

Penncross performs on Desert Isle

Famous 17th green, PGA West, LaQuinta, CA

Penncross not only survives, but thrives on all 18 greens at this innovative Pete Dye designed course.

You've seen this awesome 17th green in pictures, or maybe you've had the good fortune of playing this 147 yard challenge, but we're reasonably sure you didn't know that it's Penncross creeping bentgrass. Television announcers won't tell you and magazines don't print it, but the putting greens that have made more champions on some of the greatest courses in the world are Penncross.

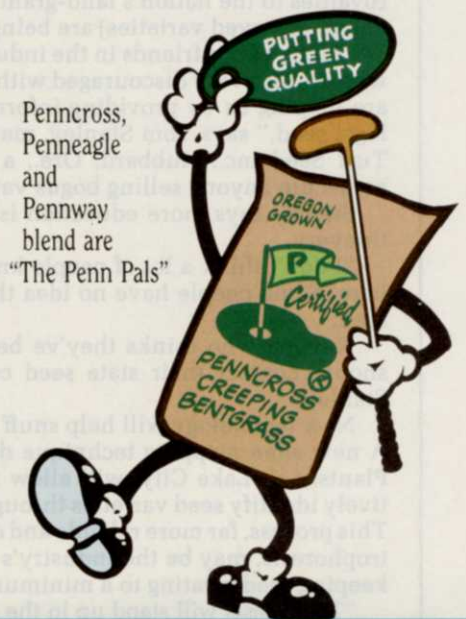
PGA West is a revolutionary new course with target greens, stadium spectator mounds and punishing hazards. Why would such an innovative designer use a strain of bentgrass that's been around for so many years? We maintain that there is no better all-around bentgrass anywhere!

Some people say that bentgrass won't survive the intense sunbelt heat. We have evidence to disprove that notion.

Penncross, and its Penn Pal, Penneagle have grown in popularity on courses from California to Florida . . . where bermudagrass used to reign.

Pete Dye specified Penncross for this desert isle, as he did for his famous Sawgrass island green in Ponte Vedra, Florida. Penncross is no ordinary putting green grass . . . and Pete Dye is no ordinary designer.

Watch Penncross perform in the *Skins Game* at PGA West, Nov. 29 and 30, 1986.



Penncross, Penneagle and Pennway blend are "The Penn Pals"

*Penncross is a tried and true cultivar developed by Professor Burt Musser at Penn State University and released in 1955.

common varieties used."

Jacklin's early pollinators—among them Nassau and Ram I—did fairly well while later pollinators—including Eclipse, Adelphi, and Glade—did poorly.

Common Kentucky bluegrass seed did poorly, Jacklin says. He predicts a yield less than 50 percent of average in both areas.

Michael J. McCarthy, agronomist at E.F. Burlingham & Sons, reports limited availability for the company's two proprietaries—Sydsport and Haga. He cites hot spring weather as the reason.

Pickseed's Wiley notes limited supplies of his company's five Kentucky bluegrass varieties (America, Bronco, Banff, Nugget, and Touch-

down) but says production will be stepped up in 1987.

Northrup-King's Churchill reports a limited supply of Aspen (a new variety), Parade, and Rugby. "Extremely cold temperatures last fall caused some winterkill, plus extremely hot and dry weather in June inhibited pollination and seedhead development," says Churchill. "Both weather extremes have had an adverse affect on this year's bluegrass crop."

Churchill says Aspen, a sister variety to Adelphi showing improved heat and drought tolerance and better disease resistance, will be available in the fall.

John Zajac, vice-president of Garfield-Williamson, says another newcomer, Liberty Kentucky bluegrass,

will be available in limited quantities this fall.

The bentgrasses

Unlike its Kentucky bluegrass cousin, the creeping bentgrass crop appears to be adequate.

Reigning bentgrass marketing champion Tee-2-Green Corp. of Hubbard, Ore., reports a good crop. Says president Bill Rose: "Production is up 50 percent but we don't know how demand will be."

Rose says the bentgrass outlook recently fell from "excellent to good" but is still positive.

Rose says Tee-2-Green plans to find out the size of the growing bentgrass market by creating a surplus.

Pirates on the high seeds

Anyone purchasing turfseed should be on the look-out for "pirated" products, according to some seed producers. Too much illegal seed is reaching the green industry, say legitimate companies, who are doing everything they can to discourage the crooks.

It's not a small amount of seed that's involved. Industry experts say perhaps more than a million pounds are being sold fraudulently.

"Pirated turfgrass seed has shown up in plain seed bags, with the claimed variety stenciled on," notes Dr. Richard Hurley of Lofts Seed, Inc., Bound Brook, N.J. "Legitimate seed producers and marketers package their product in a 'designer' bag, complete with variety logo, company name and Plant Variety Protection number. And legitimate bags will carry an analysis tag and a blue certified tag as proof of content."

In the case of "pirated" seed, not only is the turfgrass professional not receiving what he's paying for, but royalties to the nation's land-grant colleges (which develop improved varieties) are being denied.

"Many of our friends in the industry—the end users who are also very discouraged with the substitutions—are helping us by providing information about the illegal seed," says Tom Stanley, marketing manager for Turf Seed Inc., Hubbard, Ore., a company that will prosecute anyone selling bogus varieties of their seed.

Stanley says more education is needed to stop the thievery.

"I don't think a lot of people know what's going on here. Some people have no idea they're buying bogus seed."

Anyone who thinks they've been sold bogus seed should contact their state seed control official, says Stanley.

New technology will help snuff out the bootleggers. A new gene mapping technique developed by Native Plants, Salt Lake City, will allow researchers to positively identify seed varieties through DNA sequencing. This process, far more reliable and consistent than electrophoresis, may be the industry's foremost means for keeping seed pirating to a minimum.

"These tests will stand up in the court of law, and we intend to prosecute those found guilty of the illegal sale or



Legitimate seed carries a blue certified tag as proof of content.



Richard Hurley of Lofts says new technology will help stop the bogus seed sellers.



Turf Seed marketing manager Tom Stanley notes buyers must be aware of the bogus seed problem.

misrepresentation of patented varieties," says Hurley.

"But, until the problem is solved, seed buyers can protect themselves and the industry," Hurley continues. Although bootleggers are becoming more professional in their packaging techniques, buyers should "be sure the seed is packaged in a logo bag, has the blue certified tag and an analysis tag. Anything else may be illegal and a misrepresentation."

In other words, *accept no substitutes.* □

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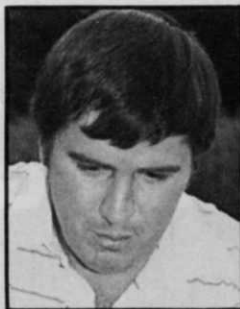
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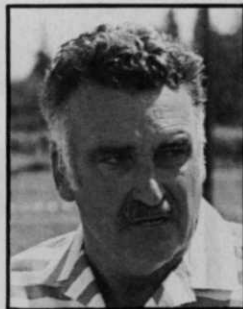
Doyle Jacklin, Jacklin Seed, reports yields of Kentucky bluegrass at 50 percent of normal.



Dave Nelson, Oregon Fine and Tall Fescue Commissions, says tall fescues are adequate in supply.



International Seeds' product manager Harry Stalford says the fine fescues are short in supply.



Bill Rose, Tee-2-Green president, reports a healthy crop of the bentgrasses.



Kent Wiley, Pickseed West, reports an adequate supply of perennial ryegrass seed.

"We're going to have a surplus. It's just a matter of whether it's this year or the year after," he reports. "Nobody knows the size (of the market). I've talked to a lot of people and they don't know."

Tee-2-Green sells about twice as much Penncross bentgrass as Penn-eagle. Pennway is another variety.

Pennlinks (PSU 126), "the Cadillac of putting greens," according to developer Dr. Joe Duich of Penn State University, should be available late this year.

Pennlinks 126 will be marketed by

Tee-2-Green. More than 100 acres of the new variety, 13 years in development, were harvested in July and August.

Pennlinks can withstand a lower mower height and grows more upright, notes Rose. It is gray/green in color for contrast.

Other bentgrass marketers note an adequate to limited supply of the seed.

Seed Research of Oregon president Mike Robinson says a new variety—SR1020—will be available to golf courses for testing purposes this fall.

Turfgrass blends, report most seed-

men, should be in good supply throughout the season.

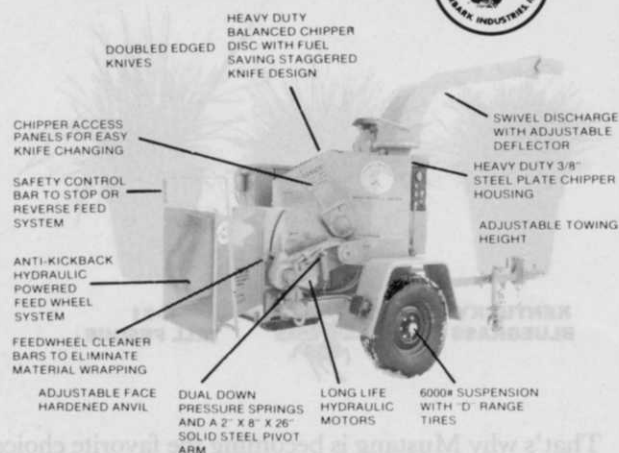
And finally...

You've heard it before, but it should be repeated: buy early. Seed supplies, in general, are adequate but a still-thriving economy is putting a lot of stress on supplies.

You may want to visit the distributor who has been the most reliable over the years, who typically receives the most of the seed you desire. The chances are greater that he'll have the seed you need.

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THE RESORT BOOM

Two factors are spawning a growing market for resort living. They're both a result of a resurging economy.

First, it's becoming financially easier for families to take winter vacations and get away from the colder climes. Second, financial institutions are seeing this burgeoning market and sinking their reserves into resort construction.

The following three articles (*Grand Champions*, *Sea Pines*, and *Horseshoe Bay*) illustrate exactly how landscape construction and management is handled at the nation's leading resorts.

Though the financial rewards are great, managing the landscapes in this sector of the industry is not easy, as the following three profiles indicate.



An artist's rendering of what the Grand Champions Resort will look like upon completion late this year.

GOING ALL OUT

European design and lots of irrigation make the new Grand Champions Resort in Palm Springs a haven for travelers who want to escape winter.

Rae Price goes all out to bring authenticity to his landscapes. Even when that means visiting Europe.

Price, senior principal of Peridian Inc., Irvine, Calif., traveled to Spain to capture the Mediterranean look at the new Grand Champions resort in Palm Springs.

During the trip, Price and architect Tom McKinsey researched resorts throughout Spain. The result is a white plaster main building which provides stark contrast to the outside terraces flowing with bougainviella.

The landscape—concentrated groves of date palms, grapefruit, and olive trees—emphasizes the Mediterranean flavor. Price estimates he has used 150 30-foot date palms, 100 olive trees, and 75 mature grapefruit trees.

Price discovered a different attitude among the Spaniards about landscaping. "Their attention to detail and maintenance is rather unique," Price explains. "Many places have full-time resident gardeners making sure it's always presentable."

Price brought back that attitude along with his knowledge of Mediterranean landscapes. He's paying close attention to details as he puts the finishing touches on the ritzy resort, due to open Nov. 14.

The Palm Springs site is the first of four Grand Champions resorts being built. Peridian is also building one in the British Virginian Islands. The other

resorts will be located in Hawaii and Spain. Sites for more resorts have already been pinpointed.

The Palm Springs resort consists of four parts. Although Price is using the same materials throughout the 15-acre site, each area is distinct.

First is the main hotel complex. Price describes it as a "low-profile hotel," with only five stories. He compares it with the Beverly Hills Hotel or Boca Raton in Florida.

The Villa area consists of five, four-unit buildings with one or two bedrooms in each. The Villas have a central courtyard and patio jacuzzi/spa area. They are serviced by the main hotel.

The Grand Champions Club is a private club and restaurant facility.

The club has one celebrity tennis court surrounded by a dining area. Members can play on seven concrete tennis courts, two clay courts, or two grass courts. "We wanted to provide variety for our members," Price says. "The lawn courts will be a pleasant surface in the desert heat."

Grand Champions Club uses a formal European design. Mature grapefruit trees, trunks painted white to protect them from sunburn, are planted in matched pairs. Hedges—including boxwood, myrtle, and privet—and flowers—primarily vibrantly-colored petunias—round out the landscape. Price travelled to Mexico for paving materials.

The fourth area of the resort is the 10,000-seat sunken tennis stadium, which will be home to the

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LANDSCAPE PROFILE



Rae Price travelled to Spain to research resorts before beginning work on the Grand Champions in Palm Springs.

Pilot Pen Classic in February.

A 36-hole championship golf course, being built by the city of Indian Wells, will be nestled into the resort. The course is a Ted Robinson design.

The suffocating heat last summer forced Price's crew of six to start work at 4:30 a.m. Record-breaking temperatures of up to 117 degrees also placed a lot of stress on plant materials, making transplants difficult.

Because of the heat, about 12 of the 15 acres are irrigated. Still, to further protect the trees, Price's staff placed "bubblers" at the base of each tree.

"We got about 25 percent of our plant materials from southern California nurseries so we wouldn't have a problem with their acclimation to the heat," Price says.

But by the time Grand Champions opens, the mercury should have fallen to normal levels. The resort is intended to be a luxurious escape for people fending off the approaching winter blues.

WT&T

TURBULENT SEA PINES

From lawsuits to hurricanes, the landscape at Sea Pines Resort on Hilton Head Island has nonetheless withstood the test of time.

The headline in the *Savannah Morning News* reads: **Charles Fraser Files 3 Lawsuits Against Sea Pines' Owners.** Those who live on Hilton Head Island aren't surprised.

It's not the first time Fraser, founder and developer of Sea Pines resort area, has sued. The battle began in 1983 when Sea Pines area merged with the Hilton Head Co. and was sold the next year to Rolyat, a south Florida lending institution.

During the Governors' Conference in August, the island tried to cover up \$100 million in lawsuit claims filed during an eight-month period.

The suits involve property sales and corporate decisions affecting almost half of the island's 25,000 acres.

Sea Pines, the island's oldest resort, (planning began in 1950) has 5,280 acres of developed property. But Gale Smyly, Sea Pines' landscaping director, hasn't seen his million-dollar budget suffer because of the debates.

The resort has, however, admittedly suffered from this summer's drought and three hard winters in a row. But only a true expert could pick out any flaws in Sea Pines' picturesque setting at the tip of Hilton Head Island.



Perhaps the most recognized part of Hilton Head Island is "Liberty Oak," with Harbour Town's candy-striped lighthouse in the background.