

Creeping Bentgrass Variety Trial

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The 1993 creeping bentgrass variety trial is coordinated by the United States Department of Agriculture as part of the national turfgrass evaluation program. The 1993 trial contains 28 entries with half of those entries being experimental varieties. Turfgrass breeders at both public institutions and private companies have been working hard to improve the range of adaptability, disease resistance, and overall quality of creeping bentgrass.

The 1993 creeping bentgrass variety trial provides an opportunity to evaluate the breeding progress that has been made with this species since the early 1900's. The variety Seaside was released in 1923 and was the only available source of seeded creeping bentgrass in the United States for almost 30 years. Seaside did not perform well for most golf applications and during those days most of the better golf courses utilized vegetatively propagated creeping bentgrass. As more golf courses became interested in using creeping bentgrass on fairways, a great demand was created for an improved seed propagated bentgrass. Penn State University then released the variety Penncross which was a tremendous improvement over Seaside and was used to establish approximately 90% of putting greens from 1955 to 1975. As the demand for creeping bentgrass increased, breeding efforts have produced approximately 20 different varieties available today.

The named and experimental varieties that have shown promise here in Michigan are Providence, L-93, G-2, G-6, and A4.

Creeping Bentgrass Quality Ranking

Means of May, June, & July 1996 quality ratings.

Name	Species	Sponsor	Mean Quality
L-93	Creeping	Loft's Seed	7.2
G-2	Creeping	Tee-2-Green	7.1
Providence	Creeping	Seed Research	6.9
BAR Ws 42102	Creeping	Barenburg Holland	6.9
G-6	Creeping	Tee-2-Green	6.8
A-4	Creeping	Tee-2-Green	6.7
Crenshaw	Creeping	Loft's Seed	6.7
Cato	Creeping	Pickseed West	6.7
Southshore	Creeping	Loft's Seed	6.7
Lopez	Creeping	Finelawn Research	6.4
PRO/CUP	Creeping	Forbes Seed & Grain	6.4
SR1020	Creeping	Seed Research	6.4
Syn 92-1-93	Creeping	Texas A&M	6.4
A-1	Creeping	Tee-2-Green	6.4
MSUEB	Creeping	Mississippi State	6.4
Syn 92-5-93	Creeping	Texas A&M	6.3
DG-P	Creeping	ProSeeds Marketing	6.2
Syn 92-2-93	Creeping	Texas A&M	6.2
Pennlinks	Creeping	Tee-2-Green	6.1
Regent	Creeping	Barenburg USA	6.1
Trueline	Creeping	Turf Merchants	6.1
Penncross	Creeping	Standard entry	6.1
ISI-Ap-89150	Creeping	International Seeds	6.0
18th Green	Creeping	Johnson Seeds	5.9
Syn-1-88	Creeping	Texas A&M	5.9
BAR As 493	Creeping	Barenburg Holland	5.1
Tendenz	Colonial	Finelawn Research	5.0
Seaside	Creeping	Standard entry	4.9
			LSD = 0.6