Introducing 0217 Brand, Fylking Kentucky Bluegrass A Kentucky Bluegrass Adapted To Close Mowing

By DOYLE W. JACKLIN

Turf lovers have long wished for a turf with the good color, density and hardiness of Kentucky bluegrass yet which would stand up to extremely close clipping. A new dwarf bluegrass now available in limited quantities, meets this requirement and goes far beyond it to offer outstanding advantages over most other grasses both for golf tees, greens aprons, low-mowed fairways, and for home lawns.

The new variety, now being registered under its test code number 0217, is Fylking Kentucky bluegrass. The first seed was produced at the famed Svalof plant breeding station in Sweden. It was brought to this continent ten years ago by Arden W. Jacklin, president of the Jacklin Seed Company of Dishman, Washington. Since then Hogg & Lytle Seeds of Oakwood, Ontario, have been associated with Jacklin in testing and developing the variety for Canadian use.

The reason why Fylking can withstand closer mowing than

many other Kentucky varieties is due to its low-growing nature. It has a short leaf sheath, moderately prostrate leaf blades, a fairly slow rate of vertical growth and the ability to maintain a high quality leafy turf during seed setting time in the late spring. This is the time when many other varieties become spindly. It can be safely recommended for use on tees and aprons of greens because it readily tolerates cutting heights of ½ to ¾ inch and has grown well under prolonged cuttings at 3/8 of an inch.

Table I illustrates the superior color ratings of Fylking received in recent North American testing

Among the other desirable characteristics of Fylking, which extensive testing has revealed, is the speed with which it becomes established. Under optimum conditions sod lifting time has been reduced to six or seven months after planting. Even under less favorable conditions, September seeding should be ready for lift-



Note vitality of sod strip of 0217 lifted 10 months after seeding.



New sod variety, 0217, Fylking Kentucky Bluegrass, will shortly be available. Note rhizome development in sod plug 12 months after seeding. Tests indicate that new sod is adapted to close clipping and possesses desirable qualities of color, density, and hardiness.

ing by late spring or early summer.

An important phase of the widespread testing program was obtaining reliable data on the disease resistance of Fylking, test coded as 0217. Results in this area are most promising. A number of Kentucky bluegrasses have been particularly susceptible to leaf spot. Its various strains have probably damaged more Kentucky turf than any other disease. Fylking has shown excellent to outstanding leaf spot resistance. It also has excellent resistance to stripe smut

chop!



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TABLE I. Turf Color Ratings*

	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965
Fylking	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	2
Merion	1	1	2	3	3	2		2	1	1
Windsor			4	4	2	Bild	3			
Newport				6	4	3			2	3
Park	1644			5	4	4		3		Maria I
Common Ky			3	1	6	5	2	4	4	
	N. Y	ork	Con	nn.	C	hio	M	inn.	W	ash.

*States included in Table I were selected as accurate representatives of test results received from all states. Varieties are rated in order of excellence.

and is one of only three commercially available bluegrass varieties which has resistance to this disease. Its stem and leaf rust resistance is rated as excellent and resistance to powdery mildew and Fusarium roseum is average or slightly above. In comparison with other varieties in Table II, Fylking was again rated as having out-

standing disease resistance characteristics.

The 0217 testing program has been carried on throughout the temperate zone of the United States and Canada and even into Mexico. The many private testers, institutions, experimental stations and homeowners who cooperated in the program provided a nonbiased yet extreme-

TABLE II. Disease Resistance

Rust [‡] 1	964	1965	196	4	1965	1964	196	5	1964	1965		
Fylking		2	1		2	2			1			
Merion			3		4	3			2			
Newport		1	2		3							
Windsor		2			Titur		18.19		HE ST			
Cougar					1							
Common Ky			3			1						
K 5 (47)		3										
	I	nd.		Was	h.	Mi	nn.	ala ja	Ill.			
Leafspot*	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965		
Fylking	2	1	1	2		2	1	1	4	3		
Merion	1	2	2	1		1	1	1	1	1		
Newport	4	3	4	3				2	2	2		
Park				4								
Windsor	3		3									
Common Ky	5	4	.5	5					3	4		
	N. Je	ersey	Ohio		M	Minn.		N. York W		ash.		
Powdery Mildew®			1	965				196	5			
Fylking			405	2		3						
Merion				3		1						
Newport						2						
Windsor		9197		2								
K 5 (47)	1											
			I	nd.		Calif.						

*States included in Table II were selected as accurate representatives of test results received from all states. Varieties are rated in order of excellence.

TABLE III. Turf Quality*

	1965	1965	1965
Fylking	1	1	2
Merion	1	3	1
Newport		5	3
Windsor		4	
Prato	1		
K 5 (47)	1	2	
Common Ky	2	6	4
	Minn.	N. Jersey	Wash.

^{*}States included in Table III were selected as accurate representatives of test results received from all states. Varieties are rated in order of excellence.

ly critical evaluation of the variety. The consensus of all these tests was that Fylking possessed a number of superior and desirable turfgrass characteristics as indicated in Table III.

Under sod growing conditions, Fylking produces an unusually vigorous rhizome system with a uniform turf of luxuriant appearance. In 1964 and 1965 North American turf trials, Fylking rated high in competition with other varieties as indicated in Table IV.

It is considerably faster than other Kentucky bluegrass varieties in sod establishment. Because of its rapid rhizome production and superior sod density, a thatch build-up can occur unless there is proper maintenance. A thatch control program is recommended one year after estab-

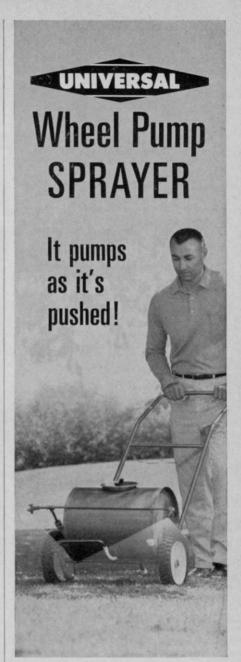
lishment if the turf has received proper feeding and water application during its first year.

A limited quantity of 0217 brand, Fylking Kentucky bluegrass is commercially available in the United States and Canada. The extensive 0217 testing program will continue on an expanded scale, however, so as to provide a complete history of test results and evaluations to fully document the need and desirability for Fylking's introduction into the turf industry's variety pool. Certainly, on the basis of the extensive, critical testing of the last ten years, it can be said that 0217 brand, Fylking Kentucky bluegrass has most, if not all, the major characteristics desired in a turf. whether it be a golf tee, greens apron, closely mowed fairway, or home lawn.

TABLE IV. Turf Density*

THE STATE OF THE S	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965
Fylking	1	1	1	1	2	5	1	1	1	1	1	1
Fylking/Fescu	ıe					1						
Merion	2	3	1	1	1	4	2	2	1	1	1	1
Merion/Fescu	е					2						
Windsor	3	5	3			6	3	3	100	3	901	
Windsor/Fesc	ue					3						
Newport	4	4			3	10	3	3				
Newport/Fesc	ue					7	Ra E					
Common Ky	5		4		3	11	4	4				
K 5 (47)		2		2					1500			134
Park				3	3	9	THE REAL PROPERTY.	BH.		2		
Park/Fescue						8						
	N. Je	ersey	М	inn.	Co	onn.	Wa	sh.	II	1.	N. 3	Tork

^{*}States included in Table IV were selected as accurate representatives of test results received from all states. Varieties are rated in order of excellence.



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