



**Turf Type Tall Fescue**

*Festuca arundinacea*



**Plant Breeder:** Dr. C. Reed Funk, Rutgers University  
Variety purified and refined by Judy Breede, Innovative Turf Research  
Experimental Designation - ITR 90-2 (JBLD90)

*Duster Tall Fescue contains the superior progeny from 30 medium early, very low growing, and fine textured breeding lines. Duster has a finer texture and is lower growing than Rebel Jr. and has shown an above average resistance to Net Blotch in New Jersey (Rutgers University) and an average resistance to Brown Patch and Rust in Georgia. (UGA, Griffin)*

**Characteristics:**

- Excellent turf density
- Dark, forest green color
- Improved disease tolerances
- Moderate fine leaf texture
- Very good wear tolerance
- Medium shade tolerance
- Above average ratings for turf quality in different climatic zones

**Recommended Use:**

Golf Courses (Roughs), Parks, Home Lawns, Athletic Fields, and Sod Farms

**Climatic Zones:**

3, 5, 6, 7, 8 (may not be adaptable to all areas with each climatic zone)

**Establishment & Maintenance:**

Sow in early spring or fall. Lime soil to 5.5 – 6.0 pH and follow soil test recommendations for fertilization. Under ideal conditions, germination may begin in as few as 9 days. Full germination may take up to 21 days. First mowing is suggested when plants reach approximately 2 inches. (7.5 cm)

**Seeding Rates:**

- Parks & Home Lawns 8 - 10 lbs/1000 sq ft  
(3 1/2 - 5 kgs/100 sq meters)
- Roughs 5 - 10 lbs/1000 sq ft  
(2 – 5 kgs/100 sq meters)
- Athletic Fields/Parks 10 - 15 lbs/1000 sq ft  
(5 – 7 kgs/100 sq meters)
- Sod Farms 8 - 10 lbs/1000 sq ft  
(3 1/2 - 5 kgs/100 sq meters)

## Quality Ratings:

Table 2.

**MEAN TURFGRASS QUALITY AND SEEDING RATINGS TO TALL FESCUE CULTIVARS  
FOR EACH MONTH GROWN IN FULL SUN AT TWENTY-FOUR LOCATIONS IN THE U.S.  
1999 DATA FROM 1996 TEST  
TURFGRASS QUALITY RATINGS 1-9; 9=IDEAL TURF**

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
REMBRANDT (LTP-4026 E+)	6.5
<b>DUSTER</b>	<b>5.9</b>
FALCON II	5.8
FINELAWN PETITE	5.7
SHORT SHOP II	5.6
BONSAI	5.5
ARID	5.1
KENTUCKY 31 W/ENDO	3.8
LSD VALUE	0.3

Table 13.

**MEAN TURFGRASS QUALITY RATINGS OF TALL FESCUE CULTIVARS  
GROWN AT A 1.6 – 2.0 INCH MOWING HEIGHT  
1999 DATA FROM 1996 TEST  
TURFGRASS QUALITY RATINGS 1-9; 9=IDEAL TURF**

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
MILLENNIUM (TMI-RBR)	6.6
<b>DUSTER</b>	<b>6.2</b>
SHORT SHOP II	6.2
FALCON II	6.0
FINELAWN PETITE	5.9
BONSAI	5.9
ARID	5.1
KENTUCKY 31 W/ENDO	3.4
LSD VALUE	0.2

Table 17.

**MEAN TURFGRASS QUALITY RATINGS OF TALL FESCUE CULTIVARS  
IRRIGATED TO PREVENT STRESS  
1999 DATA FROM 1996 TEST  
TURFGRASS QUALITY RATINGS 1-9; 9=IDEAL TURF**

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
REMBRANDT (LTP-4026 E+)	6.4
<b>DUSTER</b>	<b>5.9</b>
SHORT SHOP II	5.7
FALCON II	5.7
FINELAWN PETITE	5.5
BONSAI	5.3
ARID	4.8
KENTUCKY 31 W/ENDO	3.5
LSD VALUE	0.2

Table 24.

**GENETIC COLOR RATINGS OF TALL FESCUE CULTIVARS  
1999 DATA FROM 1996 TEST  
GENETIC COLOR RATINGS 1-9, 9=DARK GREEN**

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
TRACER	7.3
<b>DUSTER</b>	<b>6.7</b>
FINELAWN PETITE	6.7
SHORT SHOP II	6.7
FALCON II	6.4
BONSAI	6.1
ARID	5.3
KENTUCKY 31 W/ENDO	4.1
LSD VALUE	0.2

These examples represent 8 out of 129 varieties tested in the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program, Progress Report 1999, NTEP No. 00-5 from 1996 test. For complete trial data, go to [www.ntep.org](http://www.ntep.org)