

BACKGROUND ON THE RESEARCH PLOTS

Fine Turf Plots (Crops Lab). The basic fine turf experimental area was established in late fall of 1961. New variety evaluation plots were established in August of 1963. The soil on the site was amended with sand to achieve a loamy sand mix. The area is mowed at 1/4 inch, six times a week during the summer growing season. Coring is practiced each fall and topdressing is applied fall and spring at 0.25 yard per 1,000 sq. ft. Irrigation is applied as needed to prevent wilt.

General Turf Plots (Crops Lab.). The basic general turf experimental area was established in the summer of 1962. New variety evaluation plots were established in August of 1963. The soil is a Conover sandy loam. The area is mowed twice a week at 1 1/2 inches with clippings returned. Irrigation is applied as needed to prevent wilt. Broadleaved weed control is practiced every second year. No herbicides have been applied for annual weedy grass control.

Soil Science Turf Plots. The soil mixture study was initiated by Dr. James Tyson in 1959 with the aid of a grant from the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation. Plot size is 3' x 6' with the area established with Cohansey bentgrass stolons.

The sod was removed from all other plots in July, 1965, and the plot area fumigated. The Merion Kentucky bluegrass plots were seeded in August, 1965, except for the sodded area which was established in July, 1966. Nitrogen fertility treatments were initiated in 1967. The nitrogen fertility studies on the other bluegrass and the red fescue areas were initiated in 1967. These plots were seeded in August, 1966. The soil is a fine sandy loam. Irrigation on all plots is applied as needed.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

September 10, 1969 - MSU Sod Production Field Day
MSU Muck Experimental Farm

January 27-28, 1970 - The 40th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference,
Kellogg Center, MSU Campus.