



TURFGRASS TRENDS

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GENETICS

Poa Annua-Free Turf A Dream or Newfound Reality?

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We all struggle with the never-ending battle with annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*). From the grass seed grower and sod farmer trying to produce a clean turfgrass product, to the homeowner, golf course superintendent, and sports turf manager. Ugly light green patches with short prolific seed heads cropping up year round plague the grass seed grower, the professional turfgrass manager and the homeowner. The homeowner works for the seemingly unattainable perfect, weed-free lawn. He or she crawls on hands and knees pulling weeds to have "the best lawn on the block." Golf course and sports turf professionals work towards a pristine turf environment for clients to enjoy. It's no wonder that we fight a perennial problem with a life cycle of 38 days from germination to the next generation of seed. Annual bluegrass seems virtually unstoppable — or is it?

A new avenue of control is now available in two species of turfgrass and on the horizon for other species of turfgrass. After ten years of natural plant breeding tolerance to low rates



Pure Gold tall fescue and Aurora Gold hard fescue (in rows) have exhibited superior tolerance to glyphosate in trials. Off-types between rows dead after application.

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