

What's new?

***Supra Poa supina* now available**

Ever since grass seed was first planted, people have wanted a mixture that will grow and survive in the shade. They've wanted a mixture that will stand up to the punishment of heavy traffic and the beating given out by athletes. They've also wanted a grass that will help solve the unsightly problems caused by annual bluegrass. Well, the wait is over. The solution to these problems is *Supra Poa supina*.

Bred in Germany, tested for more than 20 years and proven on some of the world's top sports fields and golf courses, *Supra* will give you an opportunity to tell your customers you truly have something new and beneficial for them. In addition, you and your customers will reap tremendous rewards in the form of profits and performance.

Supra Poa supina forms a very dense turf and is especially aggressive, allowing it to overcome many troublesome weeds and grasses, including annual bluegrass. When subjected to diseases such as snow mould, *Supra* bounces back quickly.



You will find *Supra* to be the best shade grass you've ever had. We know this is a strong statement, but we also know it's true, so we're not hesitant to say so. In Europe, where *Supra* mixtures sell for a considerable premium over normal shade mixtures, the *Supra* mix outsells by a considerable margin.

Limited quantities of *Supra* are available in mixtures for sports fields, golf courses, sod farms, landscapers and homeowners. As we all well know, market conditions have made margins very thin. Here is your opportunity to reverse the trend — with *Supra Poa supina*. Remember, *Supra* is:

- extraordinarily aggressive
- extremely wear-tolerant
- the best shade grass
- very low growing.

Can Athletic Turf Stand Up to Pounding?

In an effort to establish standards for natural grass on athletic fields, Dave Minner, turf researcher at the University of Missouri-Columbia, pounds and rips natural grass turf, using machines that would make a couple of 300-pound tackles proud.

"We want safe, tough turf," Minner said as he watched a Brinkman traffic simulator, better known as "the iron football player" tear with its cleated rollers.

"This machine simulates a couple of hefty linemen going at each other," Minner said. "It tells us what type of grass systems are tougher and less likely to blow out as players make their sharp cuts and turns."

A machine measuring surface traction and a "vibration analyzer" reporting how hard the ground is are also being used in the study.

"We have the grasses. Now we're looking at the best ways to manage those grasses and the best kind of 'soil' that will make the turf stand up to the pounding of athletes while saving wear and tear on their joints."

Newer football fields have high sand content to provide good drainage. But the sand is somewhat unstable - especially if the grass is worn thin.

"We are now adding synthetic fibers to make the sand more stable and to reduce divots, tears and rips," Minner said.

"On fields that have heavy clay soils, we are using synthetic fibers and chopped rubber tires to increase resiliency and to reduce wear."

One of his goals is to find fibers that can fortify the strength of a healthy grass root system.