

# USER GUIDE for OKLAHOMA and TEXAS Chisholm Fescue *The Recipe for Success*

**For best results work ground smooth or leave short crop stubble in the spring. Keep in mind every time that you till/disturb the ground, you bring more seed to the germination zone (top 2 inches) to emerge in the fall that will compete with the Chisholm. Spray Glyphosate as needed to control weeds and grasses. Do not allow grassy weeds to make seed. If possible let early September rains germinate a flush of volunteer annuals, spray with glyphosate, then plant Chisholm.**

## Where to Plant:

- Areas with 24"+ annual rainfall
- Irrigate Chisholm in drier areas
- Works best in areas with wet winters and dry, hot summers.
- Choose ground that is moisture retentive, clay, black or loam soils; fertile and pH 5.5 to 7.5
- Do not plant in low fertility, sandy, or droughty soils or over shallow rocks.

## Before planting Chisholm:

- Spray glyphosate in March - Aug to eliminate **ALL grass and weeds** (goatgrass, rescuegrass, cheatgrass, and annual ryegrass) prior to drilling Chisholm seed in autumn.
- Spray glyphosate in September before planting to control emerged annual grass and weeds prior to tall fescue emergence.

## When to Plant:

- |                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| • North Oklahoma | 15 September |
| • South Oklahoma | 30 September |
| • North Texas    | 15 October   |
| • Central Texas  | 31 October   |
| • South Texas    | 15 November  |

## Before:

## Preparing Ground (prior to establishment)

### SPRING

- Graze short or harvest other winter forage for hay
- Spray glyphosate in March – Aug to control grass weed species (cheatgrass, goatgrass, rescuegrass, ryegrass, cereals) **before blooming stage.**
- Test Soil for Fertility & PH
- Apply P, K & S, and ag lime according to soil test
- **Tillage and cultipacking is best done in spring with moist ground**
- Fallow ground through summer. Spray to kill weeds

## Establishing Chisholm

### FALL

Tillage in fall is **NOT recommended**

- In 100% weed free ground, no-till drill Chisholm seed into dry soils **BEFORE first fall rain.** For drier climates Irrigate to germinate seeds.
- Or kill emerged grassy weeds (after first fall rain) by spraying glyphosate in September.
- Planting dates: See left text panel
- Plant after night air temps are below 60°F, and soil temps warmer than 55°F, and **6 weeks before first frost.**
- **No-till Drill seed 1/8-inch deep** into **firm** seedbed.
- **Seeding rate: 15 lbs/ac**

### WINTER

- Wait until fescue plants are well rooted before grazing.
- Allow fescue to grow to 6" height.
- **Flash graze** and **rest** frequently to control annual grassy weeds.
- Remove animals before rain on new stands.

### EARLY SPRING

After Chisholm seedlings reach **4-leaf stage** or true tillers:

- Spray Weedmaster at 24 oz/ac to kill broadleaf weeds.
- **Flash graze and rest** frequently to control 6" high annual grass weeds.
- Don't let annual grasses smother fescue seedlings.
- Apply Nitrogen 50 lb N/ac. after controlling weeds and annual grasses.
- **Graze for short periods,** or make early hay (at early boot stage).

### SUMMER

- Leave 4" of foliage to shade plants through summer heat.
- Defer grazing or flash graze annual grass weeds.
- Mow rank growth, seed heads, low quality forage in August.

## Year 2 and Following: Managing Mature Pasture

### FALL / WINTER (September)

- Test soil. Apply fertilizers 40+Lbs N/ac, and P, K & S according to soil test)
- Allow pasture to grow to 8" height before grazing to 3" residual.
- If possible Remove animals before rain. Try not to bog the ground.
- Companion Species: annual medics, alfalfas, or clovers depending on location, soil type and pH.

### SPRING

- Apply fertilizer as recommended (50+ Actual Lbs N/ac.
- Keep pasture leafy and short by heavy and continuous grazing leaving 4" cover.

# Warner Brothers Seed Company

INVESTMENTS THAT GROW

Telephone: 1-580-536-8400 11602 SW 82nd St, Lawton, OK 73505 Website = <https://chisholmfescue.com>  
 Call Toll Free: 1-800-467-7250 P.O. Box 101, Lawton, OK 73502 Email: WBSEEDCO@aol.com

## Benefits & Features of Chisholm:

- A perennial cool-season grass
- Endophyte free; **No fescue toxicosis**
- Bred in and adapted to Oklahoma and Texas
- Strong dormancy in dry, hot summers
- Extremely drought tolerant and persistent
- **Better survival** than Kentucky 31 tall fescue
- High forage growth in autumn and spring
- Soft leaves and palatable forage • Resistant to leaf rust disease
- Graze with cattle, horses, and sheep
- **No bloat** in grazing cattle and sheep
- **More pounds of beef** per acre
- **Lower costs** per pound of beef produced
- **Reduces annual planting of** forage cereals
- **Reduces erosion.** Improves soil properties



Chisholm in Spring

## Rotational or Controlled Grazing will:

- Increase consumption of grass by livestock
- Reduce spoiling and waste of forage
- Increase forage growth and quality
- Extend the life of the Chisholm pasture.



dormant Chisholm in Summer

## Seasonal Growth and Grazing:

Grazing Chisholm fills the gaps before and after annual winter forage crops, especially dual-use (forage and grain) wheat and oats:

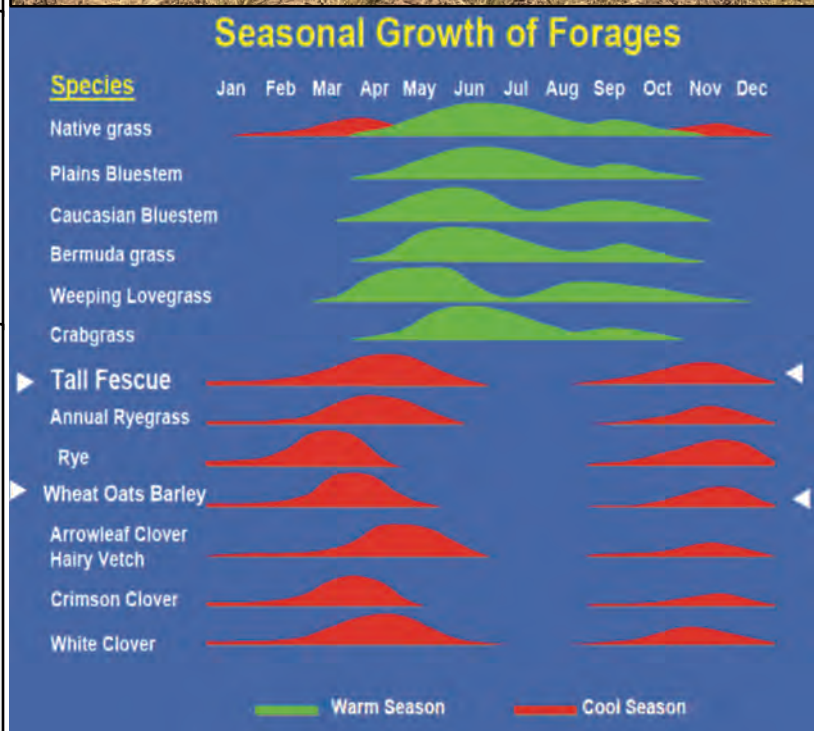
- Planting annuals can be delayed by late rains
- Graze Chisholm in Oct - Nov, and Mar - May
- Graze wheat, oat, rye pastures in Nov - Feb
- Harvest grains from dual-use crops

## Chisholm is Adapted to Drought:

When soils go dry and reach high temperatures:

- Chisholm plants go dormant (in late-spring)
- Leaves and stems dry out in July
- Plants appear to have died. **They haven't.**
- Dormancy continues during drought and heat, and in spite of summer rains
- In early autumn (late August) after rains and cooler soils, Chisholm plants start growing.

Chisholm will not go dormant in cooler, moist summers, and where soils stay moist.



Plant Variety Protection Number 201800411

UNAUTHORIZED SEED MULTIPLICATION PROHIBITED BY LAW

