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LAWN & GARDEN GUIDE

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Read the Label Before You Buy Grass Seed

Can you tell a fescue seed from a weed seed? If not ... you'll need to look at the label before purchasing your grass seed. The label tells you how much weed seed is in the bag ... plus lots of other valuable information. Each bag of grass seed that we offer has a "blue tag" that <u>certifies</u> the following information found on the label:

- The **variety** or varieties of fescue seed in the bag and their percentages.
- Percent of **germination**, which is how much of this seed will actually grow.
- **Crop seed**, which could include seed such as ryegrass, bentgrass, bermudagrass or orchard-grass. Some (like orchardgrass) are very difficult to control.
- Inert matter, which is other "stuff" such as soil.
- Weed seed (noxious), which may be impossible to get rid of without killing the turf.

GARD'N WISE PREMIUM FESCUE BLEND			
VARIETY AVENGER II TALL FESCUE FIRECRACKER SLS TALL FESCU SPYDER LS TALL FESCUE RAPTOR III TALL FESCUE INERT MATTER CROP SEED WEED SEED NOXIOUS WEEDS	PURITY 32.31% E 32.16% 17.47% 17.41% 0.65% 0.00% 0.00% NONE	GERM. 90% 90% 90% 90% TESTED 8/18	ORIGIN OR OR OR
Lot Number: M6M-17-GWTF-9	Net Weight: 25 LBS AMS 654		
Gard'N-Wise Distributors 1515 East 29th Street North Wichita, KS 67219			

If you compare labels, you'll understand why

we always recommend **Gard'N-Wise Premium Tall Fescue Blend.** For starters, this blend uses only fescue varieties that have been tested in Kansas and are the best varieties available for this area (the varieties may change due to availability and continued testing). Other brands of fescue blend use the lowest cost fescues available, and chances are those varieties don't test well in this area.

Gard'N-Wise Premium Tall Fescue Blend also has a high rate of germination, and virtually no weed seed. Compare our label with other well-advertised grass seed sold here in Wichita ... and remember that the more weed seed you buy, the more problems you'll have controlling weeds later in the season.

If the label doesn't convince you, maybe the math will ... because as little as 1% weed seed can destroy an otherwise good bag of grass seed. Here's how it figures for ryegrass, a common weed seed found in fescue:

EXAMPLE: 1% ryegrass (weed) in a 25 lb. bag of fescue

1% of 25 lbs. = 1/4 lb. weed seed

Ryegrass has 250,000 seeds per pound

1/4 lb. x 250,000 = 62,500 seeds of ryegrass in a 25 lb. bag of fescue seed

If that 25 lb. bag of fescue is spread over 5,000 sq. ft., it puts down 12.5 weed seeds per sq. ft. That would equal nine weeds in a patch of lawn the size of this paper.

So remember the old adage "you get what you pay for" when shopping for grass seed. Spend a little extra now, and you will save yourself time, money and a big headache later.

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