

Brittany, SR 5100 best of fine fescues

Brittany and SR 5100 were top-scoring cultivars in 1995 in the National Turfgrass Evaluation Programs's fineleaf fescue test. Both are hard fescues, Brittany from Lesco and SR 5100 from Seed Research of Oregon.

The mean score for both cultivars was 5.5.

Actually, the high scorer in the test was PST-44D, an experimental cultivar from Turf-Seed, which averaged 5.6 across 23 locations in the United States.

Fifty-nine cultivars, including 36 that are commercially-

available, were scored. LSD for mean scores was 0.2.

Within 0.1 LSD of 5.5 were Discovery, Treasure, Tiffany, Bridgeport and SR 3100.

Tops among creeping red fescue cultivars was Shademaster II, while Discovery was best among the hard fescues.

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NTEP survives; industry thanked

The National Turfgrass Evaluation Program will receive a 10 percent increase in federal government funding for Fiscal Year 1997, according to national program coordinator Kevin Morris.

Money available through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) increases from \$50,000 this year to \$55,000 next year. This news came on the heels of a threat to completely close down funding of the NTEP earlier this year.

"As a result of the overwhelming response from the turfgrass industry, the money was included in the USDA appropriations legislation by the appropriate Congressional subcommittees and signed by the President," says Morris.

"The NTEP wishes to thank all those who wrote or called the USDA and/or their Congressional representa-

tives," he further notes. "The USDA-ARS received more letters and calls about this one issue than any other in recent history. Your efforts did not go unnoticed!"

The NTEP said in a press release that it acknowledges the efforts and contributions of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), the Turfgrass Producers International (TPA) and the Georgia Agribusiness Council, which used their resources to emphasize the importance of the NTEP to key Congressmen.

The NTEP is a turfgrass research program that tracks the regional adaptability of existing, new and experimental turfgrass cultivars. Individuals and organizations can subscribe to the NTEP for less than \$50 per year. For more information, call the NTEP at (301) 504-5125.

TOP SCORES BY TEST SITE

(Commercially-available cultivars)

Griffin, Ga. (high soil pH):	SR 3100 (5.4), Aurora with endophyte (5.2), Osprey (5.1)
Griffin, Ga. (low pH):	SR 5100 (3.6)
Urbana, Ill.:	SR 3100 (6.4), Tiffany (6.3)
Carbondale, Ill. (full sun):	Brittany (5.6) SR 5100 (5.4), Tiffany (5.3)
Ames, Iowa:	Discovery (6.1), Treasure (6.1), Victory (6.1)
Manhattan, Kans.:	Shademaster II (6.9), Brittany (6.7), Tiffany (6.3)
Lexington, Ky.:	Shademaster II (7.7), Jasper (7.4)
Baton Rouge, La.:	SR 5100 (4.4)
Orono, Me.:	Discovery (7.8), Darwin (7.6), Ecostar (7.4), Scaldis (7.4)
Beltsville, Md.:	SR 3100 (7.5), Reliant II (7.5), Nordic (7.5)
Silver Spring, Md. (dense shade):	Discovery (5.8), Osprey (5.7)
Sharpsburg, Md.:	Brittany (6.2), Sandpiper (6.1)
Amherst, Mass.:	Quatro (6.0), Discovery (5.2)
East Lansing, Mich.:	Rondo (6.1), Flyer II (6.0)
Columbia, Mo.:	Shademaster II (4.9)
North Brunswick, N.J.:	Shademaster II (6.9), Tiffany (6.7), Discovery (6.6)
Adelphia, N.J.:	Discovery (6.3), SR 3100 (5.7), Seabreeze (5.6)
Columbus, Ohio:	Nordic (7.6), Spartan (7.6), Discovery (7.5), Reliant II (7.5)
Stillwater, Okla.:	SR 5100 (4.5)
University Park, Pa.:	SR 3100 (7.7), Discovery (7.6), Reliant II (7.3)
Kingston, R.I.:	SR 3100 (6.3), Opsrey (5.9)
Blacksburg, Va.:	SR 5100 (5.3), Brittany (5.2), Tiffany (5.2)
Pullman, Wash.:	Brittany (6.4), Tiffany (6.4)