

# ITALIAN RYEGRASS

*Lolium multiflorum*

# TIMOTHY

*Phleum pratense*

<b>FAMILY:</b>	Gramineae	
<b>TRIBE:</b>	Hordeae	Agrostideae
<b>GENUS:</b>	Lolium	Phleum
<b>SPECIES:</b>	multiflorum	pratense
<b>COMMON NAMES:</b>	Italian Ryegrass Ryegrass Australian Ryegrass Winter grass	Timothy Herd's Grass
<b>POLLEN GRAINS:</b>	Spheroidal or ovoidal 37.5 microns in diameter. Circular germ pore 2.8 to 5 microns in diameter at large end of grain. Operculum small; exine faintly granular or reticulate.	Spheroidal 32 to 36.5 microns in diameter. Germ pore circular or slightly irregular 1.7 to 2.8 microns in diameter. Operculum very irregular and sometimes fragmentary. Exine fine-granular.
<b>POLLINATING PERIOD:</b>	June to August. As early as April in warmer areas.	June and July
<b>DISTRIBUTION:</b>	Found throughout the United States except in the far south. Rarely found south of Virginia and California. Especially abundant on the Pacific coast.	Found throughout the United States except in arid regions.
<b>ALLERGIC IMPORTANCE:</b>	<b>Important in areas of abundance.</b>	<b>Of prime importance in areas of abundance.</b>

*Italian Ryegrass is a short-lived perennial, usually erect and 1 to 3½ feet tall. The inflorescence is a spike, somewhat curved, slender and flattened. The blades are flat, narrow and elongated. The foliage is glossy.*

*This species is similar in distribution and appearance to Perennial Ryegrass (*L. perenne*). It differs from Perennial Ryegrass in being generally more robust and having awns on the spikelets. Both are used for lawn and pasture.*

*Italian Ryegrass is commonly found along roadsides, in meadows, and waste places.*

*Timothy is a short-lived perennial 1½ to 4 feet tall. Erect culms arise from a bulblike base forming large clumps. Blades are elongated and mostly flat. The spikelets are crowded to form a cylindrical panicle 1½ to 5 inches long.*

*Timothy is the most common and important pasture and hay grass of the humid areas of northern United States. It has escaped to become common along roadsides and in fields and waste places.*



*Lolium multiflorum*  
(Italian Ryegrass)

*Phleum pratense*  
(Timothy)