

Performance of Kentucky Bluegrasses Mowed Below 2 cm in Eastern North Carolina. (C05-fraser135808-Oral)

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Abstract:

Turf-type Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis* L.) cultivars that persist at mowing heights below 2 cm are potentially useful for golf course fairways and intermediate roughs. This study was conducted to evaluate the performance of Kentucky bluegrass cultivars mowed at 1.3 cm in a warm, humid environment. Performance under golf cart traffic stress was also evaluated. A Kentucky bluegrass turf evaluation trial was seeded October 1999 near Rolesville, NC. Three replications each of 37 commercially available and experimental Kentucky bluegrass cultivars and blends were seeded in a randomized complete block design at a rate of 150 gm-2. the trial was maintained at 1.3 cm beginning October 2001. Turf quality ratings were recorded using a visual scale from 1-9, with 9 representing ideal quality. Top-performing cultivars after one year's maintenance at 1.3 cm included 'Moonlight', 'Showcase', 'Unique', 'Brilliant', and 'Serene'. Moonlight showed the least damage from golf cart traffic.

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