



Riata bermudagrass blend is the first certified blend of seeded bermudagrass cultivars developed specifically for horses. This premium blend of Wrangler and Riviera bermudagrass varieties has superior resistance to winterkill, improved tolerance to close grazing, and excellent recovery from heavy hoof traffic. Riata is ideal for equine grazing pastures, hay meadows, exercise paddocks and polo fields.



**PVP STATEMENT**

Unauthorized propagation and unauthorized sales, including non-certified seed, sod and sprigs are prohibited. Wrangler (PVP 200000065) and Riviera (PVP 200300221), the primary components of Riata Certified Bermudagrass Blend, are protected by the United States Plant Variety Protection Act PVPA 1994.

**WRANGLER NUTRIENT COMPOSITION**

Year	Energy (Mcal/lb)	% Crude Protein	% Ca
2008	0.92	22.95	0.33
2009	0.96	23.93	0.25

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- ✓ DEVELOPED FOR HORSE PASTURES.
- ✓ DEPENDABLE STRESS RECOVERY.
- ✓ DESIRABLE WARM SEASON FORAGE.
- ✓ DURABLE HOOF TOLERANT SOD.





### RIATA'S FORAGE COMPONENT

Wrangler, the forage component of Riata, has shown to be an excellent source of forage for horses. In a two year evaluation of horses rotationally grazing Wrangler bermudagrass in central Kentucky, research concluded that horses can be supported throughout the summer by “Wrangler” bermudagrass as a primary nutrient source. In the first year, 14 mature mares rotationally grazing 4 acres of Wrangler maintained their body weight. In the second year, 11 geldings rotationally grazing 4 acres of Wrangler

gained an average of 93 lbs. over the 13 week period.

### RIATA'S TURF COMPONENT

Riviera, the turf component of Riata, is used on professional polo fields from California to Tennessee and throughout the Gulf Coast States because of its ability to repair itself and to hold up under heavy hoof traffic. In Maryland, Riviera has been the only bermudagrass cultivar to survive the devastating interaction of extreme cold, heavy traffic, and close grazing in the heavy use paddocks at the

Equine Rotational Grazing Demonstration Farm. In Kentucky, Riviera is being used on private farm gallop courses to provide a safe training and exercise turf.

### WHY BERMUDAGRASS?

Bermudagrass is a warm season perennial grass species that is very heat and drought tolerant compared to temperate or cool season perennial grasses like Timothy, Tall fescue or Bluegrass. Bermudagrass continually spreads from rhizomes, which allows it to aggressively repair itself unlike bunchgrasses that have very little recuperative ability. Bermudagrass is free of toxic endophytes and prussic acid that can be harmful to horses. While most bermudagrass varieties lack the cold tolerance required to survive in the transition zone, Riata is a specially formulated blend of stress-tolerant varieties developed and produced on the plains in northern Oklahoma. Riata bermudagrass is durable, safe and persistent for years if properly managed.

### SEEDING vs. SPRIGGING BERMUDAGRASS

Riata is easily and economically seeded into pastures as compared to many vegetative bermudagrass varieties like Coastal, Midland or Tifton 44 that require costly sprigging.

Coarse-textured, vegetatively-propagated bermudagrass varieties that require sprigging have been traditionally developed for hay production and do not tolerate the stresses of close grazing and hoof traffic in comparison to the denser, finer textured Riata. The lower establishment cost and improved durability of seeded Riata pastures makes it a superior choice for horses.

### GOLD COAT

#### *Seed Coating Technology*

Riata is coated with Gold Coat seed coating technology that is superior to raw seed. Gold Coat increases water and nutrient retention on the seed. It enhances root development that increases drought tolerance of established seedlings. Gold Coat improves the seedling vigor and provides disease protection for healthier establishment.

### ESTABLISHMENT & MANAGEMENT

Riata bermudagrass should be planted in the spring in areas of full sunlight when soil temperatures are rising above 65°F and adequate soil moisture is available at a rate of 10-12 pounds per acre. If late-season plantings are

necessary, seeding needs to occur 75 days prior to a killing frost. A good soil analysis should be conducted on the area to be planted. Nutrient deficiencies and pH levels are most easily corrected prior to planting. Prepare a firm seed bed, free of weeds and clods. A firm seedbed is critical for proper seed placement and good seed-to-soil contact. A coarse or fluffy seedbed can result in poor establishment. Riata bermudagrass seed should be planted at a 1/8 inch depth. Deeper seed placement can result in reduced seedling emergence and stand establishment.

Riata bermudagrass will provide many years of high quality forage production with proper fertility and grazing management. Riata bermudagrass utilizes nitrogen,

phosphorous, and potassium in a 4-1-3 ratio. Therefore to produce one ton of dry high-quality forage, it takes 50 lbs. of nitrogen, 15 lbs. of phosphorous, and 42 lbs. of potassium. A good soil analysis from your local extension office will make the necessary recommendations for the nutrient requirements required for the producer to reach the desired yield goal. Limited herbicide use is recommended in the first 30 days. Mowing and “flash grazing” can be a more effective form of weed control in the early establishment period. Consult your local extension office, chemical supplier or Riata dealer for more extensive weed control information.

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