



# ZEBRA

## Italian Ryegrass (4n)

*Lolium multiflorum* Lam.

### Things to know

Zebra is the sibling variety of Morunga. They both trace back to the same breeding material of the variety Oryx, which was treated with colchicine to gain the tetraploid form. Zebra heads very early and starts exceedingly fast in spring. Among its good resistances to diseases, the strong resistance against bacterial wilt is outstanding.

### Descent

#### Base material

Selection in tetraploid breeding material of ART Reckenholz, emerging from a colchicine treatment of the variety Oryx. Selection on erect growth habit.

### MO seed

Row trials 2000 (LI0035) with seed harvest on 10 clone progenies from a polycross with 13 clones.

### Literature

Suter D., Hirschi H.-U., Chapuis St., 2010. 29 Neuzüchtungen von Italienischem Raigras geprüft. Agrarforschung Schweiz 1(7), 280-285

### National listing

#### Situation in Switzerland

On the Swiss List of Recommended Varieties of Forage Plants since 2009

#### Situation abroad

### Agronomic characteristics

Results of the official Swiss variety trials 2007-2009 (Suter et al, 2010)

|                                       | ZEBRA | Mean |
|---------------------------------------|-------|------|
| Yield                                 | 3.5   | 4.5  |
| General impression                    | 3.5   | 3.6  |
| Juvenile growth                       | 3.1   | 2.9  |
| Competing ability                     | 4.2   | 4.7  |
| Persistence                           | 4.3   | 4.4  |
| Resistance to winter conditions       | 4.0   | 4.5  |
| Resistance to leafspots and rust      | 2.8   | 3.5  |
| Resistance to bacterial wilt          | 1.5   | 2.0  |
| Digestibility of the organic matter   | 5.3   | 5.3  |
| Index (weighted average of all notes) | 3.5   | 3.9  |

Scoring scale      1 = very good; 5 = medium; 9 = very poor  
 Yield                Mean of 4 experimental sites over 2 years  
 Mean                 Mean value of standard varieties

### Description according to UPOV guidelines

DUS test conducted at Crossnacreevy, Belfast, AFBI (UK), 2007-2009

| UPOV No | Characteristics   | State of expression | Note |
|---------|---|---------------------|------|
| 1       | Ploidy  | tetraploid          | 4    |
| 2       | Plant: growth habit                                     | semi-erect          | 3    |
| 10      | Tendency to form inflorescences (without vernalization) | absent or very weak | 1    |
| 11      | Time of inflorescence emergence (after vernalization)   | medium              | 5    |
| 14      | Flag leaf: length                                       | medium              | 5    |
| 15      | Flag leaf: width  | medium              | 5    |
| 17      | Stem: length of longest stem including inflorescence    | very long           | 9    |

