

NEBRASKA SEED BIG PRODUCER OF KENTUCKY BLUE SEED

Most people sowing Kentucky blue grass seed naturally think that all the seed comes from Kentucky. This is an erroneous belief for some of the best quality blue grass seed comes from the central western states, namely Iowa and Nebraska.

The Nebraska Seed Co. of Omaha, Nebr., specializes in high quality Kentucky blue grass and is the world's largest independent gatherer, thresher and cleaner of blue grass seed.

Harvesting of the seed, generally takes place the last two weeks of June in Nebraska and Iowa. The seed is stripped or headed by a machine drawn by a team of horses. Seed is gathered from large pastures and careful supervision is given to the stripping of the seed. Every precaution is taken not to strip weedy and chaffy places in the fields, this safeguard increasing the high quality of the seed. After gathering the seed it is put into sacks and is taken to a central place, where it is dumped on the ground.

The grass seed is piled in long windrows and is kept stirred (by men with pitchforks) to allow the air to pass thru and also to allow the sun to come in contact with the grass seed. This is known as the curing stage and generally takes from 10 days to two weeks, depending on the weather.

As the seed is cured, the windrows are made larger and when thoroughly cured, it is again put into sacks, shipped to Omaha by trucks or rail.

Threshing of the seed is a separate operation and a special-built machine is necessary to thresh the seed. From the thresher, the seed passes thru several other machines, which separate the chaff and rough grass from the seed.

Then the seed passes onto the cleaners which grade the seed to the quality desired. The standard weight of blue grass seed is 14 lbs. per bushel but high grade seed offered for sale by reputable seed concerns weighs from 19 lbs. to 25 lbs. per measured bushel. The seed is graded according to weight per bushel and also its purity and germination, and then is packed in uniform bags weighing 112 lbs. each.

The Nebraska Seed Co. ships blue grass seed in carload lots from coast to coast and also exports several cars each season. Many golf clubs seed their fairways with Iowa and Nebraska grown Kentucky blue grass, with the very best of results.

NITROGEN in a fertilizer encourages rank leaf growth. This may be undesirable in many farm crops, but is most important in turf development.

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Model E

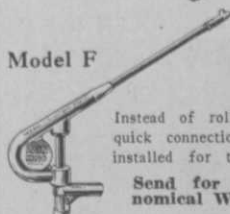
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