PLANT FACT SHEET

Lolium multiflorum Lam.

GENUS *Lolium* **FAMILY** Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Italian ryegrass, Annual ryegrass

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Shoots, Leaves

The leaves are dried and used as a spice.

DESCRIPTION

An annual grass. It grows 60-90 cm high and spreads 25-30 cm wide. It is a more robust grass than Wimmera rye. The stems are often tinged red. The leaves are bright green and smooth and tapered. They have a sharp point. The midrib is obvious and the leaf edges are rough. The flowers are in a spike with 5-38 spikelets. The outside glume is shorter than the spikelet. The lemmas carry awns.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It suits hardiness zones 6-9. It grows in the Sahara. In Sichuan and Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown from seed.

NOTES

There are about 8 Lolium species. They are temperate.

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