

CREeping BENTGRASS

Agrostis stolonifera



ORIGIN AND DESCRIPTION

Introduced from Europe; widely naturalized in the U. S. Cool season, stoloniferous grass, 6 to 16" tall. Densely tufted and turf-forming. fine-textured, short, green leaves, mostly basal. Inflorescence an open panicle, pyramid or cone shaped. Abundant short stolons.

GROWTH HABITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PREFERENCES

Thrives in moist, cool, temperate climates, fertile sandy to clayey alluvial soils high in organ-

ic matter. Survives, but low growth on sands, dense clays and thin soils. Weakly tolerant of acidic and salty soils. Adapted on wet soils but intolerant of prolonged flooding, high water tables, or poor drainage.

CULTURE

Drill no deeper than 1/4" on heavier soils and 1/2" on lighter textured soils. Often broadcasted and rolled or cultipacked to press seed into surface soil. Supplemental mulch improves stand establishment. Seeding about 0.5 to 1 lbs. PLS per acre for erosion control, or 0.5 to 1 lbs. seed per 1,000-sq. ft. for turf. Weak seedling vigor. Need to keep moist. Consider sod transplanting where early cover is needed.

Plant in August to September for humid lowland elevations, or in early spring, especially when a legume is included in mixture. Commonly seeded alone or in mixtures with blue grasses (*Poa* spp.) and clovers (*Trifolium* spp.) and other turf grasses.

USE AND MANAGEMENT

Used for lawns, fairways, putting greens, and erosion control. Planted on putting greens throughout much of the U.S. Good with other turf grasses and clovers for amenity grasslands or landscaping around industrial sites. Also used in mountain, northern Great Plains, and cornbelt waterways. Good cold and winter hardiness.

IMPROVED VARIETIES

Eleven strains or cultivars listed in 1994 Grass Varieties of the United States USDA SCS Handbook 170. Consult with state or local plant materials specialists for varieties best adapted to specific sites and purposes.



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