

TIFGREEN II BURMUDAGRASS RELEASED

CHARLES H. PEACOCK
Associate Professor
Extension Turf Specialist

Tifgreen II is an improved mutant of Tifton (Tifton 328) turf bermudagrass developed cooperatively by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, ARS, the Georgia Coastal Plain Station, the U.S. Golf Association Green Section, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and the Department of Energy. It was created by exposing dormant sprigs of Tifgreen to 7000 rads of gamma irradiation, growing spaced plants from the treated sprigs, and selecting plants or sectors of plants that appeared to be different. Produced in 1971, it has been subjected along with other promising mutants and Tifgreen to numerous tests to date. These tests show that Tifgreen II has many of the desirable characteristics of Tifgreen but has a lighter green color and usually develops less of the undesirable purple color when temperatures are low. When compared with Tifgreen under a minimal management program, Tifgreen II is more vigorous; makes a denser turf with fewer weeds; is much more resistant to root knot, stubby and sting nematodes; and exhibits much better spring recovery. In mid-April, 1982, after 3 years with minimal management (no nematicides, fungicides, insecticides, or summer herbicides), Tifgreen II made excellent recovery with no stand loss whereas the Tifgreen control plots had lost an estimated 40% of their stand. At the Agricultural Research Center, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Tifgreen II suffered significantly less mole cricket damage than Tifgreen.

Tifgreen II, like Tifgreen, is a sterile triploid that must be propagated vegetatively. It will be suited for golf greens, fairways, tees and lawns throughout the South and the subtropics of the world where Tifgreen is presently grown.

Tifgreen II will be released only to people who qualify as certified growers. To qualify, they must have their land inspected and approved by their state Crop Improvement Association.

Editor's Note:

After writing about his desire to become a Golf Course Superintendent Pat Fatica, age 10, handed this article to his father. Pat's father is Ed Fatica, Superintendent at The Plantation Golf & Country Club, Venice, Florida. Ed sent it to us and we proudly want to share it with our readers.

FUTURE JOB

I would like to be a golf course superintendent. I would like to because my dad is and I've lived at a golf course all my life except for once. Also I like to golf and I know a lot about it anyway. My dad wants me to work for him right now, (he wants me to rake traps) he thinks he won't have to pay me but he's wrong. He will have to pay me because raking traps isn't what I had in my mind anyway and that's my future job.



Pat Fatica
Age: 10
School: Garden Elementary

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