

# *“Tiffany Brand” Teff*

*Profitable rotation crop for Alfalfa Growers if the Premium Horse Hay Market needs can't be met.*

## Crop Origin and Plant Characteristics

Teff is a warm season C4 annual grass that originated in Africa, where it was utilized mainly as a grain crop. An evaluation of the crop in the U.S. has identified it as an excellent forage hay when cut before grain maturity. “Tiffany Brand” Teff was recently identified from a large collection of plant introductions as one of the better forage producing lines of Teff. “Tiffany” produces High Yields and Quality, rivaling many other forage grass hay such as Timothy.

The advantage of “Tiffany Brand” Teff is it’s ability to produce high quality hay in a relatively short growing season. “Tiffany Brand” Teff can be cultivated on a wide range of soils and environments, tolerating drought to water logged conditions.

“Tiffany Brand” Teff is a fine stemmed annual grass similar in appearance to bunch grasses. It has large crowns and numerous tillers with a shallow massive fibrous root system. Plant height at maturity can range from 3-4 feet depending on the environment.

## Possible Uses

- High Quality Forage hay similar to Timothy
- Ideal for Alfalfa rotations
- Excellent second crop for rotations
- Green Manure Crop
- Cover Crop for erosion control



“Tiffany” Teff at 2 Weeks



“Tiffany” Teff at 4 Weeks



“Tiffany” Teff at 7 Weeks  
(3-4 feet tall)

**2-3 ton Yield/acre  
50-60 days after planting**

*“Tiffany Brand” Teff offered  
exclusively from*

## **Poudre Valley**



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Ft. Collins, CO 80524  
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# “Tiffany Brand” Teff

*A New Warm Season Annual Grass Hay with...  
“Quality and Palatability rivaling Timothy”*

## Planting & Growing

“Tiffany” Teff is a warm season annual grass that requires a frost free growing season. The major threat to growing Teff is frost. Seed must be planted in the spring after the risk of frost has passed.

## Planting & Growing Requirements

“Tiffany” Teff is a very small seeded annual grass with an average of 1.3 million seeds per pound. Planting rate is 5-8 lbs per acre. Due to its small seed size it requires a firm seed bed, similar to alfalfa, in which good seed to soil contact is promoted. Planting depth should be 1/8 “ to 1/4” deep. Adequate soil moisture or overhead irrigation is ideal for the crops fast germination, which occurs within one week under warm conditions. Weed control during stand establishment using herbicides or management practices, is recommended.

Broadcast Planting using a Brillion grass seeder and cultipacker combination, or a spinner type grass seeder is optimal. If row plantings is used, row-spacing should be very narrow to allow for stronger weed competition. Teff has an initial slow growth until a good root system has been established. Herbicide programs for Teff would be similar to other annual grasses or cereal grains.

Applications of 50-60 lbs of available N at planting is recommended. Small applications of N following each cut will enhance yields of later cuts. Moderate amounts of Phosphorous and in some cases sulfur may be required. Excessive fertilization should be avoided to prevent lodging

## Disease & Pest Resistant Crop

Teff is a relatively new forage crop in the U.S., where disease and pest problems have seldom been observed in the crop. “Tiffany” Teff is relatively free of most



“Tiffany’s Quality and Palatability rivaling Timothy Hay”

disease problems especially when compared to other grain crops used for hay. Preliminary University and grower trials have demonstrated that “Tiffany Brand” Teff can be grown, in most locations, without insecticides or fungicides. It is for the most part, considered a low input crop.

## Nutritive Value

Nutritive value of “Tiffany” Teff is comparable to Timothy, making it an excellent forage for horses and other livestock. Palatability and animal acceptance has been reported to be very good by horse owners.

Protein content of Teff hay ranges from 12-17% depending on the growth stage or maturity. RFV values have been reported in the range of 80-120. Oregon State University trials reported ADF and NDF values at 3 locations ranging from 32-40 and 53-70 respectively.

Teff hay is high in calcium as well as phosphorus, iron, copper, aluminum, barium, and thiamine. Potassium levels have been reported in some hays in the 2.5-3.0% range. Nitrate and Nitrite content is low under normal fertility conditions.

As with most forage crops, quality and digestibility decreases with maturity and fiber content increases. For optimal Nutritional value, a crop cutting interval of 40-60 days is recommended.

## Special points of interest:

- “Tiffany Brand” Teff is a warm season annual grass that requires a frost free growing season
- “Tiffany Brand” Teff a Great interim hay crop between alfalfa stands!!!
- Profitable rotation crop for Alfalfa Growers if premium horse hay Market needs can’t be met.
- Suitable for double cropping
- Good hay or pasture crop when late season plantings are required due to a crop failure
- Low input annual forage grass
- Very few disease and pest problems have been observed.
- Studies indicate that “Tiffany Brand” Teff can be grown in most locations, without insecticides or fungicides.
- Palatability and animal acceptance has been reported to be very good by horse owners
- High Quality hay for horse owners with excellent animal acceptance .