

BLUEGRASSES - 1980

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Somewhere in Indiana (and other states) about 30 named cultivars of Kentucky bluegrasses are available in 1980. More than 70 have been named, and many experimentals are in tests. Currently we have 130 bluegrasses in test plots at Purdue, in addition to our Purdue experimentals. (Also in tests are 60 ryegrasses and 80 fescues).

Turf managers are blending three to five cultivars available as one way of utilizing the preferred among those available. Seed companies have many mixes, and for a fee, will blend requested cultivars.

In 1972 a cooperative test of 38 bluegrasses was arranged by Dr. J. Duich as a representative of the Northeast Turf Research group. The test series at Purdue has been maintained at ample nitrogen - 3-4 lbs. N/yr. - with irrigation to avoid drought, with a cut 1 inch or less plus weed killing and crabgrass prevention with herbicides. No fungicides have been used.

In the period 1975-79 a series of quality ratings were taken after stress periods of disease so that ten data were summarized, then ranked. The following table gives ranking and main source. Others, **not in the test itself**, but available, are listed.

Kentucky Bluegrasses - Results of 72-79 Tests

*available

Rank	Cultivar	Source
1	Brunswick	Turf Seed Inc.
* 2	Plush	F.F.R. Inc.
* 3	Touchdown	Pickseed West
* 4	Merit	O. M. Scott
5	Melissa	O. M. Scott
6	Monopoly	
* 7	Adelphi	Adikes
* 8	Victa	O. M. Scott
* 9	Rugby	Northrup King
*10	Cheri	Jacklin Seed
*11	Sydsport	Burlingham
*12	Vantage	O. M. Scott
*13	Parade	Northrup King
*14	Kenblu	
*15	Glade	Jacklin Seed
*16	Baron	Loft
*17	Park	Minnesota
*18	Bonnieblue	Burlingham
*19	Fylking	Jacklin Seed
*20	Merion	(decreasing use)
21	Granada	Northrup King
22	Enoble	Van Engelen E
*23	Majestic	Burlingham
24	Entopper	Van Engelen E
25	Windsor	O. M. Scott (discontinuing)
26	Delft	Cebeco E
27	Geronimo	
*28	Nugget	Pickwest Seed
29	Campina	(leafspot is severe)
30	Pennstar	(discontinuing)

Others for Sale - Not in Test

*	A-20	Warren's Turf
*	Bristol	O. M. Scott
*	Bensun, A-34	Warren's Turf
*	Ram-I	Loft
*	Enmundi	International Seeds E
*	Wabash	Jacklin (1980)
*	Aquila	Northrup King
*	Birka	Burlingham
*	Delta, Newport	common

America
Shasta
Columbia

Pickwest Seed

Some shade tolerance is claimed for Glade, Nugget, A-34, and Bristol. Nugget is slow growing and a poor competitor. Resistance to leafspot and powdery mildew plus low growth character would improve shade tolerance of a cultivar.

Several faster growing types include Wabash, Parade, and Touchdown.

Damage from leafspot and Fusarium disease are keys to the reduced performance of many bluegrasses. Resistance to these, plus protection from competition usually assures continued stands. Most breeding has been to select for improvement in leafspot resistance.

Fusarium roseum develops in older mature turf, therefore it takes some time to prove resistance, so research is limited. However, Merion, Fylking, Pennstar, Windsor are known to be susceptible. As a result several of these are dropping out of production.

Where **Fusarium** occurs regularly removal of the known susceptible cultivars and resodding would be ideal. Complete kill with glyphosate (Roundup TM Monsanto), dethatching, and reseeding is an alternate. Just overseeding may gradually improve the tolerance.

The 1980 Penn State Turfgrass Field Days will be held on August 6th and 7th. The Field Days will be held at the Joseph Valentine Turfgrass Research Center at The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania. For further information contact: Dr. Joseph Duich, 21 Tyson Building, Department of Agronomy, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802.

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