

Fescue, Fine

[*Festuca spp.*]

Fine fescue species include creeping red, chewings, hard, and sheep fescue. All fine-leaf fescues are bunch-type grasses except creeping red fescue which is rhizomatous. Fine fescues are some of the most fine-textured turfgrasses available. Due to their superb shade tolerance and ability to recuperate from stresses, fine fescues are often mixed with tall fescue to enhance performance in shady areas.



Characteristic	Description
Seedhead / Flower	panicle; seedhead is a closed, coarse panicle
Vernation Type	leaves folded in the bud
Ligule Type	membranous; rounded, 0.01 inches (0.3 mm) long
Growth Season / Life Cycle	cool season turf
Auricle Type	absent
Leaf Blade Tip Shape	sharp-pointed; bristle-like with whitish cast, deeply ridged on inner surface
Leaf Blade Width	
Stolon Presence	absent
Rhizome Presence	absent except in creeping red fescue; red fescue rhizomes are slender and short
Collar Type	indistinct, divided in some species, continuous in others
Sheath Margin	open
Sheath Type	sheath is smooth or covered with short hairs; red fescue sheath is round; sheath of other species is flattened



fine fescue ligule



fine fescue plant

Note: Still not sure this is the right turfgrass? [The Turf & Weed Identification Decision Aid](#) may help. Check the TurfFiles [glossary](#) for definitions of unfamiliar terms.

Need help in selecting the best turfgrass for your particular situation? The [Turf/Cultivar Selection Decision Aid](#) will help you sort through the options which are available. For more information on turfgrass/cultivar selection, establishing a new lawn, caring for a new lawn, or renovating a lawn, see [AG-69, Carolina Lawns](#).

Diseases Which May Affect This Turfgrass

[brown patch](#)
[damping off](#)
[dollar spot](#)
[fairy ring](#)
[gray snow mold](#)
[powdery mildew](#)
[Pythium blight](#)
[Pythium root rot](#)
[red thread](#)
[slime mold](#)
[summer patch](#)

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