



Jonathan Green

FOR THE BEST LAWN IN TOWN



TOMBSTONE TALL FESCUE

Variety Name: Tombstone

Kind: Tall Fescue

Genus: Festuca

Species: arundinacea

Experimental Designations: EA171

Tombstone was developed from two cycles of phenotypic selections. In the spring of 2000, 21 plants were selected on the basis of increased growth activity, vibrant and dark genetic color, improved density, general freedom from disease and uniform height and maturity. The 21 clones were combined in an isolated polycross nursery and produced F1 seed in 2000. Approximately 45% of the 1000 plants in the F1 nursery were removed prior to pollination to produce cycle 1 seed in 2001. Approximately 21% of the 1000 plants in the cycle 1 nursery were removed prior to pollination to produce cycle 2 breeder seed in 2002.

- Tombstone has an average total plant height of 99.0 cm.
- Tombstone has an average flag leaf height of 50.1 cm.
- Tombstone has an average flag leaf length of 12.3 cm.
- Tombstone has an average flag leaf width of 6.4 mm.
- Tombstone has an average panicle length of 21.4 cm.
- Tombstone is a medium-early maturing cultivar with an average heading date of May 15.

Means averaged over two years.



Tombstone Tall Fescue sinks deep roots to reach available water underground.

Tombstone was developed using two cycles of phenotypic selection. Tombstone originates from the varieties MA158 (19%), MA71 (19%), EA41 (19%), Starfire (13%), Black Magic (10%), Obsidian (10%) and Onyx (10%). Breeder seed of Tombstone was first produced in 2002.

Tombstone is a medium-early maturing cultivar with a heading date of May 9, earlier than Crewcut (May 11) and later than Rebell (May 6). Tombstone has a total plant height of 111.4 cm, similar to Silverado (113.7 cm) and taller than Bonsai (105.5 cm). Tombstone has a panicle length of 24.7 cm, similar to Silverado (25.9 cm) and longer than Bonsai (19.4 cm). All data from 2004.

In a turf trial planted in Rhode Island, New Jersey and Virginia in 2002, Tombstone exhibited very good turf quality with an average score of 7.0. Tombstone exhibited fine leaved texture with an average score of 6.7. All data averaged over two years. Tombstone has been tested under lawn conditions in Rhode Island, New Jersey and Virginia, and has exhibited good turf quality at these locations.



Tombstone is a Black Beauty Tall Fescue variety.



Tombstone Tall Fescue looks like Kentucky Bluegrass, but is castly more drought tolerant.