What every superintendent should know about tropical turfgrasses

Micah Woods March 6, 2024

Asian Turfgrass Center www.asianturfgrass.com

PACE Turf www.paceturf.org

















Bermudagrass (Cynodon)

Strong points

- · Lower water requirement
- · Easier to get green speed
- Easy to cut

Weak points

- · Weed invasion
- Grows fast
- · High light requirement



Zoysiagrass

Strong points

- · Weed resistance
- · Low light requirement
- · Slow growth
- · Difficult to kill

Weak points

- · Slower green speed
- · High water requirement
- Mowing quality
- Invasion
- Seed production



Seashore paspalum

Strong points

- · Salinity tolerance
- · It's pretty
- Low light tolerance

Weak points

- · High water requirement
- Disease susceptibility
- Weed invasion
- · Slower green speed
- Mowing quality







Average stimpmeter (feet)

Zoysia matrella

Species	Thailand	Japan
Creeping bentgrass	NA	8.5
Hybrid bermudagrass	9.5	7.9

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8.3

7.1

Average bobble score (1-10)

Species	Thailand	Japan
Creeping bentgrass	NA	7.9
Hybrid bermudagrass	6.7	7
Seashore paspalum	6.5	NA
Zoysia matrella	5.8	6.7















Sustainable Management of Fairway and Rough Turfgrass in Southeast Asia

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3. An Extraordinary Idea

Must fairway and roughs be composed of a turfgrass monostand? Turfgrass plants growing together in a sward are competing for light, water, nutrients, carbon dioxide, oxygen, and physical space. When there is only one turfgrass species planted (a monostand), the competition among individual plants in the turfgrass community is particularly acute. This is because the requirements for growth and the growth habit of the grass are the same. A polystand of different turfgrass species has a potentially higher quality than does a monoculture.









Online handout with slides & more info



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