

Lolium perenne

COMMON NAME

perennial rye grass

FAMILY

Poaceae

AUTHORITY

Lolium perenne L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

NVS CODE

LOLPER

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Roadsides and tracks, pasture, river flats and banks, waste land and sand dunes, lowland to montane

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Loosely tufted, dark green, hairless, perennial grass. **Leaves** soft, thin, 30–200 × 2–6 mm, regularly ribbed above, very glossy and smooth beneath, joined to stem with small collar. **Leaf-sheath** reddish-purplish at base; inner sheath smooth, pale green; emerging leaf folded. **Ligule** up to 2 mm long, membranous, light green. **Seedhead** distinctive, erect, thin, flattened, slightly zig-zagged; with seeds in small clusters arranged alternately.

SIMILAR TAXA

The seedhead is distinctive with flattened and slightly zig-zag form.

YEAR NATURALISED

1855

ORIGIN

Eur, temp Asia, N Afr

Reason For Introduction

Agricultural

Life Cycle Comments

Perennial.

Reproduction

Seed

Tolerances

Tolerates wet to dryish soils, high to moderate fertility, can re-sprout after damage and grazing, tolerates warm to cold temperatures.



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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/loium-perenne/>