



Rugged

One Tough Alfalfa

Adaptation

Parental germplasm for this variety was specially selected from long-term space plant nurseries in Wisconsin. Selection pressure for Phytophthora, Aphanomyces Root Rots and winter injury was severe. Further selection after three years of continuous grazing pressure at Warrensburg, Mo yielded 394 superior plants out of several million seeded.

Quality

Stems of **Rugged** are fine. Results from tests in Iowa showed that it produced more than 1000 lbs. of milk/acre; more than Legendairy 2.0, Trailblazer, DK 12HG, WL 325HQ, and Arrest. Excellent persistence will ensure that stands remain thick and quality high over long rotations.

Broad Spectrum Pest Resistance

Resistance to Phytophthora and Aphanomyces Root Rots along with additional crown rot resistance help this variety to produce top yields over long rotations. Stands establish better due to screening techniques that give young seedlings higher resistance to root rots.

Yield and Winter Survival

The average winter survival index of **RUGGED** is fully better than Vernal and all competitive varieties based on trials in IA, WI, and MN. **RUGGED** showed very consistent yields across three different Midwest environments by placing first out of forty in Wisconsin and by beating Legendairy 2.0 by an average of .43 tons/acre. **RUGGED** was seventh at Napier, IA seventh at Livingston, WI and seventh at Princeton, IL and had the best average of any experimental at these 2 locations combined. It placed sixth in the Nashua trial and First in the Lexington, KY trial for yield, and grazing/Traffic tolerance

Rugged At a Glance...

- ◆ Fall Dormancy: 3
- ◆ Winter Survival Rating: 1.2
- ◆ Traffic-Compaction Tolerance
- ◆ Unexcelled Persistence
- ◆ Large, Broad, Deep-Set Crowns, More Stems
- ◆ High Resistance to 8 Pests
- ◆ Disease Resistant Index (DRI 30/30)

BW	VW	FW	AN	PRR	APH (Race 1)	APH (Race 2)	SAA	PA	SN	LHY	Traffic
HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	MR	HR	HR	MR	R	HT