Alfalfa

Characteristics

* New

Product	Segment	Relative Forage Quality	Forage Yield	Field Appearance	Fall Dormancy	Winterhardiness [1]	Disease Resistance Index [2]	Bacterial Wilt	Verticillium Wilt	Fusarium Wilt	Anthracnose (R1)	Phytophthora Root Rot	Aphanomyces (Race 1)	Aphanomyces (Race 2)	Spotted Aphid	Pea Aphid	Blue Alfalfa Aphid	N. Root-knot Nematode	Stem Nematode	Potato Leafhopper	Standability/Lodging Resistance [3]
		Characteristic Ratings																			
53V52	Muscle	8	6	6	4	VH	33	HR	HR	R	R	HR	HR	HR	HR	R			LR		
54Q32	Quality	9	8	9	4	VH	32	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	LR	R	R		R	LR		
55V12	Lodging	7	8	8	5	VH	33	R	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	R	R	MR		R	R		R
55V48	Muscle	7	8	9	5	VH	33	HR	R	HR	HR	HR	HR	R	R	HR		R	R		
55V50	Muscle	7	9	9	5	VH	34	HR	HR	R	HR	HR	HR	HR	R	R		HR	R		
55Q27*	Quality	8	9	9	5	VH	34	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	R	R	R			HR		

Alfalfa Agronomy

Plant Population

- Target 20-25 plants per square foot surviving after the first winter
- 55 stems per square foot are needed to maintain full yield potential

Seeding Rates

15-18 pounds per acre seeding rate is a good starting point for pure stands

- 250,000 seeds per pound = about 80-90 seeds per square foot
- Higher seeding rates help improve plant stands in poor soil conditions with non-optimal seed beds
- Thick plant stands compete better with weeds

12 pounds per acre can be adequate in optimal soil conditions

- Lower seeding rates can be associated with reduced establishment year yield and risk of creating non-uniform or spotty stands
- Weed competition can increase with non-uniform stands and further reduce yield and quality
- Spotty stands hurt production over the entire stand life

For complete definitions and disclaimers related to product descriptions, characteristics ratings and disease ratings, and all other information contained herein, see page 37.