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Turfgrass Seed Sources in Ontario

Advertising Supplement to the Sports Turf Manager, Spring 2013

The Sports Turf Association strongly recommends to athletic field managers that they use only improved cultivars that have been tested and found superior under local conditions.

SPECIES	SUPPLIER					
	Graham Turf Seeds Ltd.		Lawn Life	Master's Turf Supply Ltd.		Ontario Seed Company
Kentucky bluegrass	Award Baron Bluechip Corsair Everest Full Moon Impact Jumpstart	NuDestiny NuGlade Rugby II Rush Skye SR 2100 SR 2284 Sudden Impact	Mallard Monte Carlo Oasis Ridgeline Wildhorse	Award Barrister Bedazzled Bonaire Brooklawn Diva	Everest Jumpstart Midnight Shamrock Wildhorse	Award Beyond Blue Chip Plus Freedom III Liberator Midnight Star NuBlue II NuDestiny NuGlade Perfection
Texas/Kentucky bluegrass hybrid				Bandera		
Poa compressa	Reubens			Canada Blue		Canada Blue Reubens
Poa supina	Supra Nova					
Poa trivialis	Maximum	Sabre III		Bartalon		Havana
Fine fescue: Blue	SR 3200					
Fine fescue: Chewings	J-5 Jamestown IV King James	SR 5100 SR 5130	7 Seas Survivor	Ambassador Bridgeport II Culumbra II		J-5 Jamestown II
Fine fescue: Creeping Red	Audobon Boreal Crossbow	SR 5210 SR 5250 Trapeze	Lustrous Penn ASC 295 Razor	Aberdeen Boreal	Miser Seabreeze	Aruba Audubon
Fine Fescue: Hard	Bighorn GT Ecostar Soil Guard	SR 3100 SR 3150	Predator	Oxford Reliant IV	Reliant V Soil Guard	Ecostar
Fine Fescue: Sheeps	Marco Polo	Quatro		Marco Polo		Marco Polo
Tall fescue	Grande II Darlington	Talladega	RK4	Bighorn GT Coronado Gold Fury	Lexington Titan	Arid III Inferno
Tall fescue: Spreading/ Rhizomatous	Speedway		Marauder	Falcon IV	Titan Ultra	
Perennial ryegrass	Accent Arctic Caddyshack Calypso III Champion Extreme	Harrier SR 4220 SR 4420 SR 4500 SR 4600 Top Gun	Applaud II IG2 Integra Shining Star	Affirmed Charismatic II Dominator Doubletime IQ	Manhattan 5 Passport Plateau Trifecta Wind Dance 2	Evolution Revenge Top Gun II
Perennial ryegrass: Creeping/Regenerating	CSI		Insight Sienna	Baralpha		CSI
Weeping alkali	Fults	Salty		Fults		Fults
Contact Information	Graham Turf Seeds Ltd. 1702 Elm Tree Road, RR 1 Lindsay, ON K9V 4R1 P:795.878.8822 F:705.878.1978 graham@grahamturf.com www.grahamturf.com		Lawn Life 935023 Airport Road Mono, ON L9W 6C6 kpavely.lawnlife@xplornet.ca lawnlifenaturalturfproducts.com	Master's Turf Supply Ltd. P.O. Box 629 80 William Street West Harriston, ON N0G 1Z0 P: 519.510.8873 F: 519.510.8875 mastersturf@wightman.ca		Ontario Seed Company 77 Wellington Street South Kitchener, ON N2G 2E6 P:519.886.0557 F:519.886.0605 richard@oscseeds.com www.oscturf.com

Turfgrass Seed Sources in Ontario

TURF SEEDING RATES The following are seeding rates per 100 m² for specific species of grass seeds: creeping bentgrass, 0.5-1.0 kg; Kentucky bluegrass, 1.0-2.0 kg; perennial ryegrass, 2.0-4.0 kg; fine fescue, 1.0-3.0 kg; tall fescue, 2.0-3.0 kg; and velvet bentgrass 0.5-0.8 kg.

Source: *Turfgrass Management Recommendations, Publication 384, OMAFRA*

SPECIES	SUPPLIER								
	Pickseed Canada Inc.		Plant Products Co. Ltd.		Quality Seeds			Speare Seeds	
Kentucky bluegrass	America Appalachian Armada Blue Velvet Crest Explorer	Granite Langara Mercury Quantum Leap Touchdown Touche	America Appalachian Armada Bandera Blue Velvet Bordeaux Cabernet Champagne Crest Granite	Langara Mercury Merit Moonshadow Shiraz SR 2100 Touchdown Zinfandel	Abbey Alene Avalanche Aviator Barduke Barimpala Barinque Bariris Baron Baroness	Barrister BlackJack Blue Angel Blue Note Blue Sapphire Cadet Corsair Courtyard Everglade Gaelic	Hampton HGT Midnight Midnight II Princeton 105 Prosperity Raven Rubicon Rugby II	Award Barrister Bedazzled Bonaire Brooklawn Diva	Everest Jumpstart Midnight Shamrock Wildhorse
Texas/Kentucky bluegrass hybrid	Bandera	Spitfire			Farenheit 90	SPF 30		Bandera	
Poa compressa					Reubens			Canada Blue	
Poa supina	Supernova				Supranova				
Poa trivialis	Colt Darkhorse	Racehorse	Darkhorse		Laser Sabre IV	Sun-Up		Bartalon	
Fine fescue: Blue	Azay				Blue Heron	Little Big Horn	MX 86		
Fine fescue: Chewings	Silhouette Victory II Windward		Silhouette Victory II Windward		Fairmont Jamestown IV	Longfellow II		Ambassador Bridgeport II Culumbra II	
Fine fescue: Creeping Red	Boreal Garnet Jasper II	Mystic Sea Link	Boreal Crossbow Garnet	Jasper II Mystic Pathfinder	Boreal Crossbow Kent	LiFine Navigator II Trapeze		Aberdeen Boreal	Miser Seabreeze
Fine Fescue: Hard	Bornito	Spartan II	Bornito Oxford Spartan II		Aurora II Chariot Firefly	Heron Rhino Ridu		Oxford Reliant IV Soil Guard	
Fine Fescue: Sheeps	Azay		Azay		Little Big Horn	Quatro		Marco Polo	
Tall fescue	Cayenne Crossfire 3	Mustang 4	Monet Mustang 3 Team Jr.		Darlington Lexington Sitka	Tahoe II Talladega		Bighorn GT Coronado Gold Fury Lexington	
Tall fescue: Spreading/Rhizomatous	Blade Runner II	Team Blend			RTF Rhizomatous			Falcon IV	Titan Ultra
Perennial ryegrass	Arctic Green Cutter II Dasher 3 Edge II Express III Fiesta 3	Karma Mighty Nightsky Quebec Transist 2600 TXR Annual	Cutter Dasher III Edge II Exacta II	Fiesta IV Quebec Secretariat II	Amazing GS Apple GL Ecological Home Run Palace	Pillar Premium Presidio Primary Prominent		Affirmed Charismatic II Dominator Doubletime IQ	Manhattan 5 Passport Plateau Wind Dance 2
Perennial ryegrass: Creeping/Regenerating	Blazer 4	Fiesta 4			RPR Regenerating			Baralpa	
Weeping alkali	Fults	Salty			Fults II			Fults	
Contact Information	Pickseed Canada Inc. P.O. Box 304 1 Greenfield Road Lindsay, ON K9V 4S3 P:705.878.9240 F:705.878.9249 pstevens@pickseed.com www.pickseed.com		Plant Products Co. Ltd. 314 Orenda Road Brampton, ON L6T 1G1 P:905.793.7000 F:905.793.9632 www.PlantProd.com		Quality Seeds 8400 Huntington Road Vaughan, ON L4L 1A5 P:905.856.7333 support@qualityseeds.ca www.qualityseeds.ca			Speare Seeds P.O. Box 171 99 John Street Harriston, ON N0G 1Z0 P:519.338.3840 F:519.338.2510 info@speareseeds.ca www.speareseeds.ca	



Tall Fescue
(*Festuca arundinacea*)

Rhizomatous Tall Fescue and Regenerative Perennial Ryegrass Performance in Ontario: Year 1

OTS HIGHLIGHT
Presented February, 2013
Guelph, Ontario.

Pam Charbonneau, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and
Ministry of Rural Affairs, Turfgrass Specialist
Dr. Michael Brownbridge, Vineland Research and Innovation Centre

Background

I think it is safe to say that with the passing of the Cosmetic Pesticides Ban it has been more challenging to manage turf. Many of the pests that either attack or infest turf are more difficult to control using a one product – one pest approach. We must really integrate all of our tools, including cultural practices, turf species selection and bio-pesticides for success. In addition, the last few growing seasons have been very dry, increasing pressure on water supplies and necessitating watering bans in many municipalities. Ideally we are looking for pest tolerant grass species that are also drought tolerant.

With that in mind we started to investigate the potential use of novel grass species that may not only be drought tolerant, but are also able to resist weed invasion and are less susceptible to insect feeding. Cue the arrival of rhizomatous tall fescue (RTF) and regenerative perennial ryegrass (RPR) into the market place. Rhizomatous tall fescue is purported to grow better in summer and late fall than tall fescues that are currently on the market. They have endophytes that are different from other tall fescues currently on the

market. They require less water because of their deep roots and have rhizomes which should give them the ability to fill in on their own if the turf stand thins due to wear, pest damage or any other stress for that matter. There is an excellent article that explains the origins of rhizomatous tall fescue and how it differs from the Continental tall fescue morphotype (a morphotype is the same species but it differs significantly morphologically, genetically, physiologically and geographically) than the tall fescue that the majority of the turf varieties on the market originate. The article can be found in *Sports Turf Manager*, Summer 2012, Vol. 25. No. 2. In this article there are data documenting the rhizomatous habit of this morphotype as well as some information on the performance of RTF under intense traffic. RTF plus Kentucky bluegrass and Kentucky bluegrass sod performed the best in the traffic performance trials and based on this RTF/Kentucky bluegrass sod is now being produced and marketed for sports fields in Ontario.

What does regenerative perennial ryegrass have to offer that is novel? RPR is a subspecies of perennial ryegrass

that produces stolons. It is also referred to as stoloniferous perennial ryegrass. Until now, the cultivars of perennial ryegrass that have been marketed in Ontario have been bunch type. In addition to having stolons, RPR was selected under intense traffic stress for its ability to survive traffic and recover. RPR also contains endophytes, which is not novel for perennial ryegrass cultivars.

There is some research information on these two novel types of grasses, but apart from some sod production of these, there is not a lot of information on them and how they perform in Ontario, especially when established from seed. My colleague and I were interested in seeing for ourselves how these species performed. Because tall fescue is supposed to be drought tolerant, we thought it would be interesting to look at RTF, RPR and a standard home lawn mix (HLM) (50% Kentucky bluegrass, 20% perennial ryegrass and 30% fine fescue) under two irrigation regimes (irrigated vs. non-irrigated).

Experiment

A plot area was worked and prepared for seeding at the Guelph Turfgrass

Institute. The experimental plots were arranged in a two by three factorial design (two irrigation regimes and three species/mixture) with four replications of each treatment. Plots measured 2 m x 2 m (4 m²) and were seeded on September 21, 2011 using a hand held shaker. Treatments and seeding rates are as indicated in Table 1.

Table 1. Treatments and seeding rates

Treatment Number	Turf species/mixture	Irrigation regime	Seeding rate
1	Rhizomatous tall fescue (RTF)	Irrigated	2.5 kg/100 m ²
2	Rhizomatous tall fescue (RTF)	Non-irrigated	2.5 kg/100 m ²
3	Regenerative perennial ryegrass (RPR)	Irrigated	3.0 kg/100 m ²
4	Regenerative perennial ryegrass (RPR)	Non-irrigated	3.0 kg/100 m ²
5	Home lawn mix1 (HLM)	Irrigated	2.0 kg/100 m ²
6	Home lawn mix (HLM)	Non-irrigated	2.0 kg/100 m ²



Figure 1. Application method for irrigating individual plots with a flow meter and hose end sprinkler.

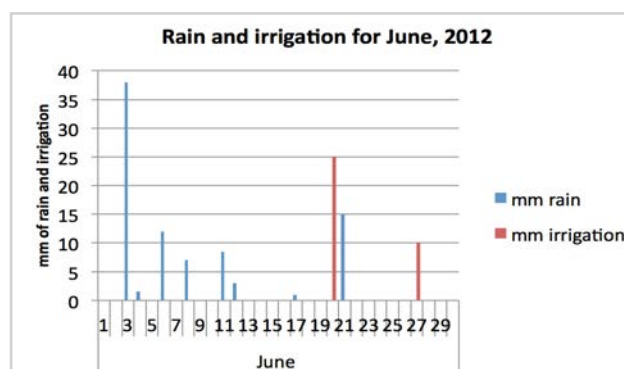


Figure 2. Millimeters of rain and irrigation for June, 2012.

All plots were mowed on a weekly basis (beginning in May 2012) at a height of 5 cm and were fertilized May 25, August 10 and September 14, 2012 with a 25-5-10 fertilizer applied at a rate of 0.5 kg of N/100 m².

Irrigation

Irrigated plots were individually watered to supply 25 mm of water in a one week period during June, July and the first two weeks of August using a hose-end sprinkler. A flow meter was used to ensure that a precise volume of water was delivered to each plot (Fig. 1). If rainfall was equal to 25 mm of water, no irrigation was applied. If rainfall was between 0 and 25 mm of water, irrigation was applied to bring the total water applied up to 25 mm for that one week period. Non-irrigated plots received rainfall only.

Figures 2, 3 and 4 show the amount of rainfall and irrigation applied per week to the irrigated plots in June, July and the first half of August. The blue bars represent the amount of rainfall that the non-irrigated plots received per month. On July 18, 2012, all irrigated and non-irrigated plots received 25 mm of irrigation. This was done because there was a fear that all of the non-irrigated plots would die due to lack of water.

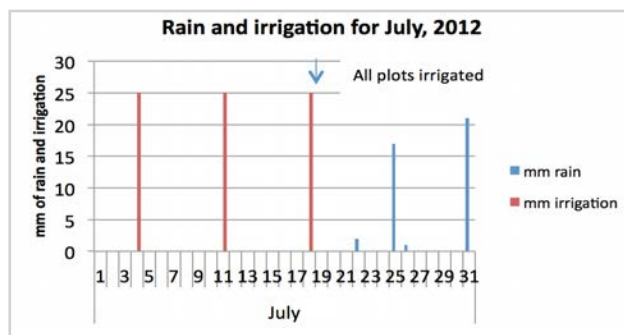


Figure 3. Millimeters of rain and irrigation for July, 2012.

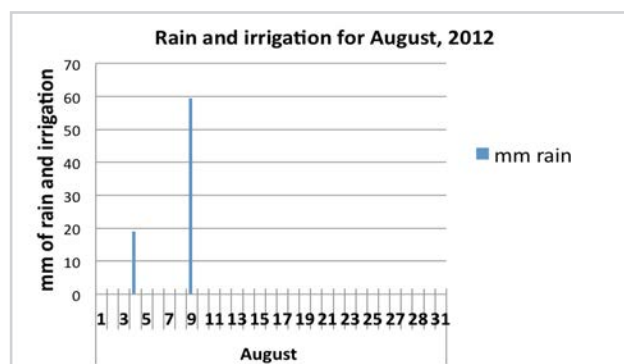


Figure 4. Millimeters of rain and irrigation for August, 2012.

Establishment, species composition and weed invasion

Percent cover of each grass species [tall fescue (TF), perennial ryegrass (PR), Kentucky bluegrass (KB) and fine fescue (FF), broadleaf weeds (BLW) and bare areas (bare)] was recorded on five dates (June 8, August 4, August 23 and October 18, 2012). The broadleaf weeds

found in these plots during the 2012 season were mainly annuals (i.e. black medick, whitlow grass, thyme-leaved sandwort, speedwell, purslane, chickweed, shepherd's purse, henbit, goldenrod and pineapple weed). Dandelions were also found in the plots but were one of the few perennial broadleaf weeds. Four randomized point quadrats measuring 60 cm x 60 cm with 25 points in each quadrat (points 10 cm apart) (Fig. 5) for a total of 100 points in each plot were used to determine percent species cover of each of the turfgrass species, broadleaf weeds and bare at each assessment date (Figures 6 and 9). A new category (dead/brown) was added on the August 4 and 23 assessment dates (Figures 7 and 8). All data were analysed using appropriate statistical methods.



Figure 5. Point quadrat used to estimate percent species cover in plots.

Figure 6 shows the species composition in the plots prior to the irrigation treatments and reflects how quickly each of the species established and how well they crowded out broadleaf weeds. Our main interest was the percent broadleaf weed cover and the percent bare. At this stage of the experiment, RPR and HLM provided good cover with very little bare area and were not significantly different from each other (11.75 and 13.625% bare respectively), while RTF had significantly more bare area (18.5%). Also, the three species treatments differed significantly from each other for broadleaf weed invasion with RTF having the most total BLW (47.75%), HLM having moderate weed invasion (31.25%) and the RPR having the least (23%).

Not surprising, these results show that RTF is slower to emerge

and fill in than the RPR and HLM and that resulted in more BLW and more bare area with this slow to establish species. The RPR is very rapid to emerge and fill in and the perennial ryegrass in the HLM also provided quick establishment that helped to out-compete weeds and fill in the bare areas.

Figure 7 shows the status of the treatment plots after six weeks of irrigation or non-irrigation. The main differences were in the percent bare, dead/brown and total BLW. At this point in the season only the non-irrigated RTF had significantly more percent bare area than all of the other treatments (18.5%). The non-irrigated HLM and RPR had similar percentage of dead/brown (69.5 and 69% respectively) and they had more dead/brown percent area than the non-irrigated RTF (44%). Perhaps surprising was the percent BLW. The irrigated RTF had significantly more BLW (64.25%) than any of the other treatments. The irrigated HLM, irrigated RPR and the non-irrigated RTF did not differ significantly from each other for BLW (31.25, 31 and 30.25% respectively). The non-irrigated HLM and RPR had very few BLW.

At this date, when irrigation was added to plots that had lots of bare area, the result was an invasion of annual broadleaf weeds. On the non-irrigated plots, there were fewer weeds because there was not enough soil moisture for weed seed germination. In addition, the non-irrigated RTF had fewer dead/brown plants showing that it is superior at maintaining live non-dormant plants during prolonged periods without water.

The data represented in Figure 8 gives an indication of the ability of the non-irrigated turf species/mixture treatments to recover from drought and for the irrigated turf species/mixture treatment to recover from broadleaf weed invasion. The percent dead/brown decreased from August 4 – August 23, 2012 for all of the non-irrigated plots. The non-irrigated RPR had significantly more dead/brown plants (14.75%) than the irrigated RTF, non-irrigated RTF and the irrigated RPR (4.5, 4.25 and 2.75% respectively). Overall there was very good recovery of the dead/brown turf in most of the non-irrigated treatments, with the non-irrigated RPR lagging behind slightly.

Regarding the total BLW cover, the non-irrigated RTF and HLM had significantly more broadleaf weeds than any of the other treatments (74.25 and 69.5% respectively). The non-irrigated RPR and the irrigated RTF had the same amount of broadleaf weed cover (49.75 and 41% respectively) and the treatments with the

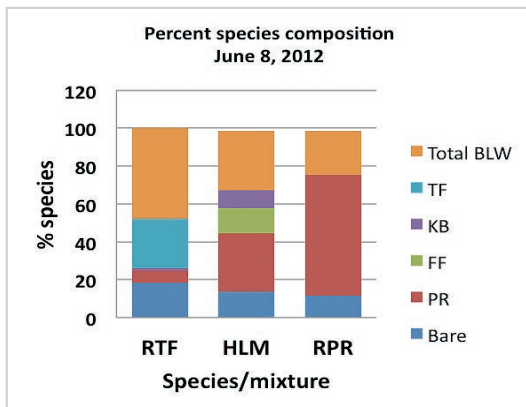


Figure 6. Percent species composition June 8, 2012.

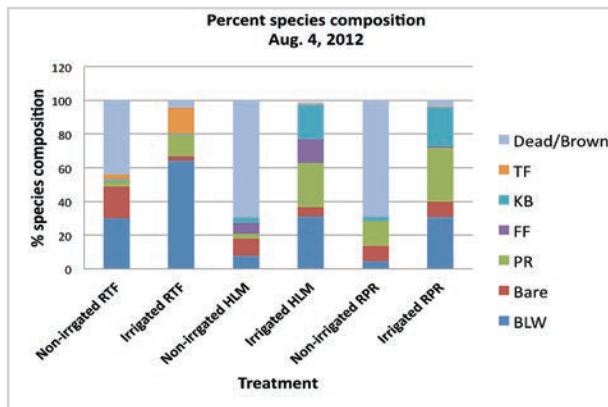


Figure 7. Percent species composition Aug. 4, 2012.

fewest broadleaf weeds were the irrigated HLM and RPR (26 and 24.25% respectively).

With the onset of timely rains during August, 2012 the bare areas in the non-irrigated plots were quickly populated by weeds as indicated by the total BLW cover in the non-irrigated RTR, HLM and RPR. Because the irrigated RTF also had a high percentage of bare areas, it also was invaded by broadleaf weeds when the late summer rains came.

The data in Figure 9 represents the percent species composition of the treated plots at the end of the first treatment year. Non-irrigated RTF had the most total BLW of all of the treatments (46.25%). The percent bare areas in the non-irrigated treatments

increased from the August 23, 2012 to October 18, 2012 because many of the broadleaf weeds were annual weeds that died off after the first frost leaving bare areas. These bare areas could also be a result of some of the plants categorized as dead/brown actually being dead.

Another interesting observation at the end of the season was the species composition of the irrigated and non-irrigated HLM. The non-irrigated HLM had almost no Kentucky bluegrass plants in it (<1%) where the irrigated HLM had 11.5%, in spite of it comprising 50% of the seed mixture at seeding. There was significantly more FF in the irrigated HLM, which is not surprising because of FF's reputation for being drought tolerant.

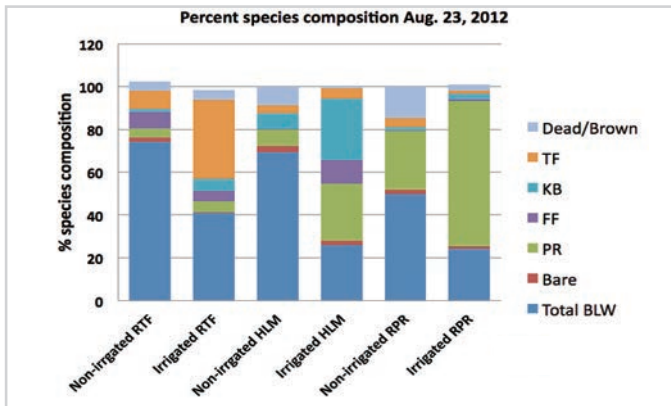


Figure 8. Percent species composition Aug. 23, 2012.

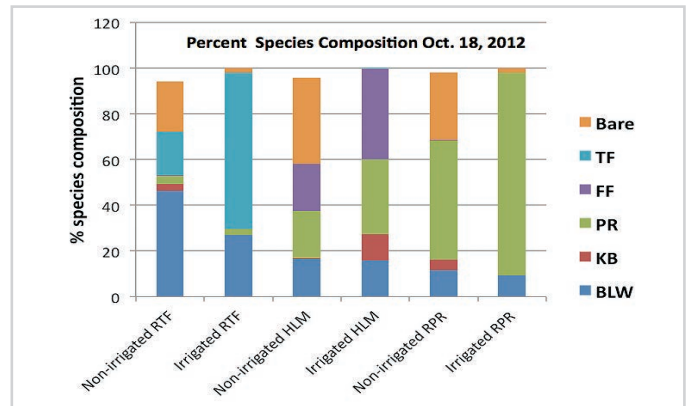


Figure 9. Percent species composition Oct. 18, 2012.

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Serendipity

While walking past these plots in late October, a very interesting phenomenon was observed. One plot in each block of the experiment had been disturbed by an animal digging for grubs. When the plot map was consulted, it turned out that the plots that were dug up were all the irrigated HLM. There was clearly something different about these plots. The questions were:

1. Were there more grubs in the irrigated HLM than the other plots?
2. Was there the same number of grubs in all of the plots, but did the animal prefer digging in the irrigated HLM plots?

To answer this question, six cup changer plugs of turf per plot were examined for the presence of grubs in all plots.

The data presented in Figure 10 shows the irrigated HLM and RTF had the same number of grubs per 0.1 m², whereas the irrigated RPR plots contained approximately half the number of grubs per unit area. All of the non-irrigated plots regardless of the species/mixture had significantly fewer grubs per given area. What was interesting was the fact that even though the irrigated HLM and RTF had the same number of grubs, the animal digging for the grubs was only digging in the irrigated HLM. Figure 11 shows the irrigated HLM and non-irrigated HLM showing the animal digging in the irrigated HLM only. What we don't know is:

1. Did the grub eggs survive better in the irrigated HLM and RTF or did the female European chafer adults prefer laying their eggs in those plots?

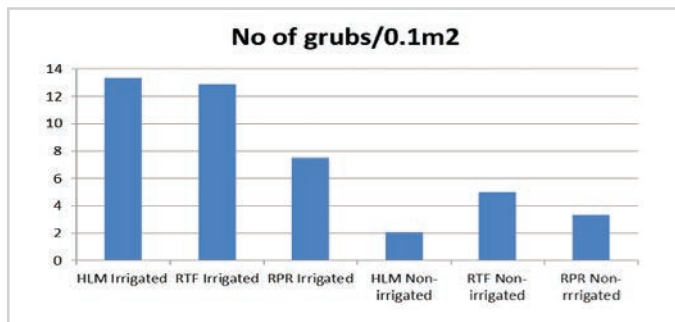


Figure 10. Number of grubs per 0.1/m²

2. Why is the animal digging the irrigated HLM and not the RTF plots which both contain grubs?

With the help of Dr. Michael Brownbridge, VRIC, we hope that we can answer these questions next year.

Figure 11. Plot on the left shows the non-irrigated HLM and the plot on the right shows the irrigated HLM with animal digging.



Going forward

We now have RTF and RPR plots that have significant bare areas in which we can evaluate their ability to spread. In addition, we will also have data in the spring of 2013 to evaluate their ability to overwinter in Ontario (for one winter). We have established similar plots for 2013 with more cultivars of these spreading species to continue our evaluation of their performance in Ontario. Here is hoping for another extremely dry season so that we can evaluate another year of their performance in drought conditions, evaluate their ability to spread and resist insect and weed invasion. •

Acknowledgements:

Taro Saito, VRIC
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 Peter Coon, Quality Seed
 Ryan Streach, RTF Water Saver

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Member and Facility Profile

TAB BUCKNER, MANAGER, PARK OPERATIONS AND CEMETERY SERVICES
TOWNSHIP OF LANGLEY, BC



Interview with Tab Buckner

What is your role with the Township of Langley? Manager of Park Operations and Cemetery Services for the Township of Langley. The Township of Langley is located in the southwest corner of the province of British Columbia. We are 45 kilometers east of the City of Vancouver in the beautiful agriculture-rich Fraser Valley. The Trans-Canada Highway runs through it dissecting the northern part of the municipality from the south. The

municipality has a land mass of 316 square kilometers and a population of approximately 104,000. 70% of the Township land mass still resides within the BC Agricultural Land Reserve and is not available for land development.

What kind of team do you work with? The Township has a dedicated parks crew of 21 full time staff ("FT") and 12 temporary full time staff ("TFT"). Four of those full time staff are administration, tasked with the following duties: park management, clerical, park bookings, facility allocations, special events, managing contracts, and asset maintenance. The remainder of the staff are outside employees and they work in three separate work groups: 1) Turf management: 8 FT's and 8 TFT's, 2) Park facilities and infrastructure (which includes sanitation, trails, playgrounds, sport courts, etc.): 6 FT's and 4 TFT's, and 3) Cemetery services: 3 FT's.

What is the biggest challenge in your job? Dealing with multiple personalities that exist both internally and externally of the organization. You walk a fine line trying to keep most people happy most of the time. When allocation of sports fields was part of my responsibilities I used to comment to my Director that if all the user groups were unhappy with their allocation hours.....then I got it right!

What is the most satisfying part, what makes the job worthwhile for you? I enjoy servicing the community that I reside in. Also, I get great satisfaction when I tour around the Township's park system and get to see the great park infrastructure that has been constructed and maintained to a high standard.

What is the biggest misconception about your job? That individuals think it is just seasonal work. What I mean is that people assume the winter months are a slow period for parks departments. Which is correct in terms of growing season but staff are busy; maintaining both natural and synthetic turf fields, baseball prep, finalizing the budget, allocating sports fields for the next season, facility maintenance and hiring seasonal staff for the spring.

What is your educational/employment background? I have a BA in History from the University of Victoria, Diplomas in Horticulture (Turfgrass Management) and Business from Kwantlen Polytechnic University. I have been in this industry for 25 years; 18 years with Langley School District Grounds Department and the past seven years with the Township of Langley.

What are you and your team responsible for?

In the Township of Langley there are over 101 active and passive parks, 3 cemeteries, greenway and trails which adds up to 607 hectares to manage. The largest park is McLeod Athletic at 42 hectares and the smallest is Jubilee Park at 250 square meters.

The Turf Management crew is responsible for 63 natural turf and 6 synthetic turf sports fields in total:

Sand Based Sports Fields

- (1) Combination Soccer, Rugby and Ball
- (26) Combination Soccer and Ball
- (1) Stand Alone Rugby
- (6) Stand Alone Soccer
- (6) Stand Alone Ball

Soil Based Irrigated Sports Fields

- (1) Combination Soccer, Ball and Cricket
- (5) Combination Soccer and Ball
- (2) Stand Alone Soccer
- (5) Stand Alone Ball

Soil Based Non-Irrigated Sports Fields

- (3) Combination Soccer and Ball
- (1) Soccer Stand Alone
- (6) Stand Alone Ball

Synthetic Turf Fields

- (1) Combination Soccer, Field Lacrosse and Ball
- (1) Combination Football and Soccer
- (3) Combination Soccer and Field Lacrosse
- (1) Stand Alone Soccer

The Park Facilities and Infrastructure crew are responsible for:

- (1) 2200 seat Stadium
- (1) 400 m Track
- (9) Fieldhouses
- (1) Dock with 2 Boathouses
- (30) Tennis Courts
- (5) Skateparks
- (5) Sprayparks
- (56) Playgrounds
- (6) Sportboxes
- (2) Mountain Bike Parks