

EMBARK AS A SEEDHEAD SUPPRESSOR OF KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS

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In low maintenance areas where Kentucky bluegrass is the predominant turfgrass species, the production of seedheads may be aesthetically objectionable. Embark, a plant growth regulator, has been shown to effectively suppress annual bluegrass seedhead formation. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness of Embark for suppressing Kentucky bluegrass seedhead formation.

Embark was applied on three different dates - April 25, May 2, May 10 - to 1 x 2 meter plots of 'Enmundi' Kentucky bluegrass. Each treatment was replicated three times. The application rate of Embark for all treatments was 1/2 pint/acre and all applications preceded seedhead emergence. Seedheads were counted July 1, 1983 from 400 cm² areas within each plot. The Kentucky bluegrass area has not been mowed this year (1983).

Results show Embark effectively controlled seedhead formation regardless of the time of application (Table 4). It should be noted that all treatments were applied before seedhead emergence.

Table 4. Kentucky bluegrass seedheads per 400 cm² on July 1, 1983 for three application dates of Embark.

Treatment	Seedheads/400 cm ² *
April 25, 1983	0.0
May 2, 1983	0.0
May 10, 1983	0.0
Control	75.8

*Average of three plots.