

CHARACTERISTIC ADAPTATIONS OF THE MORE IMPORTANT TURF GRASSES

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Name of Grass		Time Required to Produce Good Turf	Adaptation of				Uses	Remarks
Scientific	Common		Wet or Dry Soils	Sandy or Clayey Soils	Acid Soils	Cold or Hot Weather		
Agrostis alba or Agrostis palustris or Agrostis stolonifera major	Redtop, marsh white southern, English bent or herd grass	One season	Adapted to wet and tolerant of dry soils	Adapted to clayey soils	Tolerant	Resistant to cold and fairly tolerant of heat	Fairways, greens and lawns	Sod forming habit of growth. Lasts about 1 year under close mowing. Used chiefly as a temporary grass
Agrostis tenuis or Agrostis capillaris or Agrostis vulgaris	Rhode Island bent, Colonial bent, Brown top, "Golfalawn," "Astoria bent" and "P. E. I. bent"	One season	Adapted to both moist and dry soils	Adapted to clayey and sandy soils if well drained	Tolerant	Resistant to cold and fairly tolerant of heat	Greens, fairways and lawns	Probably used more extensively than any other seeded bent. German mixed bent contains about 75% of it. Sod forming habit of growth
Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping bent, Seaside bent and "Florin"	One season from seed 2 months from stolons	Adapted to moist soils	Adapted to clayey and tolerant of sandy soils	Very tolerant	Resistant to cold but not hot weather	Greens, lawns and fairways	German mixed bent contains about 2% of it. Seaside bent also called Agrostis maritima. Sod forming habit of growth
Agrostis Canina	Velvet, dog brown bent	One season	Adapted to moist soils	Adapted to clayey soils	Very tolerant	Resistant to cold but not hot weather	Greens and lawns	Adapted to about same region as Kentucky blue grass. German mixed bent contains about 15% of it. Sod forming habit of growth
Poa pratensis	Kentucky blue	Two seasons	Adapted to moist soils	Adapted to clayey soils	Tolerant if soil is rich and well drained	Resistant to cold but not hot weather	Fairways and lawns	Requires fertile soils and responds to lime treatments. Sod forming habit of growth. Will not stand close mowing
Poa compressa	Canada blue	Two seasons	Tolerant of dry soils	Adapted to clayey soils		Resistant to cold and tolerant of hot weather	Fairways and roughs	Use only when soil is thin and poor. Does well on rocky or gravelly soils. Not as good as Kentucky blue or redtop on good soils
Poa trivialis	Rough-stalk meadow grass or bird grass	Two seasons	Adapted to moist soils	Adapted to clayey soils	Tolerant if soil is rich and well drained	Resistant to cold but not hot weather	Fairways and lawns	Best of all grasses for shady lawns. Sod forming habit of growth
Poa annua	Annual blue grass, spear grass or meadow grass	One season	Adapted to moist soils	Adapted to clayey soils	Tolerant	Resistant to cold but not hot weather	Greens, fairways and lawns	Sod forming habit of growth. The failure of this grass this past season resulted in poor and unplayable greens throughout country
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	One season	Adapted to moist and tolerant of dry soils	Adapted to sandy loams and tolerant of clayey soils	Tolerant	Resistant to cold and fairly tolerant of heat	Greens, fairways and lawns	2 commercial var. of red fescue are creeping r. fescue (F. rubra var. genuina) and New Zealand or Chewings' fescue (F. rubra var. fallax). One of the best grasses for shady lawns, sod. F. habit of growth
Festuca ovina	Sheep's fescue		Very tolerant of dry soils	Adapted to sandy soils	Tolerant	Resistant to cold and tolerant of heat	Rough	Especially adapted to soils which are thin, sandy and rocky. Bunch forming habit of growth
Festuca duriuscula	Hard fescue		Very tolerant of dry soils	Adapted to sandy soils	Tolerant	Resistant to cold and tolerant of heat	Rough	Variety of sheep's fescue. Bunch forming habit of growth
Festuca caillata or Festuca tenuifolia	Fine-leaved fescue		Tolerant of dry soils	Adapted to sandy soils	Tolerant	Resistant to cold and tolerant of heat	Lawns	Variety of sheep's fescue. Thrives well in shady lawns. Bunch forming habit of growth

SEPTEMBER, 1930