# Potential for Bentgrass Seed Production in the High Plains. (C05-margheim162747-Poster)

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#### **Abstract:**

Grass seed production has increased on the high plains in recent years. Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis) and tall fescue (Festuca arundinacea), as well as some forage grasses are in production on approximately 2,200 acres in the region. An additional species could be creeping bentgrass (Agrostis stolonifera). Winter hardiness of creeping bentgrass is a concern, since annual winter kill on local putting greens is 5%. To assess bentgrass winter hardiness three field trials containing eight entries were planted the fall of 2000 and two in 2001. Early winter and spring assessments of winter hardiness were made along with seed yield. Although the first winter was colder than what has been experienced in recent years, winter loss as measured by differences in early winter and spring stand was considered less than 5 %. This was followed by a milder winter, but with less winter moisture some dessication injury was noted on second year stands, but first year stands had no significant stand loss. It appears that bentgrass seed production is possible in the region and with the numerous relatively isolated center pivots and no native bentgrasses this may be an ideal area for seed

production of genetically modifed cultivars.

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