

Lolium arundinaceum subsp. arundinaceum

COMMON NAME

tall fescue

SYNONYMS

Schedonorus phoenix (Scop.) Holub [1998], Festuca arundinacea Schreb., Schedonorus arundinaceus (Schreb.) Dumort.

FAMILY

Poaceae

AUTHORITY

Lolium arundinaceum (Schreb.) Darbysh. subsp. arundinaceum

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

NVS CODE

SCHARU

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FAC: Facultative

Commonly occurs as either a hydrophyte or non-hydrophyte (non-wetlands).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Tall, erect, strongly tufted, coarse, perennial grass. **Leaves** 100–600 × 3–12 mm, flat, mod ribbed, harsh, yellow-green, hairless except at leaf base, margins rough, glossy beneath; rolled when emerging. **Leaf-base** stout, encircles stem with collar, hairy. **Sheath-base** occ brownish-purple. **Ligule** up to 2 mm long, membranous, firm, greenish. **Seedhead** an open panicle, 5–25 cm long; seeds large, clustered in coarse spikelets 10–20 mm long.

SIMILAR TAXA

Tall, erect, fairly harsh, perennial grass. Auricle with very short bristly hairs, that continue along the margins at the base of the leaf blade. Otherwise the plant is glabrous. Hybrids are produced with both *Lolium perenne* and *L. multiflorum*. *Lolium* species are lush grasses and do not have hairy auricles.

FLOWER COLOURS

Green

LIFE CYCLE

Perennial.

YEAR NATURALISED

1871



Schedonorus arundinaceus. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



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ORIGIN

Europe

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Agricultural

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/lolium-arundinaceum-subsp-arundinaceum/>