## The National Greenkeeper

Tractor Wheels and Spuds R. S. Horner

Trees Blue Ridge Evergreen Supply Co.

**Turf Fertilizers** Armour Fertilizer Works

Urea Synthetic Nitrogen Products Corp.

Water Pipe McWane Cast Iron Pipe Co.

Worm Eradicators Peter Henderson & Co. C. B. Dolge Company Reade Mfg. Company

# Some Facts About Velvet Bent

The following information is furnished by the Hyper-Humus Company in Newton, N. J.

WELVET BENT (Agrostis canina) is Jersey State Agricultural Experiment not a trade name for bent grass, but is the name of an entirely distinct species. It produces a much finer textured turf than any strain of creeping bent, Seaside bent, Colonial bent, Astoria bent, Rhode Island bent, or other species of the bent grass group.

Velvet bent makes a profuse growth of narrow basal leaves, thus producing a dense turf of fine texture.

When Velvet bent seed contains 5% or more of other bent species or strains, the resulting turf is patchy and uneven in texture because the fine leaved velvet does not blend with the relatively coarse foliage of the other bents.

One of the most conservative seed houses, noted for its high quality products and moderate prices, offers stolons of Metropolitan creeping bent at the price of \$17.50 for enough stolons to plant 1000 square feet. Two pounds of pure Velvet bent seed will plant the same area at considerably lower cost.

VELVET BENT PRODUCES ROOT SYSTEM

ELVET BENT turf produces a root system that is fully as extensive as that of any other species of bent grass, according to root studies reported by the New

Station. In its native habitat, the species occurs on well-drained soils that are inclined to be rather dry, rather than on swampy or soggy soil. Velvet bent will tolerate a limited supply of moisture as well or better than related species.

Velvet bent requires far less top-dressing to maintain a true surface than creeping bent produced from stolons or from seed. With the high cost of preparing good top-dressing, and the large amounts used in the course of a season, the saving on this item from use of Velvet bent is considerable. Velvet bent requires even less top-dressing than any strain of Colonial bent, or of German mixed bent.

Velvet bent produces the toughest and hardiest turf when fertilizer is used sparingly. In fact, greenkeepers who have propagated this species on their own courses, state that it seems to thrive on neglect of feeding. Excessive soil acidity is undesirable for Velvet bent as well as for other species of bent grass, but the grass will flourish over a wide range of soil conditions.

WHY VELVET BENT IS INEXPENSIVE

ELVET BENT is a relatively inexpensive putting green grass for the following reasons:

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1. There are approximately ten million seeds to the pound, about twice as many as for other species of bent grass. The rate of seeding Velvet bent need not be more than two pounds per 1000 square feet on properly prepared seed beds. The cost of seeding Velvet bent is far less than for planting creeping bent from stolons.

#### NO SPECIAL CARE AT TIME OF PLANTING

2. No special care is required at the time of planting. Simply use the ordinary precautions as for sowing other small seeded grasses. No unusual attention, such as the careful covering with screened soil and careful watering needed by stolon plantings, need to be given to Velvet bent planted from seed.

3. Velvet bent requires less top-dressing to maintain a true putting surface than any other grass used for putting greens in the United States. Stolon bent greens will require at least twice as much top-dressing as Velvet bent. One of the most costly items in the maintenance budget may be reduced to a negligible figure by planting greens to Velvet bent.

### VELVET BENT IS HARDY

4. Velvet bent is hardy, persistent and durable. It will hold its own against the encroachment of weeds, poa annua, and clover as well as any other putting green grass. Moreover, it is better able to do so with limited feeding than other bent grasses. Re-seeding and fertilizer costs may be reduced to a minimum with Velvet bent.

5. These great savings in costs are not made at the expense of quality. Pure Velvet bent produces the finest turf ever developed on a golf course or similar grassed area. Impure Velvet bent seed containing 5% or more of other species of bent grass will not produce a uniform, smooth-textured turf, but pure Velvet bent will do so.

6. The production of pure Velvet bent seed has been placed on a permanent basis in New Jersey with the assistance of the State Agricultural Experiment Station, and seed of the same high quality as that now available will be placed on the market year after year.

# Market Place and Buyers' Guide ---

#### **Top Dressing**

Tractors

Hyper-Humus Company The Ohio Humus Company Atkins and Durbrow, Inc.

E. G. Staude Mak-A-Tractor Co.

R. S. Horner Gravely Mower & Cultivator Co.

E. G. Staude Mak-A-Tractor Co. Toro Manufacturing Company Worthington Mower Co. International Harvester Co. of America Ideal Power Lawn Mower Co. Roseman Tractor Mower Co.