

NTEP NEWSLINE

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ON-SITE OVERSEEDING DATA ON WEBSITE

First-year data (collected from fall 1999 - spring 2000) from the On-site Overseeding of Bermudagrass Fairways Test is now available on the NTEP web site (www.ntep.org/onsite/ost.htm). This test, containing forty-two entries established at ten golf courses across the southern U.S., is a cooperative effort between the United States Golf Association (UGSA) Green Section Research, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and NTEP. This is the first coordinated effort to evaluate varieties, blends and mixtures on golf courses in the U.S.

Researchers collected data on establishment, turfgrass quality, genetic color, percent cover of bermuda and overseeding grass and as well as other characteristics. Since overseeding of bermudagrass provides a playing surface for late fall, winter and early spring only, parameters for evaluation had to be carefully selected and described. Turfgrass quality and genetic color, as in other evaluations, is very important. However, also important is the transition from the bermuda
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TURFGRASS FUNDING SUCCESS!

With the recent signature by President Clinton on the FY2001 Agriculture Appropriations Bill, federal support of the turfgrass industry was significantly increased. Along with continuing funding for NTEP for another year, the bill included funding for a new turfgrass scientist position within USDA. This victory represents the first full-time turfgrass research position within USDA since Jack Murray's position was abolished after his retirement in 1988.

The new position will be located at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center in Beltsville, MD and will be funded at the \$250,000 per year level. The new scientist will work on improving genetic stocks of new and promising turfgrass species as well as currently utilized species. The new person will collect grasses in native stands and growing under harsh conditions to find unique plants with improved drought, heat, cold, insect, disease and wear tolerance. The person in this position will also provide scientific support to NTEP. It is expected that this position will be advertised and filled in the first quarter of 2001.
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2000 KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS TEST UPDATE

The newest national Kentucky Bluegrass test was recently initiated with a record 173 entries (see list on page three). This is the most entries in any NTEP trial, past or present, almost forty entries more than the previous record. Of those 173 entries, 46 were entered in a past NTEP trial, four were included as
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NTEP SITE PROFILE: MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIV.

A visit to Starkville, MS, home of Mississippi State University, may lead you to the town's historic cotton district, with its New Orleans style housing. Cotton processing is no longer king in Starkville, being replaced by modern research, development and teaching facilities at Mississippi State.

Turfgrass research, breeding and teaching are strong programs at Mississippi State. Team members include Dr. Jeff Krans, Dr. Mike Goatley, Mr. Wayne Philley and Mr. Barry Stewart. The program trains and graduates many students each year, with most landing golf course assistant superintendent positions. The teaching and research programs complement each other with the research program providing valuable information and new turfgrass varieties for turfgrass practitioners in Mississippi as well as the entire southern U.S.

NTEP trials are an important component of the research at Mississippi State with several species currently



Damage from zoysia patch disease (*Rhizoctonia* sp.) on "Emerald" zoysiagrass



Wayne Philley stands in his space-plant nursery of St. Augustinegrasses selected for improved cold-tolerance

under evaluation. Since Starkville sits in the middle of the southeast U.S. (USDA cold hardiness Zone 7b), its hot, humid summers and relatively mild winters mean warm-season grasses are king. Consequently, zoysiagrass, bermudagrass and st. augustinegrass are the most widely-utilized species and the grasses tested there by NTEP. However, other species such as bentgrass and tall fescue are used in specific situations (i.e. bentgrass on putting greens and tall fescue on shady lawns). Therefore, NTEP occasionally tests these species in Starkville as well. In addition, since bermudagrass is dormant for about four months per year, one of the ten test locations of the on-site overseeding trial has been established at the MSU golf course.

Winter injury and summer diseases are the main problems in Starkville but the researchers at MSU are working to minimize these problems for their clientele. Their work in providing accurate information on NTEP trials contributes significantly to this effort!

TURFGRASS FUNDING

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This type of success requires help from many individuals and groups. We wish to thank the following people and organizations for calling and/or writing their senators and representatives:

Doug Fender - Turfgrass

Producers International

Ben Copeland - Patten Seed Co.

Dr. Arden Baltensperger - Seeds West

Ike Thomas - Turfgrass America

Tom Delaney - Professional Lawn Care Assoc. of America

Various PLCAA Members

American Seed Trade Association

Turfgrass Breeders Association

Dr. Doug Brede - Simplot Turf

Dr. Don Floyd - Pickseed West

Dr. Bryan Unruh - University of Florida

Dr. Jeff Krans - Miss. State Univ.

Dr. Leah Brilman - Seed

Research of Oregon

Dr. Bill Meyer - Rutgers Univ.

Stan Gardner - Gardner Turfgrass

Tim Moore - MD National Park & Planning Commission

Dr. Mike Kenna - United States Golf Assoc. (USGA)

Dr. Jeff Nus - USGA (formerly of Golf Course Superintendents Assoc. of America)

Dr. Tom Voigt - Univ. of Illinois

We sincerely appreciate the efforts of these people and groups (if anyone was omitted, we apologize). This shows that much can be accomplished if we, as an industry, work together toward common goals!

2000 NATIONAL KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS TEST - ENTRIES AND SPONSORS

Entry #	Name	Sponsor	Entry #	Name	Sponsor	Entry #	Name	Sponsor
1	Midnight	Standard Entry	59	Goldrush	Landmark Seed Company	117	A98-296	Mountain View Seeds, Ltd.
2	Baron	Standard Entry	60	Misty	The Scotts Company	118	A98-304	Mountain View Seeds, Ltd.
3	Lily	Deutsche Saatveredelung	61	Ascot	The Scotts Company	119	A98-139	Jenks Seed Connection
4	Limerick	Deutsche Saatveredelung	62	BH 00-6002	The Scotts Company	120	A98-365	Jenks Seed Connection
5	Bodacious	Turf Merchants, Inc.	63	Fairfax	The Scotts Company	121	Kenblue	Standard Entry
6	Bedazzled	Turf Merchants, Inc.	64	Abbey	The Scotts Company	122	Princeton 105	Pro Seeds Marketing, Inc.
7	Boomerang	Turf Merchants, Inc.	65	BH 00-6003	The Scotts Company	123	Impact	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
8	Eagleton	Standard Entry	66	Ba 81-058	Barenbrug USA, Inc.	124	Total Eclipse	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
9	HV 140	Advanta Seeds Pacific, Inc.	67	Raven	The Scotts Company	125	Odyssey	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
10	Pp H 6370	Advanta Seeds Pacific, Inc.	68	Ba 83-113	The Scotts Company	126	Chicago II	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
11	Pp H 6366	Advanta Seeds Pacific, Inc.	69	Marquis	Roberts Seed Company	127	NuGlade	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
12	Pp H 7929	Advanta Seeds Pacific, Inc.	70	Ba 84-140	The Scotts Company	128	J-1515	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
13	Pp H 7832	Advanta Seeds Pacific, Inc.	71	Ba 82-288	The Scotts Company	129	J-2487	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
14	Pp H 7907	Advanta Seeds Pacific, Inc.	72	Chateau	The Scotts Company	130	J-1368	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
15	A96-402	Pennington Seed Company	73	Ba 00-6001	The Scotts Company	131	J-1838	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
16	A97-1336	Pennington Seed Company	74	CVB-20631	Cebeco International Seeds	132	J-2561	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
17	Shamrock	LESCO, Inc.	75	Chelsea	Cebeco International Seeds	133	J-2885	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
18	Wellington	LESCO, Inc.	76	A97-1409	Cebeco International Seeds	134	J-1513	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
19	Wildwood	LESCO, Inc.	77	A96-451	Cebeco International Seeds	135	Everest	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
20	Hallmark	LESCO, Inc.	78	Julius	Cebeco International Seeds	136	J-1420	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
21	A93-200	LESCO, Inc.	79	Allure	Cebeco International Seeds	137	J-1648	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
22	H94-293	LESCO, Inc.	80	A97-1330	Cebeco International Seeds	138	J-2890	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
23	Coventry	The Scotts Company	81	H92-558	Cebeco International Seeds	139	Everglade	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
24	PST-1701	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	82	Julia	Cebeco International Seeds	140	J-2695	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
25	PST-B5-125	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	83	Brooklawn	Turf Merchants, Inc.	141	J-1665	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
26	PST-604	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	84	Boutique	Turf Merchants, Inc.	142	J-1880	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
27	PST-108-79	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	85	NA-K991	Novel AG, Inc.	143	Rugby II	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
28	PST-1QG-27	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	86	NA-K992	Novel AG, Inc.	144	Award	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
29	PST-161	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	87	Showcase	Seed Research of OR, Inc.	145	Rambo	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
30	PST-B5-89	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	88	Arcadia	Seed Research of OR, Inc.	146	Freedom II	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
31	Brilliant	Turf-Seed, Inc.	89	SRX 2394	Seed Research of OR, Inc.	147	Liberator	Simplot Turf & Horticulture
32	PST-222	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	90	SRX 26351	Seed Research of OR, Inc.	148	GO-9LM9	Grassland Oregon
33	A98-739	Rutgers University	91	SRX 27921	Seed Research of OR, Inc.	149	Pick 113-3	Pickseed West, Inc.
34	PST-York Harbor 4	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	92	Sonoma	Lebanon Seaboard Corp.	150	Langara	Pickseed West, Inc.
35	PST-1BMY	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	93	Bordeaux	Lebanon Seaboard Corp.	151	A96-739	Seeds, Inc.
36	A97-1439	Pennington Seed Company	94	Cabernet	Lebanon Seaboard Corp.	152	PST-H5-35	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.
37	A97-1449	Pennington Seed Company	95	Champagne	Lebanon Seaboard Corp.	153	PST-B3-170	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.
38	Apollo	Pro Seeds Marketing, Inc.	96	A96-427	Grassland Oregon	154	B4-128A	Cebeco International Seeds
39	A97-1432	Jenks Seed Connection/Rutgers	97	A97-1715	Grassland Oregon	155	PST-731	Mountain View Seeds, Ltd.
40	HV 238	Jenks Seed Connection	98	Jewel	Seeds, Inc.	156	Washington	Seeds, Inc.
41	Pick-232	Pickseed West, Inc.	99	Unknown	-	157	A96-742	Seeds, Inc.
42	A97-1567	Rutgers University	100	Blue Knight	DLF-Trifolium	158	A97-857	Seeds, Inc.
43	PST-1804	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	101	DLF 76-9032	DLF-Trifolium	159	BAR Pp 0468	Barenbrug USA, Inc.
44	B3-185	Burlingham Seeds	102	DLF 76-9034	DLF-Trifolium	160	BAR Pp 0471	Barenbrug USA, Inc.
45	B5-43	Burlingham Seeds	103	DLF 76-9036	DLF-Trifolium	161	BAR Pp 0566	Barenbrug USA, Inc.
46	B5-45	Grassland Oregon	104	DLF 76-9037	DLF-Trifolium	162	BAR Pp 0573	Barenbrug USA, Inc.
47	1B7-308	Rutgers University	105	SI A96-386	Seeds, Inc.	163	Bartitia	Barenbrug USA, Inc.
48	H92-203	Turf Merchants, Inc.	106	SRX 2114	Seed Research of OR, Inc.	164	Baritone	Barenbrug USA, Inc.
49	B3-171	Grassland Oregon	107	SRX 2284	Seed Research of OR, Inc.	165	Bariris	Barenbrug USA, Inc.
50	B5-144	Turf Merchants, Inc.	108	Pro Seeds-453	Pro Seeds Marketing, Inc.	166	Barzan	Barenbrug USA, Inc.
51	PST-B4-246	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	109	SRX OG245	Seed Research of OR, Inc.	167	Baronie	Barenbrug USA, Inc.
52	PST-H6-150	Pure Seed Testing, Inc.	110	99AN-53	Seeds, Inc.	168	Unique	Turf-Seed, Inc.
53	Alpine	Pickseed West, Inc.	111	A98-881	Grassland Oregon	169	Serene	Turf-Seed, Inc.
54	Pick 453	Pickseed West, Inc.	112	Jefferson	Landmark Seed Company	170	Moonlight	Turf-Seed, Inc.
55	Pick 417	Pickseed West, Inc.	113	A98-407	Cascade Int'l Seed Co.	171	Blackstone	Turf-Seed, Inc.
56	Limousine	Roberts Seed Company	114	A98-1028	Cascade Int'l Seed Co.	172	Rita	Turf-Seed, Inc.
57	Quantum Leap	Roberts Seed Company	115	A98-183	Cascade Int'l Seed Co.	173	North Star	Turf-Seed, Inc.
58	Envicta	The Scotts Company	116	A98-1275	Mountain View Seeds, Ltd.			

2000 KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS TEST

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standard entries and one entry was included as an "unknown". That leaves 122 entries as new cultivars or experimental selections that NTEP has never tested. Also, twenty-five companies submitted entries.

These entries were weighed, divided, packaged and mailed in late August to the test locations listed below. Most locations will seed the entries this fall (some northern locations will have to wait until Spring 2001). Data collection on the official trials will commence with establishment ratings (4-6 weeks after seeding) and then monthly turfgrass quality ratings during the growing season. Other data collected includes genetic color, spring greenup, leaf texture, percent living ground cover the first spring after fall seeding and each fall thereafter.

The ancillary trials listed below will hopefully answer more specific questions on cultivar response to various stresses. The ancillary trials were identified as important data collection needs by the Kentucky Bluegrass advisory committee.

Three management regimes (Schedule A, B, and C) were developed by the advisory committee and approved by the NTEP Policy Committee. The specifics of these management schedules were published in the last *Newsline* (Vol. 3, Issue 1). However, briefly, Schedule A mimics golf course fairway turf, Schedule B simulates athletic fields or high maintenance home lawns, while Schedule C covers low maintenance turf. Data will be analyzed by geographic region as well as by maintenance regime. It will be interesting to watch how these grasses perform under the various management regimes and in different states or regions.

OVERSEEDING DATA

(continued from page one)

providing the playing surface to the overseeding grass becoming the dominant turf (in fall) and vice versa (in spring). Having a smooth transition from the bermudagrass entering dormancy and the overseeding grass "taking over" in fall and then having the bermudagrass become dominant again in late spring/summer is the challenge of superintendents that overseed. Proper management practices are very important and varying weather patterns from year-to-year affect the quality of transition, but also choosing the proper overseeding variety, blend or mixture, is essential for success. First-year data is helpful but all studies should be repeated for accuracy. Therefore, all entries have been reseeded this fall in the same locations (using the same seed lot as last year) to ensure uniformity. It will be interesting to examine data collected from 1999-2000 and compare with data from fall 2000 - spring 2001.

2000 NATIONAL KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS TEST LOCATIONS

Schedule A

Fort Collins, CO
Urbana, IL
College Park, MD
East Lansing, MI
Lincoln, NE
Ithaca, NY
Brookings, SD
Franklin, TN
Madison, WI

Schedule B

Carbondale, IL
Ames, IA
St. Paul, MN
Columbia, MO
Adelphia, NJ
Raleigh, NC
Stillwater, OK
Guelph, Ontario
State College, PA
Kingston, RI
Blacksburg, VA
Puyallup, WA
Pullman, WA
Sheridan, WY

Schedule C

West Lafayette, IN
Wichita, KS
Lexington, KY
Orono, ME
Amherst, MA
Columbus, OH
Logan, UT

Ancillary Tests

Fort Collins, CO
(saline irrigation test)
Carbondale, IL
(natural shade)
Bowling Green, KY
(artificial shade)
East Lansing, MI
(necrotic ring spot test)
Lincoln, NE
(sod strength)
New Brunswick, NJ
(fairway traffic test)

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT NTEP: PART FIVE “APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND COSTS”

Submitting entries into NTEP tests is open equally to U.S. and foreign companies. There are no special requirements or conditions for entries except that they must be single varieties or experimental selections. No blends or mixtures are accepted into official NTEP trials.

Information is provided, in advance, on the amount of seed required for each entry. The seed, a Test Entry Application Form and the first of three entry fee payments need to be received at NTEP headquarters by mid-August of the year the test is initiated. The deadline is necessary for NTEP staff to assemble, divide and ship seed sets of the test to cooperators by late-August. Information on the Test Entry Application Form includes the following:

Required Information

1. Variety name or experimental designation
2. Genus and species name
3. Previous names or experimental designations
4. Genetic structure or breeding method used
5. Current commercial availability or potential
6. Whether seed has been treated with pesticides
7. Name and address of entry sponsor
8. Should entry be included in commercial or consumer tests

Suggested Information

1. Origin of the entry
2. Seed Quality (seed lot number, year of production, location of production, purity, germination rate, germination test date, weed or other crop percentage)
3. Merits or limitations of the entry

Also, the entry sponsor is required to sign a Sponsorship Agreement that obligates the sponsor to pay NTEP an entry fee of US\$8,000.00 payable in four annual installments.

NTEP does not have minimum requirements for seed quality nor does NTEP verify the validity of the breeding history. The U.S. Plant Variety Protection (PVP) system performs this service by requiring information on breeding history and variety uniqueness for legal protection. NTEP also does not require advanced filing of entry applications nor does NTEP approve or disapprove entries in advance. Therefore, sponsors can decide to submit entries or withdraw entries up until the deadline for entries to be received at NTEP headquarters.

(This is part five of a series of articles that was originally published as a chapter in Turfgrass Cultivars: Breeding and Utilization, by SoftScience, Inc. (Japanese only). The next issue of Newsline will focus on NTEP evaluation methods and criteria).

WEB SITE UPDATE

We are continuing in our efforts to make the NTEP web site more useful for our users, sponsors and members. Our recently added *Search* function has been enhanced to better locate information important to you. We have also added “Tips for Searching” which may be helpful in finding specific data or other information about NTEP. Please let us know if you have problems searching or need to locate additional info (email kmorris@ntep.org).

NTEP Web Site Address

<http://www.ntep.org>

Our *Custom Data Analysis* form on the web site has been changed to better respond to your needs. When a request for a custom analysis comes to us, before we can conduct the analysis, we must contact the individual to ask specific questions about their needs. Please fill-in the form completely so we can contact you about this service!

We are working on converting the table of contents from past years' reports to our new menu formats. Also, we are working on updating the variety listings. Thanks for all the positive comments about the site as well as constructive criticism and suggestions for improvements!

NTEP POLICY COMMITTEE MEETS IN LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

The most recent NTEP Policy Committee meeting was held on June 1-2, 2000 in Lincoln, NE. Dr. Bob Shearman, Professor of Turfgrass Science at the University of Nebraska hosted the group and made all the local arrangements. In addition to meeting for a one-half day session in Lincoln, the committee met for one-half day at the University of Nebraska's Agricultural Research Center near Mead, NE (about 35 miles from Lincoln). Dr. Shearman and his colleagues also provided a one-half day tour of the John Seaton Anderson turfgrass research farm in Mead. The committee visited the NTEP trials, buffalograss breeding projects, their rhizotron facility and ornamental display gardens. The center is very impressive with many interesting and significant research projects in progress.



Dr. Terry Riordan explains his buffalograss breeding program to NTEP Policy Committee members. Mr. Steve Westerholt, buffalograss project coordinator and assistant to Dr. Riordan, is in the background.

During the meeting, many items such as USDA funding for NTEP and a new turfgrass scientist, evaluation workshops and the latest Kentucky bluegrass test were discussed. The following items of interest were also discussed by the Policy Committee:

Strategic Planning - the first NTEP five-year strategic plan was initiated in March 1995.

Most of the action items in the plan were accomplished during the last five years and it is now time to restructure and/or update the plan. The Committee decided that the objectives of the current plan are still pertinent and should not be changed. However, new strategies and actions to accomplish those objectives need to be developed. The Committee is currently working on updating the plan and should have it finished by spring 2001.

Statistical Analysis -

The Committee reviewed the results of the five statistical projects recently completed. These studies, funded by the USGA, used different statistical techniques on NTEP data. The Committee is



Apparatus built by Nebraska turfgrass science team members to simulate golf cart traffic. The unit delivers consistent and uniform traffic patterns and is used on many NTEP trials as well as other research projects.

considering further actions and recommendations for using this data.

Administrative - The following were elected as officers for the upcoming year:

- Chair** Mr. Ike Thomas, Turfgrass America
- Vice-Chair** Dr. Peter Landschoot, Penn State Univ.
- Secretary** Dr. Dennis Martin, Oklahoma State Univ.

Thanks to Dr. Shearman and all the staff at the University of Nebraska for making our meeting a success!

NTEP NEWSLINE is issued on a quarterly basis. If you have concerns or suggestions, please contact:

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