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rye·grass or **rye grass** 🗣️ (rī grās')

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n.

Any of several grasses of the genus *Lolium*, native to Eurasia and often used for forage or for stabilizing soil.

[Alteration of *raygrass* : *ray*, dandel (from Middle English *rai*, perhaps alteration of Old French *ivraie*, from Latin *ēbriāca*, from feminine of *ēbriacus*, drunk (from the plant's effects if ingested), from *ēbrius*; see [INEBRIATE](#)) + [GRASS](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

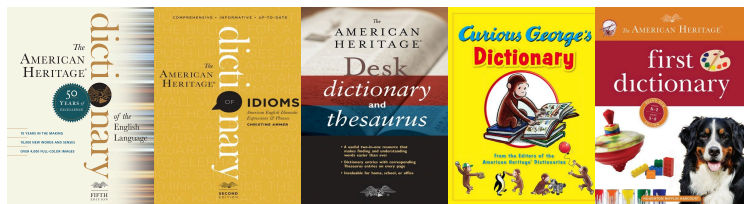
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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