

1986. Pennlinks has produced very good putting surfaces under a wide variety of growing conditions. Although it is more upright and uniform than Penncross, Pennlinks is not quite as fine textured, upright, dark green and uniform as other varieties available on the market.

PUTTER - Developed at Washington State University by Drs. Stan Braun and Roy Goss, Putter is a 2 clone synthetic developed primarily for Take-All Patch resistance. Putter is one of the darker varieties on the market with a fairly fine leaf texture. Putter had done well at putting green height, and has shown good heat tolerance in transitional climates.

COBRA - Cobra was developed at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station by Dr. Ralph Engle. It is a 7-clone synthetic with very good leaf spot resistance and a less thatchy growth habit. The latter has made Cobra a good fairway grass. Cobra has been highly rated in California and Texas NTEP sites.

CRENSHAW (Syn 3-88) - Developed by Dr. Milt Engelke of Texas A&M and Dr. Virginia Lehman of Lofts Seed Company, Crenshaw is a 6-clone synthetic developed out of many of the same materials that brought SR 1020 to the market (in fact 3 of the 6 clones are believed to be in common with SR 1020).

Developed in the 1980's on heat benches at the Texas Agricultural Station in Dallas, Crenshaw was bred to have excellent heat and drought resistance. It is fairly finely textured, aggressive and dark green. Crenshaw seems to perform best in climates with prolonged heat and drought seasons.

Crenshaw was not entered into the 1989 NTEP National Bentgrass Test. Until the results from the 1994 plantings are published, there is no NTEP data for either Crenshaw or its sister, Cato.

CATO - Like its sister, Crenshaw, Cato was developed by Drs. Eugelke and Lehman at the Texas Agriculture Experimental Station in Dallas. Cato produces a fairly fine textured, dark green turf, while exhibiting more Dollar Spot resistance than Crenshaw.

SOUTHSHORE - Dr. Reed Funk at Rutgers University and Dr. Richard Hurley of Lofts Seed Company developed Southshore after collecting hundreds of plant materials from the Mid-Atlantic states.

Palmer, Nicklaus Outings Lead Auction Items

Far Hills, NJ—A round of golf for four at Bay Hill Club and Lodge in Orlando, Fla. with Arnold Palmer, and golf and dinner with Jack Nicklaus, headline the 15 live auction items to be offered on June 13 at the "Auction of the Century"; in New York City, to commemorate the United States Golf Association's 100th anniversary.

Golf Magazine, in cooperation with the USGA and Christie's Auction House, will hold a black-tie dinner and auction in The Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. A collection of one-of-a-kind golf treasures and fantasy experiences has been assembled for this evening with one hundred percent of the proceeds designated to various charities selected by the donors.

The Bay Hill outing includes transportation to and from Florida, a tour of the Golf Channel studios and a live on-air appearance. Nicklaus has donated his time for golf and dinner (for up to eight people) followed or preceded by seven days of golf at Nicklaus courses around the United States, all-expenses paid.

Other live auction items confirmed at this time include a VIP golf ticket package (four tickets apiece to the 1995 Ryder Cup matches, 1996 Masters, 1996 U.S. Open (Shinnecock Hills) or 1996 U.S. Open (Oakland Hills), 1995 British Open (St. Andrews) or 1996 British Open (Royal Lytham) and the 1995 PGA Championship (Riviera) or 1996 PGA Championship (Valhalla). Also offered is a framed tableau of 49 signed final-round scorecards (reproductions with original signatures) from U.S. Open champions.

Christopher Burge, chairman of Christie's, will conduct the live auction. A silent auction

of golf art and memorabilia will take place during a cocktail reception. Proceeds will benefit the USGA Foundation.

Updated lists of auction items will appear in Golf Magazine, Golf Journal and Met Golfer throughout the next few months. Item and ticket information are available by calling 1-800-393-USGA.

Southshore's 200+ clones exhibit a medium green, medium textured growth with improved Brown Patch resistance. Although test plots of Southshore have been planted along side the NTEP bentgrass trials at Rutgers, Southshore was not entered in the 1989 NTEP National Bentgrass Test.

The Future

No longer does the golf course superintendent need to settle for just one choice of bentgrass. It appears that there will be many more new varieties released over the next several years. Many of these varieties will need to be looked at very carefully to determine their range of adaptation, disease tolerance, management requirements, and their durability under play.

Not all of these new varieties have been entered into the NTEP's. Great caution should be taken when reviewing non-NTEP research data. With more and more varieties appearing in the marketplace each year, first hand knowledge may be the best way to select your next creeping bentgrass.

The challenges facing the seed industry, are similar to those facing the superintendent. We are working to provide creeping bentgrasses that require less mechanical management, fewer irrigation, pesticide and fertilizer inputs, while providing excellent playing surfaces. Our work has only just begun.

A Newsletter Change

You may notice that your newsletter does not always arrive prior to a monthly meeting. When it doesn't there has been a meeting notice flyer sent.

Often the newsletter may be ready but the meeting cost or times have not be finalized; or the newsletter isn't ready in time to meet a printing deadline required to mail in time for the meeting.

To get away from the editing crunch associated with meeting quick deadlines prior to a meeting we are working to provide meeting information in both the newsletter and through flyers. Look for the same number of newsletters (10 each year), but there will be flyers sent out at various times to help with the meeting coordination. This will assist in allowing for a better quality newsletter.