrass
5 %	ALFALFA BLEND 10-5

Seeding rate 12 – 14 lb/ac*

WESTERN GRASS MAX

When managed properly, this high quality all grass mix, can be a very productive hay and pasture blend that has no concerns with bloat.

45 %	AAC MAXIMUS Meadow bromegrass
25 %	HIGH ARCTIC BRAND Orchardgrass
15 %	COURTENAY Tall fescue
10 %	ATURO Timothy
5 %	Creeping Red fescue

Seeding rate 14 – 16 lb/ac*

EQUINE PASTURE MAX

An all grass blend for horse owners providing a palatable grazing option from spring to late fall. This blend can also be used as baled forage to provide a nutritious feed source for all classes of horses.

40 %	AAC MAXIMUS Meadow bromegrass
20 %	HIGH ARCTIC BRAND Orchardgrass
10 %	PREVAL Meadow fescue
10 %	VALERIO Perennial ryegrass
10 %	BOREAL Creeping red fescue
10 %	ATURO Timothy

Seeding rate 12 – 14 lb/ac*

BLOAT FREE MAX

Utilizes non-bloating legumes AAC MOUNTAINVIEW Sainfoin and Cicer Milkvetch combined with highly palatable grasses.

40 %	AAC MAXIMUS Meadow bromegrass
25 %	AAC MOUNTAINVIEW Sainfoin
25 %	Cicer Milkvetch
10 %	COURTENAY Tall fescue

Seeding rate 16 – 18 lb/ac*

DRYLAND DUAL MAX

For dryland pasture production. Meadow Bromegrass offers a long grazing season with very good quality and regrowth. Crested Wheatgrass has excellent early season growth.

65 %	AAC MAXIMUS Meadow bromegrass
15 %	AAC RENEGADE Crested wheatgrass
15 %	Pubescent wheatgrass
5 %	SIDEWINDER Alfalfa

Seeding rate 10 – 12 lb/ac*

SALINE PASTURE MAX

High quality all grass blend designed for saline areas in the low to mid EC levels.

30 %	COURTENAY Tall fescue
30 %	CARLTON Smooth bromegrass
20 %	Slender Wheatgrass
20 %	Dahurian Wildrye

Seeding rate 12 – 14 lb/ac*

* On the above Max seed blends seeding rates need to be adjusted if coated seeds are used.

Forage Adaption Guide

Grasses

Species	Use	Longevity	Winter hardiness	Root	Average seeds/lb.	Growing period
Creeping foxtail	pasture	long	good	sod forming	750,000	early spring – fall
Dahurian wildrye	pasture	short	good	bunch grass	80,000	spring – fall
Meadow fescue	pasture	short/ medium	good	bunch grass	230,000	early spring – late fall
Russian wildrye	pasture	long	excellent	bunch grass	175,000	early spring – mid summer
Tall fescue	pasture	medium	good	bunch grass	225,000	late spring – fall
Creeping red fescue	pasture/lawn	long	excellent	sod forming	615,000	spring – fall
Kentucky bluegrass	pasture/lawn	long	excellent	sod forming	2,180,000	spring – fall
Crested wheatgrass	pasture/hay	long	excellent	bunch grass	175,000	early spring
Annual ryegrass (Italian)	hay/pasture	annual	poor	bunch grass	230,000	spring – fall
Intermediate wheatgrass	hay/pasture	short/ medium	good	sod forming	88,000	late spring – mid summer
Meadow brome grass	hay/pasture	long	good	bunch grass	80,000	early spring – late Summer
Orchardgrass	hay/pasture	short	fair	bunch grass	650,000	spring – fall
Perennial ryegrass	hay/pasture	short	poor	bunch grass	330,000	spring – fall
Pubescent wheatgrass	hay/pasture	medium	good	sod forming	100,000	early spring – mid summer
Smooth brome grass	hay/pasture	long	excellent	sod forming	136,000	mid spring – mid summer
Reed canary grass	hay/pasture	long	medium	sod forming	534,000	spring – summer
Tall wheatgrass	hay/pasture	long	excellent	bunch grass	79,000	late spring – mid summer
Slender wheatgrass	hay/pasture	short	good	bunch grass	160,000	mid spring – mid summer
Timothy	hay/pasture	medium	good	bunch grass	1,230,000	spring – summer
Western wheatgrass	hay/pasture	long	excellent	sod forming	110,000	late spring – summer

Legumes

Species	Use	Longevity	Winter hardiness	Root	Average seeds/lb.	Growing period
Birdsfoot trefoil	pasture	long	good	tap rooted with branches	370,000	spring – fall
Cicer milkvetch	pasture	long	good	creeping rooted	130,000	late spring – fall
Sainfoin	pasture	long	fair	tap rooted	18,000 unhulled	spring – summer
White clover	pasture	short/long	good	rhizomatous	800,000	spring – fall
Alfalfa	hay/pasture	long	good	tap, branch, creeping rooted and sunken crown	200,000	spring – fall
Alsike clover	hay/pasture	short	fair	branched	700,000	spring
Red clover	hay/pasture	long	poor	tap rooted with side branches	275,000	spring
Sweet clover	hay/silage	short	fair	tap rooted	260,000	spring of 2nd year

Lawn Seed Blends

Turf solutions that work for you

Whether you are managing a lawn, sports field, golf course, or roadside project, our turf options are designed to perform. Choose from premade stock blends or work with us to create a custom blend tailored to your soil, climate, and usage needs.

We offer a diverse lineup of certified and common turf species, including Kentucky bluegrass, Creeping red fescue, Perennial ryegrass, and Annual ryegrass. Our portfolio also features specialty options like turf clover for added nitrogen and resilience, and Sheep/Hard fescue for low-maintenance, drought-tolerant turf that thrives in challenging conditions.

Unlike many other suppliers of lawn seed, DSV Northstar provides bare turf seed that is uncoated and completely free of fillers – ensuring every bag is composed of pure seed and essential components, with no coatings or added bulk. This leads to superior germination, more uniform establishment, and eliminates unnecessary additives that can compromise performance. By starting with pure seed, turf professionals and managers retain full control over soil amendments and treatments, making it the ideal solution for those who prioritize precision, consistency, and long-term results. With over 50 years of experience in turfgrass breeding and seed production in Europe, choosing us means investing in a trusted partnership dedicated to growing your success.



Mixture	Components	Moisture requirement	Key features
DELUXE BLEND	70% Kentucky bluegrass 20% Creeping red fescue 10% Perennial ryegrass	• • • •	– Contains the highest percentage of Kentucky bluegrass – For homeowners wanting a lush, vibrant green lawn
SUN AND SHADE	50% Kentucky bluegrass 30% Creeping red fescue 20% Perennial ryegrass	• • •	– Best suited for sunny areas and will tolerate partial shade
INSTAGREEN	40% Kentucky bluegrass 40% Creeping red fescue 20% Annual ryegrass	• • •	– Very quick to establish – Most economical blend for general use
NITROGREEN	40% Kentucky bluegrass 35% Creeping red fescue 15% Annual ryegrass 10% EUROMIC Small leafed turf clover	• • •	– Provides natural nitrogen – Increase wear qualities – Reduced weed invasion – Improved drought tolerance
ECO-GROW	35% BOREAL Creeping red fescue 25% Sheep fescue 25% Hard fescue 15% Chewings fescue	•	– Low maintenance blend of premium fescues – Low growing – Less mowing – Ideal for small acreages or for securing ground cover for livestock habitat
PLAYGROUND BLEND	30% Creeping red fescue 30% Hard fescue 20% Sheep fescue 10% TIREM Kentucky bluegrass 10% Turf type Perennial ryegrass	• •	– A low maintenance, easy to manage blend that will last for years – Stands up to heavy foot traffic

Moisture requirement: • • • • = high • = low

Reclamation & Native Species

DSV Northstar is proud to offer a full line of high quality native cool and warm season grass species, legumes, and wetland grasses across Western Canada.

We provide native blends for all types of projects; from reclamation sites and wetland habitats to major infrastructure projects and national parks.

Our team of sales agronomists work closely with contractors, engineers and conservation districts to meet the specification requirements for purity and germination for projects, large or small.

Available native species			
Alpine bluegrass	Creeping foxtail	Little bluestem	Sandberg bluegrass
American vetch	Fowl bluegrass	Mountain brome	Sheeps fescue
Awned wheatgrass	Fringed brome	Needle & thread grass	Side oats grama
Baltic rush	Fults alkaligrass	Nodding bromes	Slender wheatgrass
Beaked sedge	Green needlegrass	Northern wheatgrass	Slough grass
Big bluestem	Hairy vetch	Prairie cordgrass	Smooth wildrye
Blue grama	Hairy wildrye	Prairie sandreed	Streambank wheatgrass
Bluebunch wheatgrass	Idaho fescue	Pubescent wheatgrass	Switchgrass
Bluejoint reedgrass	Indian grass	Purple prairie clover	Tall mannagrass
Canada bluegrass	Indian ricegrass	Red top	Ticklegrass
Canada wildrye	Inland saltgrass	Rocky mountain fescue	Tufted hairgrass
Canadian milkvetch	Junegrass	Rough fescue	Violet wheatgrass
Common sedge	Lewis blue flax	Sand dropseed	Western wheatgrass

Other species may become available



Annual Cover Crop Program

DSV Northstar has been involved in cover crops for over a decade, and have developed our product lineup to meet the demand of this diverse and growing market.

We can provide various cover crop blends for double cropping under irrigation, summer/fall grazing, stored forage, nitrogen fixation, and soil health improvements. We have also recommended annual legumes as a part of intercropping with cereal grain production.

Please contact your DSV Northstar sales agronomist or DSV Northstar dealer, and let us assist you in your perennial and annual forage planning.

Available annual cover crop species and varieties:

- Berseem clover
- Crimson clover
- Collards
- Ladino clover
- GROUNDHOG BRAND radish
- VIVANT Hybrid forage brassica
- GORILLA Forage rape
- Kale
- Purple top turnips
- APPIN turnips
- Sugar beets
- Hairy vetch
- Chicory
- Austrian winter pea(s)
- LIVIOLETTA field pea(s)
- Persian clover
- Serradella
- Faba beans
- Plantain
- Buckwheat
- Sunflowers
- NS BRAND Sorghum sudangrass
- NS DRYSTALK BRAND BMR Sorghum sudangrass
- Golden German millet
- Japanese millet
- Proso millet
- FALLADINO Annual ryegrass
- DOLOMIT Italian ryegrass
- Forage soybean (conventional & roundup ready)



Annual Forage Selection

The use of annual forages as cover crops continues to grow with a strong focus on improving soil health. The integration of livestock into a cover cropping system assists in the efficiency of the nutrient cycling ecosystem.

As we explore the benefits of **regenerative agriculture**, the use of cover cropping with annual forages combined with the use of perennial forages are key to improving soil health. The focus of regenerative agriculture is to increase biodiversity, improve the water cycle, and strengthen the health and vitality of the soil. This means protecting the soil with armour, and keeping root activity alive for an extended period.

Cool season				Warm season		
GRASS	BROADLEAF				GRASS	
			LEGUMES			
Barley				Pearl millet		
Oats			Ladino clover	Soybeans		Japanese millet
Ryegrass	Phacelia	Turnip	Forage peas	Chickpeas		Golden German millet
Wheat	Kale	Radish	Berseem clover	Buckwheat		Proso millet
Cereal rye	Canola	Beets	Sweet clover	Sunflowers		Sorghum sudangrass
Triticale	Mustard	Forage brassica	Hairy vetch	Chicory		Corn

The use of annual forages in your rotational program allows you to increase biodiversity within your cropping systems. The overall goal is to increase soil carbon through vegetative growth with moisture being the caveat.

Producers use many different prescriptions to achieve biodiversity and their ability to affect soil health on their operation. Regenerative agriculture is most often unique to an individual operation requiring site-specific recommendations.

Improving soil health will require using the five basic principles of **regenerative agriculture**:

- Create soil armor by keeping the soil covered, with no bare ground.
- Minimize soil disturbance by utilizing reduced/no till practices on cropland and adaptive grazing strategies on grazing lands.
- Increase plant diversity; rotate crops and include warm- and cool-season grasses and forbs in pastures.
- Keep living roots in the ground all year.
- Integrate livestock grazing.

Cover Crop Blends

Planting cover crops is becoming a common and very rewarding farming practice across the prairies. There is no silver bullet when it comes to cover cropping. At DSV Northstar we offer tailored solutions and custom blending capabilities for your desired outcome.

D.C. GRAZER MAX

A fall grazing/double-crop blend with premium varieties.

This mix of high feed value, rapid growth brassicas featuring a low glucosinolate forage rape, and Italian ryegrass brings phenomenal fall grazing without breaking the bank.

60 %	DOLOMIT Italian ryegrass
20 %	VIVANT Hybrid forage brassica
20 %	GORILLA Forage rape

Seeding rate 10 – 12 lb/ac*

SOIL HEALTH MAX

Multi species blend to improve soil quality.

All the beneficial soil improvement characteristics: deep roots to capture nutrients, penetrate hardpan and improve soil tilth, N fixing, as well as hosting a beneficial nematode environment.

35 %	Berseem clover
25 %	Purple top turnip
25 %	GROUNDHOG BRAND Radish
15 %	Phacelia

Seeding rate 8 – 10 lb/ac*

SWATH GRAZE MAX

Most popular cover crop blend.

Superior mix of leafy forages, legume and grass, providing high feed value and maximum rate of gain for cattle. Great companion with cereals for swath grazing. Cut for silage or graze in summer and graze regrowth in the fall.

60 %	Japanese millet
20 %	Berseem clover
10 %	GORILLA Forage rape
10 %	APPIN Forage turnip

Seeding rate 10 – 12 lb/ac*

MAX BUZZ

Pollinator species.

This pollinator blend will provide season long flowering for beneficial pollinators, and will look beautiful too!

34 %	Crimson clover
33 %	Phacelia
33 %	Berseem clover

Seeding rate 8 – 10 lb/ac*

*seeding rates reflect no companion crop



Successful Forage Establishment

Careful planning and attention to detail are essential to ensure successful forage establishment. A successful forage stand depends on the selection of species and cultivars that are adapted to your environment and for the intended use of the forage. Your decision to plant a forage should be made with consideration of the following:

Weed control: Consider the herbicides used in the last couple of years to ensure there are no herbicide residue issues as some products may inhibit or reduce seedling survival. Plan for a weed control program on the forages that you are seeding to control and reduce weed competition.

Seedbed preparation: The seedbed should be firm and weed-free prior to seeding. It is important to achieve close seed to soil contact to allow for accurate seed placement which means a firm, solid seedbed. Walking or driving across a seedbed should only leave a faint imprint. A clean stubble field makes for a perfect environment.

Seeding date: Spring seeding is ideal when soil temperatures have reached 8 to 10°C and moisture levels are good for ideal germination to occur. Moisture deficiency is often a cause of poor stand establishment, so seeding with anticipated precipitation in the spring is most successful. If you choose to dormant seed, plant when the soil temperature is below 2°C to prevent germination until the following spring.

Seeding rate and equipment: Seeding rates should be determined based on a combination of factors such as: the end use requirement, the predicted survival rate of the seedlings, moisture conditions, and most importantly the seeds per square foot in the field rather than percent by weight. Contact your DSV Northstar Seed sales agronomist for the ideal seeds per square foot for the various soil zones.

Producers have used various equipment to successfully seed and establish forages. What is most important is the ability to control the seeding depth and accurately meter small amounts of seed and avoid bridging when using chaffy seeds. Having an agitator in the seed box or mixing in an inert carrier or phosphate fertilizer with a ratio of 1 to 3 by weight will eliminate bridging and result in good seed flow.

Using equipment such as double disc drills, hoe drills, or air seeders and drills provide for excellent seed to soil contact, the exception may be the use of a broadcast applicator. With a broadcast applicator, it is recommended that you increase seeding rate by 20 % to adjust for seed that remains on the top of the ground following incorporation after seeding. Broadcast seedings are more reliant on rainfall for germination than any other seeding method.

Companion crop management: If you choose to use a companion crop, **seed the companion crop at 20 to 40 % of normal rate** to reduce competition in your forage establishment. If possible, seed at right angles to reduce in-row competition with your forages, and under ideal conditions, harvest as a silage crop. The goal is to reduce the length of time the swath lays on the ground. Remember to use recommended herbicides to control weed growth and reduce competition. Avoid using a competitive crop such as barley or wheat and look to crops like flax, millet or oats as a companion crop.

Select the correct species: When selecting your forage species, plan for the length of time the stand will be in production. Longevity and the yield of your forage stand starts with choosing the correct species adapted to your soil and field conditions. Select a quality seed that has a high level of germination and has an excellent seed purity with modern genetics for high production levels.

Purchasing low value seed may compromise yield and quality, and persistence of the stand due to lack of disease resistance and winter hardiness. Cost of the seed input in forage production accounts for less than 5 %, so selection of the best species for your operation is critical to the success of your stands.

Seeding depth: Seed your forages shallow with the maximum seeding depth on clay type soils at $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep with some seed evident on top of the ground. If you are seeding into loam or sandy-type soil, depth may increase to a maximum of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, keeping the importance of a firm seedbed in mind.

Fertility: Plan for a fertility program when seeding legumes and grasses. You may wish to bank your phosphorus requirements for a period of 3 to 4 years as we understand that phosphorus is not very mobile with annual applications.

Soil testing prior to seeding and fertilizing to the required nutrient levels is recommended.



Building Soil With Perennial Forages

In agriculture and land management, soil health is a cornerstone of productivity and sustainability. One powerful yet often underappreciated tool for enhancing soil health is the use of perennial forages. Unlike annual crops, which complete their life cycle in a single growing season, perennial forages – such as alfalfa, clover, switchgrass, and fescue – live for multiple years. Their continuous presence and growth provide a range of benefits that significantly improve the soil.

Soil structure and erosion control

Perennial forages establish deep and extensive root systems that help bind soil particles together, greatly reducing the risk of erosion from wind and water. Unlike annuals, which leave the soil bare between planting seasons, perennials maintain a protective cover year-round. This cover shields the soil surface from heavy rains and compaction, while their roots create natural channels for water infiltration and air exchange.

Organic matter and soil fertility

Perennial forages continuously contribute organic matter to the soil. Their roots die and regrow annually, adding carbon-rich biomass underground. Above-ground biomass, when managed through grazing or mowing, also returns nutrients to the soil. This process increases soil organic matter (SOM), which enhances fertility, moisture retention, and microbial life.

Improved water holding capacity

With increased organic matter and better soil structure, soils under perennial forage systems can retain more water. This is especially valuable during periods of drought. Deep-rooted species like alfalfa can access water reserves deep in the soil profile, reducing the need for irrigation and supporting more resilient pasture systems.

Enhanced soil biology

The undisturbed nature of perennial forage systems fosters a rich soil microbial ecosystem. Beneficial fungi, bacteria, earthworms, and other organisms thrive in the stable environment provided by perennial roots. These organisms help cycle nutrients, suppress soil-borne diseases, and build long-term soil health.

Nitrogen fixation

Many perennial legumes, such as clover and alfalfa, are natural nitrogen fixers. Through symbiosis with Rhizobium bacteria, they convert atmospheric nitrogen into a plant-available form, reducing the need for synthetic fertilizers. This not only saves input costs for farmers but also prevents nutrient runoff that can degrade water quality.

Carbon sequestration

Perennial forages play a role in climate mitigation by sequestering carbon. Their roots store carbon in the soil over time, helping offset greenhouse gas emissions. Fields managed under perennial forage systems can serve as long-term carbon sinks, especially when soil disturbance is minimized.

Perennial forages are more than just livestock feed – they're natural allies in sustainable soil management. By promoting better soil structure, fertility, water retention, and biological activity, they lay the foundation for productive agriculture and ecological health. As interest grows in regenerative agriculture and climate-smart farming, perennial forages will continue to be key players in building resilient soils for the future.



Seed Production Opportunities

DSV Northstar contracts with producers across Western Canada for most of the forage and turf species that we sell. Seed produced across the prairies is not only sold locally but also exported around the world.

Seed production of forage and turf species in your rotation can have many advantages. While dependant on crop kind many are perennial crops that need to be seeded once but can have multiple harvest years. Harvest is also earlier than many traditional crops which can ease harvest time pressure. Looking for more feed? Straw from many of the species can be baled and fed with post harvest regrowth providing a second cut or fall grazing. A big advantage of forage and turf species is adding a profitable crop to your rotation. Currently there is strong demand for these crop kinds with excellent competitive pricing.

DSV Northstar is actively looking for producers to work with

If you are interested in finding out about grower opportunities please contact our office to be put in touch with your area's production advisor for more information.

Our Dealers – Local Forage Experts

DSV Northstar dealers are people from your community who are passionate about the forage and turf industry, and customer service. They are your local seed retailers based on-farm, independent farm supply companies with multiple sites, feed dealers, auction marts, landscape suppliers and many others!

DSV Northstar sales agronomists work with the dealer to combine information on cutting edge varieties and agricultural practices used across Western Canada, with knowledge of your local climate and soil conditions. Many of our dealers are also producers who have experience growing the varieties we offer.

New dealer opportunities

DSV Northstar is continuing to expand its presence in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and B.C. If you have a passion for forage, turf or native seed, speak to one of our sales agronomists about the possibility of becoming a dealer.





Forage Establishment Insurance

Purpose

- Forage Establishment Insurance (FEI) provides financial assistance to Manitoba farmers if an eligible forage crop fails to establish.

Eligibility

FEI must have the seed incorporated by mechanical means. If an FEI crop is planted more than three days after a cover crop, MASC may inspect to verify the cover crop is not excessively damaged.

- Eligible forage crops include **spring or fall plantings** in any combination of **alfalfa, clover, sainfoin, perennial ryegrass, and other perennial grasses** (excluding native grasses).
- All acres of new plantings of eligible forage establishment crops must be insured if FEI is selected for coverage.
- Spring plantings must be seeded by **June 25**.
- Spring seeded perennial ryegrass must be seeded with a companion crop to be eligible for FEI.
- Fall plantings of perennial grasses (excluding perennial ryegrass seed), alfalfa, sainfoin, and clover must be seeded on or after **July 25** but not later than **August 15**.
- Fall plantings of perennial ryegrass seed must be seeded on or after **August 10** but not later than **September 5**.
- Fall seeded perennial ryegrass, alfalfa, sainfoin, and clover must be planted without a companion crop to be eligible for FEI.
- Birds-foot trefoil, native grasses, and annual ryegrass are not eligible

For all other information regarding Forage Establishment Insurance please visit our webpage: www.masc.mb.ca



Forage Establishment Benefit Option

The **Forage Establishment Benefit Option** is available to protect newly seeded forage acres intended for hay, grazing or seed production against the risk of an establishment failure.

For more information regarding SCIC Forage Establishment Insurance, please visit our webpage:
www.scic.ca.



Learn More

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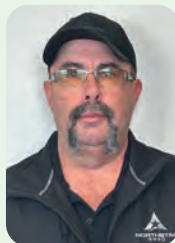


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