

Register of Australian Herbage Plant Cultivars

A. Grasses

2. Ryegrass

Lolium perenne L. (perennial ryegrass) cv. Kangaroo Valley

Reg. No. A-2a-3

Registered prior to December 1971

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Origin

The cultivar represents a collection of persistent ecotypes from the Kangaroo Valley and Shoalhaven flood plain in New South Wales. In 1959 certification of Kangaroo Valley was undertaken by the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture on a pedigree basis, Mother grade seed being harvested from true-to-type old pastures and certified grade seed from more recently established pastures sown to the Kangaroo Valley type. In 1967 two pools of Mother grade seed were established; pool A representing an early flowering type within the Kangaroo Valley cultivar and pool B a late flowering type. The 1970 certified seed was recognised as two distinct cultivars, namely, Kangaroo Valley Early and Kangaroo valley Late, on the same basis as the two types of Mother seed were identified in 1967. Later, the segregation of late and early populations was discontinued, and a single ecotype was certified as Kangaroo Valley.

Morphological description

There are no distinctive morphological characters that enable this cultivar to be distinguished from most other cultivars of perennial ryegrass

Agronomic characters

Kangaroo valley is a very vigorous ryegrass, producing well in the cooler season and continuing to produce into early summer under favourable conditions, maintaining a high proportion of leaf to stem throughout. It is well adapted to the more favoured ryegrass areas, mainly located on the coast. On the Shoalhaven flood plain and in Kangaroo Valley it is more persistent and productive than either Victorian or Grasslands Ruanui. It is also less susceptible to rust than these cultivars