Overseeding Buffalograss Turf With Fine Fescues. (C05-shearman111110-Poster)

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Abstract:

Buffalograss is a warm season turfgrass species with excellent high and low temperature hardiness. It requires less inputs than many other species. However, its extended winter dormancy is a limitation to its use. Hard, creeping red, Chewings, and sheep fescues are excellent low input, cool season species. Fine fescues were overseeded into an established, dormant buffalograss turf. The objectives of this study were to: Evaluate effects of seeding date, seeding rate and core cultivation on the establishment of fine fescues in buffalograss; Determine effect of overseeding fine fescues on spring and fall turfgrass color retention; and Evaluate impact of overseeding fines fescues on turfgrass quality. Two core cultivation intensities, three fine fescue species, and three seeding rates comprised the first field study. Three planting dates, three species and two core cultivation intensities were include in the second trial. Establishment rate, species counts, and turfgrass quality, cover and color data were collected. Both studies were repeated in time. To date, sheep fescue and buffalograss mixtures have performed best. Seeding rate has not impacted turfgrass quality, cover, or color. Fall plantings of fine fescues have performed better than spring.

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