



Key Points

- Fine leaf texture
- Low growth habit
- Moderate dark blue colour
- Slow rate of vertical growth

Characteristics and areas of use

Azay Blue is an extremely attractive improved variety of blue sheep fescue (*Festuca ovina*) which has been developed for low maintenance turf use. It exhibits a very low growth habit, has a fine leaf texture and even under low fertility forms a dense sward. Azay Blue is a bunch type grass which does not spread by means of stolons or rhizomes. It is an excellent choice for use as ground cover, for erosion control or in drought or acidic situations.

Azay Blue can be mixed with hard, chewings and creeping red fescue and even wild flower mixes to complement golf course roughs which receive very low maintenance throughout the year. Azay Blue produces an attractive seedhead similar to other varieties of fescue in unmaintained situations.

Breeding history

Azay Blue has been developed by Pickseed in the U.S.A. It originated from a group of blue fescue plants selected in turf areas receiving infrequent mowing and no supplemental irrigation.

Sowing rate and maintenance

The recommended sowing rate of Azay Blue is between 10-25 g/m² or 100-250 kg/ha. Azay Blue has good seedling vigour for fine fescue and will germinate and establish quickly under favourable conditions. Once established, Azay Blue should require minimal management, fertiliser and irrigation.

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