



Grass clippings

- Under good growing conditions a Kentucky bluegrass plant can produce 20 to 60 feet of rhizomes from an original shoot in the 5-month period from mid-June to mid November.
- All grasses are members of a single family of plants called the **Gramineae**. Within this family there are six subfamilies containing a total of 25 tribes, 600 genera, and 7500 species. However, only a few dozen of these species form plant communities tolerant of mowing and traffic, and therefore, adapted for use as turfgrass.
- The bluegrasses (*Poa* spp.) include over 200 species, however only four are important as turfgrasses. They are Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*), Canada bluegrass (*Poa compressa*), rough bluegrass (*Poa trivialis*) and annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*).
- Mowing is not the simple act of removing excess growth as many imagine, but a process having far-reaching effects and therefore worthy of the most careful study and control.
- From the U.S. Agricultural Appropriations Act, 1901: The agricultural experiment stations are hereby authorized and directed to cooperate with the Secretary of Agriculture in establishing and maintaining experimental grass stations for determining the best native and foreign species for reclaiming overstocked ranges and pastures, for renovating worn out lands, for binding drifting sand dunes and washed lands and for **turfing lawns and pleasure grounds**. Total appropriation - \$17,000.
- The world's first turf research station was established in England on the St. Ives estate at Bingley, Yorkshire, in 1929.

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