

# Palaton

Reed Canarygrass

## Key Features

---

Palaton is a vigorous, productive, long-lived, perennial, sod-forming Reed Canarygrass species with widespread distribution in North America, Europe, Asia, and northern Africa. Particularly well adapted to wet soils, it is also productive on upland sites. Reed Canary Grass spreads by underground stems (rhizomes) and forms a solid sod.

It thrives in wetland plant communities including wet meadows, prairie potholes, marshes, and peatlands. The extensive, rhizomatous root system and dense growth of Reed Canary Grass provides excellent erosion control, especially along stream banks, shorelines and waterways. It can also be harvested as pasture, silage, or hay.

Palaton is a low-alkaloid variety that is palatable for grazing, making it an excellent source of forage in wetlands.

## Applications

---

Pasture  
Hay  
Silage

## Planting Time

---

Spring  
Late Summer

## Establishment

---

Spring seedings are most common. However, late-summer seedings are often more successful because weeds are less of a problem. Reed canarygrass can be slow to establish and may fail when weed competition is severe during establishment. Grass weeds are especially harmful. Companion crops can be used for spring seedings, but should not be used for late-summer seedings. Oats are the most common companion crop, but early removal for silage or by grazing is necessary to reduce competition for light and moisture.

If a late-summer seeding is planned, prepare the seedbed 2 to 4 weeks ahead of seeding, if possible. This will allow the soil to become firm and provide an opportunity to accumulate moisture in the seedbed.

## Management Keys

---

Recovery following defoliation is excellent in the spring and early summer and is fair to good in late summer and early fall. However, it is frost-sensitive and will turn brown quickly after early fall frosts.



## Characteristics

---

Dry Hay	4
Persistence	5
Forage Quality	3
Baleage	3
Silage	3

Scale 1-5 (1 = Poor, 5 = Excellent)

## Seeding Rate

---

New Seeding 14 lbs/acre  
Overseeding 6-8 lbs/acre

## Seeding Depth

---

Plant no deeper than 1/2"

