

With fescue: Requires 2 sprays of broadleaf killer such as Basagran (\$81.45/gal). The rate is 2qt /A or .367qt/1000ft of ditch. Each spray for 1000ft of ditch costs \$7.52. A season of applications sums at **\$15.04.**

8. New Ideas About Problem Solving.

This year 3 other onion growers have received free fescue seed through the Wallkill-Rondout Watershed Project to try on a few ditches. The growers that were most interested in this were those who had significant problems with the excessive rainfall this year (flooding in a few areas). They feel that if their ditches had been more stable they would not have to re-dig them again this year. The next step was to get more growers involved and to continue until it becomes the conventional practice.

9. Continuation:

Yes, I plan to continue this practice and have all of my ditches seeded as soon as it is possible. This is a soil, labor, and money saving practice as far as I am concerned. The soil saving aspect is the most important.

10. Other Growers:

I have not spoken to any other growers about this practice. The few that have received seed (3) have all consulted with Maire Ullrich about the do's and don'ts as far as they are known. Maire has also approached me about possibly being on a panel or speaking at growers educational meetings this winter and next. I will tell them that I have found it to be a very worthy practice.

11. Outreach:

Maire Ullrich put articles in the *Crop Management News* (enclosed) about fescue as a ditch cover and will have a section of the 1997 Onion School devoted to its discussion. At Onion School the economics of this practice will be discussed. These numbers were not available for the 1996 *Crop Management News*. As mentioned above, Larry Larson will discuss this as an option when reviewing conservation plans. However, I feel the best outreach is when the other growers get seed and try it for themselves and this is being done through the Wallkill-Roundout Watershed Project, now that fescue is seen as harmless.

12. Enclosed you will find 3 slides.

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| No. 1 | Scout checking sticky cards |
| No. 2 | Fescue on ditchbank |
| No. 3 | Me seeding more ditches |