

2026 COOL-SEASON ANNUAL GRASS VARIETY TRIAL

The forage cultivar evaluation program is a partnership between UT Extension and UT AgResearch to aid producers in the selection of the best cultivars for their farm. The crop was grown using management practices considered to be the best for the crop, including fertilization according to soil test results. This study was conducted using a randomized complete block design with four replications at one location. Least significant difference (LSD) values at the 5 percent level are shown at the bottom of each table with the coefficient of variation (CV). Within any table, yield of any two varieties being compared must differ by at least this amount to be considered different.

Table 1: Yield of cool-season annual grass varieties at the Northeast Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center in Greeneville, TN.

Variety	Supplier	Species	Commercially Available	Yield (ton DM/acre)		
				April 10	May 14	Total
Centurion	Mountain View Seeds	Annual Ryegrass	Yes	1.90	1.22	3.12
Jackson	The Wax Company	Annual Ryegrass	Yes	1.83	1.18	3.01
Jumbo	Barenbrug USA	Annual Ryegrass	Yes	1.90	1.25	3.14
Lonestar	Grassland Oregon- GO Seed	Annual Ryegrass	Yes	1.89	1.19	3.08
Maximus	Barenbrug USA	Annual Ryegrass	Yes	1.92	1.10	3.01
More	Grassland Oregon- GO Seed	Annual Ryegrass	Yes	1.90	1.13	3.03
Nelson	The Wax Company	Annual Ryegrass	Yes	1.80	1.11	2.91
Tetrastar	Grassland Oregon- GO Seed	Annual Ryegrass	Yes	1.97	1.18	3.15
WAX Marshall	The Wax Company	Annual Ryegrass	Yes	1.77	1.14	2.91
<i>Experimental Varieties</i>						
BAR LM477	Barenbrug USA	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.88	1.17	3.04
BAR LM534	Barenbrug USA	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.85	1.21	3.06
BAR LM608	Barenbrug USA	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.87	1.18	3.04
BAR LM609	Barenbrug USA	Annual Ryegrass	No	2.06	1.16	3.22
Early Population (2X) Broad	University of Florida	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.89	1.12	3.01
FL4XLATE	University of Florida	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.67	1.21	2.89
FLPR4XNE	University of Florida	Annual Ryegrass	No	2.12	1.25	3.37
FLPRBM-2X	University of Florida	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.68	1.27	2.95
FLPR-SMEL	University of Florida	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.89	1.12	3.00
Late Population (2X) Broad	University of Florida	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.85	1.15	3.00
ME-4	The Wax Company	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.83	1.17	3.00
ME-94	The Wax Company	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.93	1.34	3.27
WMCT	The Wax Company	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.88	1.08	2.96
WMWL	The Wax Company	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.89	1.19	3.08
WMWL-2	The Wax Company	Annual Ryegrass	No	1.85	1.19	3.04
CV%				5	6	4
P-Value				nd*	nd	nd
LSD (P<0.05)				0.17	0.17	0.24
* nd, no statistical differences determined across variety and harvests.						
Planted: October 22, 2025						
Nitrogen application: 45 lb/acre at planting, 60 lb/acre at green-up, 30 lb/acre after first harvest.						

Table 2: Nutritive value by variety and harvest.

Variety	Nutritive Value Analytes (100% DM)*							
	April 11, 2026 Harvest				May 14, 2026 Harvest			
	CP	ADF	NDF	TDN	CP	ADF	NDF	TDN
Centurion	18.1	24.1	45.7	73.4	11.8	31.3	54.6	66.9
Jackson	16.9	25.9	45.9	71.4	11.4	32.1	57.8	65.7
Jumbo	16.5	24.6	43.5	72.9	12.3	33.5	59.3	65.8
Lonestar	18.5	24.4	44.2	73.1	12.7	31.4	57.3	66.5
Maximus	17.2	24.4	44.9	73.1	12.9	31.3	53.7	62.8
More	15.1	27.6	48.0	69.7	11.0	34.2	58.6	66.3
Nelson	21.5	22.5	42.2	75.1	14.2	29.9	52.9	68.8
Tetrastar	13.6	27.3	46.9	70.0	12.2	32.6	58.8	66.9
WAX Marshall	18.4	24.3	47.0	73.1	14.5	30.9	58.2	65.5
<i>Experimental Varieties</i>								
BAR LM477	17.1	24.9	44.0	72.6	11.1	32.8	57.4	65.8
BAR LM534	18.3	24.4	43.5	73.0	11.5	31.9	55.4	62.8
BAR LM608	17.8	23.4	43.5	74.2	11.4	31.7	56.5	65.3
BAR LM609	16.7	25.7	46.8	71.7	12.9	30.5	55.3	64.3
Early Population (2X) Broad	15.2	26.8	48.4	70.6	11.0	34.2	58.6	63.7
FL4XLATE	17.3	24.8	46.4	72.7	12.5	31.8	58.7	64.9
FLPR4XNE	19.1	22.0	40.4	75.6	11.1	32.8	57.4	64.3
FLPRBM-2X	22.0	22.0	42.2	75.6	15.7	30.3	55.4	63.5
FLPR-SMEL	13.6	28.4	51.1	68.9	11.5	33.4	58.9	65.5
Late Population (2X) Broad	18.8	23.3	40.9	74.2	12.3	31.6	56.2	68.7
ME-4	17.9	27.7	49.7	69.6	14.1	28.6	54.9	67.3
ME-94	18.1	24.0	45.5	73.5	13.4	30.7	56.4	64.5
WMCT	15.8	25.0	44.9	72.5	12.1	28.4	50.8	65.2
WMWL	19.2	23.5	46.2	74.0	15.7	30.3	55.4	65.4
WMWL-2	19.2	25.6	47.5	71.8	12.3	31.6	56.2	66.6
Average	17.7	24.8	45.4	72.7	12.6	31.4	56.2	65.2
*Nutritive value represented at 100% DM Basis for CP, crude protein; ADF, acid detergent fiber; NDF, neutral detergent fiber; TDN, calculated total digestible nutrients. Analysis performed using Near Infrared Spectrometer [NIRS] Technology using Grass Hay Calibration (NIRS Consortium, 2026). Target stage of growth for harvest was mid to late boot.								

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