

# Effects of Seeding Date on Bermudagrass and Zoysiagrass Establishment. (C05-patton081345-Oral)

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## Abstract:

New cultivars of seeded bermudagrass (*Cynodon dactylon* L.) and zoysiagrass (*Zoysia japonica* Steud.) are desirable for golf and athletic turfs due to low establishment and maintenance costs but little is known about their establishment. Research was conducted to define the acceptable range of seeding dates for bermudagrass and zoysiagrass in the transition zone. Experiments were initiated in Indiana and Kentucky in 2000 and 2001. 'Mirage' bermudagrass and 'Zenith' zoysiagrass were seeded at 24 and 49 kg PLS ha<sup>-1</sup>, respectively on 1 and 15 Jun, Jul, Aug, and 1 Sep +/- 2 days. Indiana plots received 49 kg N ha<sup>-1</sup> at planting and every 15 days after planting (DAP) while Kentucky plots received 49 kg N ha<sup>-1</sup> at planting and then either every 15 or 30 DAP. The seeding window for zoysiagrass was 1 to 15 June in Indiana and 1 June to 1 July in Kentucky to achieve 90% cover by frost. Bermudagrass could be seeded as late as 1 August in Indiana and Kentucky and still achieve 90% cover by frost. There was no relationship between winterkill and seeding date. No seeded bermudagrass survived either winter in Indiana. Additional nitrogen did not extend the seeding window for either species.

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