



HYBRID RYE FOR FORAGE & SILAGE

KWS Progas Hybrid Rye



Hybrid rye varieties are different from the cereal rye that farmers plant as a cover crop in the fall and then terminate in the spring. Instead, hybrid rye varieties – like KWS Progas – are high-performing improvements to cereal rye.

With a large root system for increased nutrient and water uptake, hybrid rye requires 20 percent less inputs compared to other winter cereals.

While high-yielding grain hybrids are also available, KWS Progas hybrid rye was developed by KWS specifically for forage and ensilage. It's as winter-hardy as cereal rye, but it isn't killed in the spring. In fact, it can be an outstanding early

season forage, and hybrid rye silage is a high energy, nutrient-dense feed that provides high quality soluble fibers critical to rumen health and animal performance.

Hybrid rye silage has a higher crude protein percentage relative to other cereal and corn silages. Additionally, it has increased ME, NEm, and NEg compared to wheat and triticale silages, and it has similar energy values as corn silage.

Rye silage has an increased polyphenol concentration (from lignin), which protects plant proteins from degradation in the rumen and improves the efficiency of conversion of plant protein to animal protein (milk and meat). Polyphenol concentrations also reduce nitrogen loss in the feces and in the silo or bunker.

When Should You Plant KWS Progas Hybrid Rye?

With its low input management, hybrid rye is a crop that lets farmers

spread out their workload. It's planted after corn harvest (when most fall field work is already completed) using their existing seed drills or Brillion seeders.

Wait to plant until soil temperature is below 59°F. This planting window typically opens from mid-August through October in the Midwest, depending on fall grazing and management opportunities.

When Should You Harvest KWS Progas Hybrid Rye?

For Greater Crude Protein: harvest at Feekes Stage 10.0 when flag leaf completely grown out. This is the ideal stage for a double-cropping system.

For Highest Dry Matter Yield: harvest at Feekes Stage 11.1, at kernel milky ripe stage.

KWS Progas Hybrid Rye is a high-yielding and fast-growing option for silage or grazing. It yields a high quality silage with increased crude protein and available energy with the potential for more pounds of milk per acre.



Advantages of Progas Hybrid Rye

- Flexible forage: baling, grazing, or silage
- Spring forage source
- Up to six months of grazing available
- Very high dry matter yields
- Additional tonnage on idle acres
- Harvested nearly a week earlier than triticale
- Whole plant silage
- Excellent nutritive response in silage
- Integrates in corn-soybean rotation
- Easy management



KWS Progas Hybrid Rye vs. Conventional Rye

Dry Biomass Production for 3 Cutting Dates (lb/ac)



KWS Hybrid Rye Varieties vs. Triticale

University of Wisconsin researchers tested three hybrid winter rye varieties and one winter triticale variety for dairy forage quality.

Hybrid Winter Rye Forage Trial Results - 2018

University of Wisconsin Extension, Arlington Agricultural Research Station

Variety	Crude Protein (%)	RFQ	Dry Matter Yield (ton/acre)	Milk/Ton (lbs)	Milk/Acre (lbs)
AVERAGE OF TWO CUTTINGS (Head Emergence & Kernel Milky Ripe Stages)					
KWS Progas Hybrid Rye	11.4	121.3	4.38	2,891	12,372
KWS Daniello Hybrid Rye	11.7	120.1	4.16	2,851	11,415
KWS Propower Hybrid Rye	10.5	116.1	4.42	2,768	12,069
Trical 815 Triticale	12.2	117.0	3.57	2,762	9,563

<https://coolbean.info/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2017/10/Hybrid-rye-silage.pdf>

KWS Progas Hybrid Ryelage vs. Corn Silage

