

# General Use Turfgrass Mixtures and Blends for Minnesota

By Andrew Hollman, Eric Watkins, Brian Horgan  
University of Minnesota

What is the best turfgrass mixture or blend for general use areas at my park, golf course rough, homelawn, or cemetery? What height should I mow at? How much fertilizer should I apply to achieve my desired quality? I have a hard time finding the seed you are recommending. Can you please do a study to evaluate all of these issues?

This series of questions is not uncommon by professional turfgrass managers who are looking for answers on the best mixtures and blends for their customers. Whether the customer is a homeowner or an athlete, options exist depending on the desired traits.

In 2006, triplicate plots of monocultures, mixtures or blends of cool-season

turfgrasses were seeded (Table 1 on Page 26). You may recognize some of these plots; like the Kentucky bluegrass and

all 20 treatments are mowed at 1.5 and 2.5 inches and fertilized at three different rates; 0, 1 or 2 lbs N per 1,000 square feet.

The 2 lb treatment is applied in one pound increments in spring and fall. The 1 lb treatment is only applied in the fall. Therefore, when you look at each individual 15 ft by 10 ft plot, there are three fertilizer rates stripped from east to west and 2 mowing heights stripped

from north to south.

Data will be collected for the next 3 to 5 years. Keep up to date with yearly ratings by visiting [www.turf.umn.edu](http://www.turf.umn.edu). Keep the plot plan and bring your customers or supervisors to campus to determine the best turfgrass for your situation.

(See Table 1 on Page 25)

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perennial ryegrass mixtures. Other plots you may be seeing for the first time, like the RTF tall fescue which has a rhizomatous growth habit or Alkaligrass. Some of these plots perform very well when mowed at 1.5 inches; others really need at least 2 lbs N per 1,000 square feet.

This experiment was designed so that

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**Table 1. Gortner Avenue Turf Demonstration Trial (2006-19)**

**Plot Size 15 feet by 10 feet**

**Experiment Seeded 7-26-06. Border is Lown Down Blues Kentucky Bluegrass Blend**

1	Maximum Poa Trivialis Blend	11	'Jasper II' Creeping Red Fescue
2	Low Grow Fescue	12	VNS Sheeps Fescue
3	'Osprey' Hard Fescue	13	Care-Free Fine Fescue Blend
4	'Langara" Kentucky Bluegrass	14	Blue Carpet Kentucky Bluegrass Blend
5	'Texoka' Buffalograss	15	Lown Down Blues Kentucky Bluegrass Blend
6	'Fults' Puccinella Alkaligrass	16	'RTF' Tall Fescue
7	'Fawn' Tall Fescue	17	'Jamestown II' Chewings Fescue
8	'SR 3210' Blue Fescue	18	Triple A Tall Fescue Blend
9	'Manhattan 4' Perennial Ryegrass	19	30:70 Perennial Rye:Kentucky Blue Mix
10	'Park' Kentucky Bluegrass	20	Links Fine Fescue Mixture

20 ft by 45 ft plot of 67135 U of MN Sheep Fescue Breeder Seed

Rep 2					West					Rep 4				
401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	801	802	803	804	805
6	17	2	12	1	3	16	14	11	18	8	1	13	6	7
301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	701	702	703	704	705
4	5	20	19	8	10	9	13	15	7	3	10	18	11	15
201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	601	602	603	604	605
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	9	14	12	1	19
101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	501	502	503	504	505
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	15	5	16	8	7
Rep 1					East					Rep 3				
401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	801	802	803	804	805
6	17	2	12	1	3	16	14	11	18	8	1	13	6	7
301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	701	702	703	704	705
4	5	20	19	8	10	9	13	15	7	3	10	18	11	15
201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	601	602	603	604	605
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	9	14	12	1	19
101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	501	502	503	504	505
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	15	5	16	8	7

Gortner Ave

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