Raptor III is the next generation tall fescue in the highly successful Raptor line. Raptor III is one of the top-rated NTEP performers in the latest tall fescue trials. Raptor III ranked #1 in mean turfgrass quality. In addition to its outstanding turf quality Raptor III is a compact, wear tolerant tall fescue. Raptor III has excellent disease resistance scoring high in all the NTEP disease trials and showing outstanding resilience to Brown Patch. Raptor III also shows excellent turf density, ranking high in both the fall and spring trials.
SEEDING AND OVERSEEDING Tall fescue prefers warmer soil for germination, typically 55°F to 58°F. In the Transition zone this means early spring and early fall. Further north, late spring and late summer is preferred. Raptor III should be sown at a rate of 6 to 9 lbs per 1000 sq ft (275 to 400 lbs per acre), lightly covered with soil and kept moist until after the first cutting. Maximum density is achieved by planting with a slicer/seeder or following aerification, and with the application of a starter fertilizer. First mowings are generally within three weeks, or when plants first reach 3 in. in height. Overseed existing tall fescue at a rate of 225 to 300 lbs per acre.

MAINTENANCE Raptor III natural dark color, density and pest resistance minimize the need for extensive maintenance. Generally 2 to 3 pounds of nitrogen as part of a balanced fertilizer applied annually is all that’s required. Cutting heights should range between 2 to 3 inches. Under controlled conditions heights down to 1 inch can be satisfactorily maintained.