

SUMMARY

Annual ryegrass and intermediate ryegrass transitioned faster than most perennial ryegrass varieties.

DATA

2000-2001 and 2001-2002 from 10 southern and western sites. Sponsored by USGA, NTEP and GCSAA.

SOURCE

Kevin N. Morris, Executive Director of the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program.

MORE INFORMATION

www.netp.org/onsite/ost./htm or kmorris@netp.org.

On-site testing of grasses for overseeding bermuda

Overseeding bermudagrass fairways is a common practice throughout the southern half of the United States. This project evaluated new cultivars on bermudagrass fairways at ten (10) golf courses in the Southern and Western U.S.

The evaluation trials were jointly sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), the United States Golf Association (USGA) Green Section and the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP). Trials were positioned strategically in the following areas: southern California; Arizona; Houston, Texas; Dallas, Texas; Mississippi; central Florida; Myrtle Beach, S.C.; Virginia; Atlanta, Ga.; and St. Louis, Mo.

The trials were located on active play sites where golfers hit fairway golf shots and/or drive golf carts. The forty-two (42) entries were established in fall 1999 and then again, in exactly the same physical location, in fall 2000. Grass species entered included perennial ryegrass, intermediate ryegrass, annual ryegrass, *Poa trivialis* and blends and mixtures of these species.

Data from 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 was compiled and published via hard copy, and posted on the NTEP web site (www.netp.org/onsite/ost.htm). Variety performance varied from location to location, however, a number of trends emerged:

Perennial ryegrass entries, in general, provided the highest quality turf averaged over the entire season.

Poa trivialis entries and perennial ryegrass/*Poa trivialis* mixtures were slower to establish, reducing their quality ratings at most locations. However, at three locations, due to other factors, the *Poa trivialis* entries finished on top, complicating the ability to predict where *Poa trivialis* may be used effectively.

Annual ryegrass and intermediate ryegrass entries transitioned faster than most perennial ryegrass entries.

At some sites, the entries that contain *Poa trivialis* transitioned back to bermuda faster than perennial ryegrass, while at other sites, the opposite was true. This leads us to believe that the transition phenomenon is highly weather and management-related.

SUMMARY

Update on second year of low cut trials for Kentucky bluegrass cultivars.

DATA

2000-2002 National Kentucky Bluegrass Test. Sites in Colorado, Maryland, Michigan, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York and Wisconsin (study to continue through 2005).

SOURCE

Kevin N. Morris, Executive Director of the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program.

MORE INFORMATION

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Low cut trials of Kentucky bluegrass

There is increased interest again in the use of Kentucky bluegrass for fairways and tees. To address this need, several locations of the 2000 National Kentucky Bluegrass Test are being maintained with a low height of cut. Seeded in fall 2000, these trials are mowed at 1 inch or less (most are maintained at 1/2 - 3/4") with 3 - 4 lbs. of nitrogen applied per 1,000 sq. ft. per year and irrigated to prevent dormancy. Trial locations include universities in Fort Collins, Colo.; College Park, Md.; E. Lansing, Mich.; Lincoln, Neb.; New Brunswick, N.J.; Ithaca, N.Y.; Brookings, S.D. and Madison, Wis.

Turfgrass quality data collected in 2001 reflected establishment rate as well as the ability to tolerate a low height of cut. In data averaged over seven of the

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TABLE 2.

Kentucky Bluegrass Cultivars in the top statistical grouping in both 2002 and 2003 at low height of cut NTEP locations

Bedazzled
Midnight II
Impact
J-1838
Award
Princeton 105