

## Stop 2

### **MOWING-HEIGHT COMPARISONS ON KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS**

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In this study, twenty-four plots represent a range of mowing heights on Kentucky bluegrass with each plot being mowed by the one-third rule. Accordingly, different plots may be mowed on different days. However, this week all plots were mown on Monday, two days before Field Day.

Each plot is 26 ft x 6 ft (156 ft<sup>2</sup>), and adjacent plots are 4 ft from each other so that mowing directions and wheel tracks can be varied. A rotary-type mower is used with clippings returned. The area between plots is cut at a lower height than any of the treatments to limit clippings deposition from one plot to another. Irrigation rate and frequency is 1/3 inch per night, three times per week. In 1998 and 1999, the plots were maintained with a low-N regimen of 2 pounds N as urea per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup> in split applications that occurred in the late spring and late fall. This season the amount of N addition has been doubled with added early and late summer applications.

Each tour participant will be asked to assign each plot with one of the following designations:

- S - mowing height too short
- OK - good height of cut
- T - mowing height too tall.

The results of this survey will be analyzed to determine the mowing height(s) preferred by professional turf managers compared to a similar survey taken here two years ago.