

Q.—We are out of the range of bermuda and zoysia. We've been cautioned on Merion bluegrass because of rust, striped smut and Fusarium. We've about decided on bent tees cut at $\frac{3}{8}$ inch. Now we don't know which way to turn. Penncross, it is said, gets fluffy, spongy and unmanageable. Seeded bents (colonial types) seem weak and unable to resist Poa invasion, requiring constant reseeding. What to do?

(New York)

A.—I would go with Penncross. It is economical to establish. Properly managed, it will be permanent. Fluffiness and sponginess are symptoms of overwatering, infrequent mowing, and over-stimulation with quick-acting nitrogen. Keep thatch under control by vertical mowing, frequent mowing, *minimum* water and use of slow-release nitrogen fertilizer. Top-dressing will help. Occasional water stress will not hurt Penncross but Poa will suffer severely. ●

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