Hybrid Bermudagrasses Differ in their Establishment Rates and Growth Characteristics. (C05-reynolds135851-Oral)

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Abstract:

Hybrid bermudagrass (Cynodon spp.) is commonly planted for athletic fields and golf course fairways in the southern United States. A 2-year field study was conducted at the Sandhills Research Station in Jackson Springs, NC to determine the establishment rate and other growth characteristics of six cultivars. The soil at the site is a Candor sand (Sandy, siliceous, thermic Arenic Paleudult). Cultivars evaluated included Tifsport, Tifway 419, GN-1, Quickstand, Navy Blue, and Tifton 10. Plots were sprigged at the rate of 12 bushels/1000sqft on 28 June 2001 and fertilized with 50kgN/hectare every two weeks for 12 weeks. Percent cover was visually determined every two weeks until full establishment. After 6 weeks, Tifton-10, Quickstand, and GN-1 had each achieved coverages of (85.4ab),(85.2ab), and (87.5a) respectively while Tifway 419 had reached (82.3b). Navy Blue(77.1c) and Tifsport(60.0d) were the slowest to establish. This trend continued at 8, 10, and 12 weeks. Other growth characteristics that were measured include fall color, spring greenup, and root production. These results will also be discussed.

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