

NTEP Trials

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The National Turfgrass Evaluation Program coordinates a national turf trial evaluation each year. Results from NTEP trials throughout the United States can be found at www.ntep.org. The University of Minnesota is currently evaluating NTEP trials for bentgrass (greens and fairway), fine fescue, perennial ryegrass and Kentucky bluegrass. We have also been chosen as a site for the 2006 tall fescue NTEP trial. The data we have collected and will be collecting on these trials can be an invaluable tool for turfgrass managers who are selecting turfgrass varieties to plant in the coming year.

NTEP trials are rated at least one time each month for overall turfgrass quality; additionally, other ratings are taken as needed including spring green-up, winter damage, seed head number, density, leaf texture, disease susceptibility and drought tolerance.

The results of all University of Minnesota turf trials, including NTEP, can be accessed at our website: www.turf.umn.edu.

TROE Center Update

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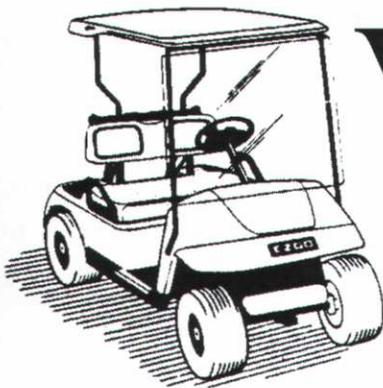
Greetings from the University of Minnesota TROE Center. It looks as if 2006 is going to be a very busy and exciting year for us here. At the present time we have over 30 trials and evaluations in progress. They range from variety evaluation trials to NTEP evaluations to nutrient fate studies. We will be establishing new evaluation plots for tall fescue, perennial ryegrass, Kentucky bluegrass and tufted hairgrass. There will also be a large velvet bentgrass green established for management studies. Along with all of these studies, we will be installing a turfgrass species demo area near the Trial Gardens on the St. Paul campus which will include prairie grasses and some no-mow varieties.

We would also like to extend a very sincere thank you to all of the vendors who have supported our research this year by donating supplies and equipment. Without their support our program could not be as successful as it is. Please join us in thanking the following vendors when you have a chance to talk to them:

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We hope to see you at our 2006 Field Day on July 27.

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