## Morphological Variation Within and Between Ryegrass Cultivars and Their Mixtures. (C06-liu163727-Poster)

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## Abstract:

Barenbrug's BG34 is a widely used ryegrass, and some of its success may be attributed to the diversity from it being a blend of four cultivars (Barnhem, Barmoco, Barlet and Mara). The objective of this study was to characterize morphological variation (i.e. plant height, tiller number, tiller diameter, erectness, leaf width and yield) among and within these cultivars. Plants were established from seed and grown in a completely randomized design in a greenhouse from February to June 2002. Cultivar effects were significant for all morphological characters. Barnhem had the largest tiller number (176 tillers/pot), the narrowest leaves (3.9 mm), and was the shortest (30.0 cm). Mara had the lowest tiller number (148 tillers/pot) and was the tallest (33.3 cm). Barmaco had the widest leaves (4.7 mm) and was the most prostrate (score = 2.64, erect=1 and prostrate=5). Barlet was the most erect (score = 2.04). It was concluded that the morphological variation among these cultivars can serve as a means of cultivar identification and also contributed to overall diversity of BG34.

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## **Presentation Information:**

Presentation Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2002 Presentation Time: 4:00-6:00 pm Poster Board Number: 842

## **Keywords:**

ryegrass, variation, phenotype