



HYBRID WINTER RYE

CALCULATING SEEDING RATE AND CALIBRATING SEEDERS

CALCULATING SEEDING RATE: POUNDS OF LIVE SEEDS PER ACRE

- A hybrid rye seed unit is 1 million LIVE seeds.
- The weight for a 1 million LIVE seed unit varies by variety and seed lot.
- LIVE seed takes into account the germination percentage of a seed lot.
- Hybrid rye seed is packaged in two ways:
 1. Half-unit bags containing 500,000 LIVE seeds
 2. Totes containing 25 million LIVE seeds (25 units at 1 million seeds per unit).

NOTE: A tote may occasionally contain a larger quantity (check seed tag to verify).
- Target planting rate is 800,000 LIVE seeds (or 0.8 units) per acre.
- Use the tables below to determine the weight of 800,000 LIVE seeds for planting per acre.
- Check the pounds to be seeded per acre with your equipment seeding chart for an initial setting and adjust drill or seeder.

CALCULATE SEEDING RATE PER ACRE—BAGS			
SEED LOT NUMBER (FROM SEED TAG)	BAG WEIGHT (LBS)	MULTIPLY BY	LBS PER ACRE
Example: BG-20RYANV2(1/2U35#)	35	1.6	56
		1.6	
		1.6	
		1.6	
		1.6	

CALCULATE SEEDING RATE PER ACRE—TOTES				
TOTE BAG WEIGHT (LBS)	UNITS PER TOTE (SEE TAG)	LBS PER UNIT (TOTE WEIGHT / UNITS)	MULTIPLY BY	LBS PER ACRE
Example: 1,800	25	72 (1,800 / 25)	0.8	57.6
			0.8	
			0.8	
			0.8	
			0.8	

CALIBRATION METHODS FOR DRILL OR SEEDER

Calibrate each year and for each hybrid rye variety
(and also for each seed lot if the pounds per seed unit are different).

METHOD 1

- Place a tarp under the drill/seeder or attach buckets to catch seed from seed tubes (you can direct two tubes into each bucket).
- Advance the drill meters to deliver seed for the equivalent of 1/20th of an acre.
- Collect seed from tarp or buckets and weigh (a kitchen scale works well for this application).
- Check your seed weight (weighed seed weight x 20 = seed delivered per acre) with your target seeding rate per acre in pounds.
- Adjust drill/seeder settings and repeat process, as needed, to verify hitting your target seeding rate.

METHOD 2

- For your first seeding pass, fill the seeder with a small amount of seed to plant about one or two acres.
- Plant to empty your seeder and check the pounds of seed delivered to actual acres planted.
- Adjust drill/seeder settings and repeat process, as needed, to verify hitting your target seeding rate.

METHOD 3

- For your first seeding pass, fill the seeder full.
- Plant a known area—one to two acres.
- Note how many bags of seed (lbs) it takes to REFILL the drill or, if seed is from totes, weigh seeds in bucket before refilling the drill/seeder to calculate how many total pounds are needed to refill the seeder.
- Adjust drill/seeder settings and repeat process, as needed, to verify hitting your target seeding rate.