

2001 NTEP Tall Fescue Test (Lawn) – 2001 Results

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Objective

To evaluate commercial and experimental varieties of turf-type tall fescue under high maintenance conditions in central Indiana.

Rationale

Turf-type tall fescue has many attributes such as very good drought tolerance, very good heat tolerance, moderate cold tolerance, and good wear tolerance that make it a good choice for many turf sites. Tall fescue will form a dense, attractive turf stand when properly maintained. By determining the performance of the 160 varieties, we will be able to offer sound information on which varieties of turf-type tall fescue to plant in Indiana.

How It Was Done

One hundred and sixty varieties of turf-type tall fescue were seeded on 5 Sep 2001 at the William H. Daniel Research and Diagnostic Center on a silt loam soil. Seeding rate was 5.2 lbs per 1000 ft² and seed was spread using a hand shaker jar. After seeding the experiment was lightly raked and a starter fertilizer (8-22-16) was applied at the rate of 1.5 lbs P₂O₅ per 1000 ft². The area was covered with a germination blanket following seeding to prevent washing of seed and mixing of varieties.

The plots will be maintained under a high maintenance regime, typical of a home lawn. The mowing height will be 2 inches, mowed twice per week. The annual fertilization will be 3.5 lbs. N per 1000 ft² with 1 lb applied in mid-May, 1 lb in mid-September, and 1.5 lbs. in early November. Irrigation will be applied to prevent any sign of stress.

Data collected in 2001 were percent of the plot area covered by the desired turf type tall fescue.

Results to Date

This test was started last fall so there are very few results to report at this time. It is exciting to see from the number of entries that many advances are being made breeding new cultivars of turf-type tall fescue. Through the next four years we expect that many of the numbered entries will be given names and be released for commercial use.

Table 1. Percent cover by 160 cultivars of tall fescue 4 weeks after seeding in Sept 2001.

Cultivar	Cover ^a	Cultivar	Cover ^a	Cultivar	Cover ^a	Cultivar	Cover ^a
Elisa	63.3	TF66	41.7	2nd Millennium	38.3	EA 163	36.7
K01-WAF	56.7	Rendition	41.7	Barlexas II	38.3	Picasso	36.7
Titan Ltd.	55.0	OD-4	41.7	ATF 702	38.3	Masterpiece	36.7
Bravo	53.3	Laramie	41.7	ATF 802	38.3	Legitimate	36.7
Tar Heel	53.3	CIS-TF-33	41.7	T991	38.3	GO-SIU2	36.7
Plantation	50.0	Cayenne	41.7	Mustang 3	38.3	K01-8007	36.7
Biltmore	50.0	BAR Fa 1003	41.7	CIS-TF-64	38.3	DP 50-9082	36.7
Ky-31 E+	48.3	Roberts DOL	41.7	BAR Fa 1005	38.3	Signia	35.0
ATF 586	48.3	PST-DDL	41.7	PST-5T1	38.3	Kitty Hawk 2000	35.0
PST-5BZ	48.3	PST-5TR1	41.7	PST-5JM	38.3	Lancer E	35.0
PST-5KI	48.3	PST-578	41.7	Pure Gold	38.3	Dynasty	35.0
Wolfpack	48.3	Endeavor	41.7	K01-8015	38.3	CIS-TF-67	35.0
ATF-800	48.3	BE1	41.7	Coyote	38.3	CIS-TF-77	35.0
'018	46.7	UT-RB3	41.7	Wyatt	38.3	B-7001	35.0
R-4	46.7	MRF 22	41.7	DLF-J210	38.3	JTTF-2000	35.0
JT-99	46.7	MRF 210	41.7	PST-5BAB	38.3	PST-5ASR	35.0
Barlexas	46.7	RB2-01	40.0	BAR Fa 1CR7	38.3	PST-53T	35.0
MCN-RC	46.7	F-4	40.0	SR 8600	38.3	JT-13	35.0
ATF 704	46.7	Roberts-L1Z	40.0	SRX 805	38.3	01-RUTOR2	35.0
Quest	46.7	ATF 707	40.0	SRX 8BE4	38.3	MA 138	35.0
CAS-MC1	46.7	ATF 806	40.0	GO-RD4	38.3	CAS-ED	35.0
Falcon II	46.7	NJ4	40.0	MRF 27	38.3	MA 127	35.0
MRF 25	46.7	Watchdog	40.0	Finesse II	36.7	SR 8250	35.0
Bonsai	46.7	DLSO	40.0	Tracer	36.7	ProSeeds 5301	35.0
ATF-706	45.0	Pick-00-AFA	40.0	Barrera	36.7	GO-OD2	35.0
SBM	45.0	Roberts SM4	40.0	Barrington	36.7	PST-5KU	33.3
Olympic Gold	45.0	Jaguar 3	40.0	ATF 799	36.7	PST-5LO	33.3
UT-155	45.0	Pick ZMG	40.0	Stetson	36.7	JT-12	33.3
GO-FL3	45.0	PST-5FZD	40.0	CIS-TF-65	36.7	MA 158	33.3
MRF 23	45.0	Matador	40.0	ATF-593	36.7	Grande II	33.3
Pick-OD3-01	43.3	01-TFOR3	40.0	Pick TF H-97	36.7	MRF 24	33.3
Millennium	43.3	Rembrandt	40.0	P-58	36.7	MRF 211	33.3
Scorpion	43.3	Kalahari	40.0	PST-5S12	36.7	NA-TDD	31.7
PST-5NAS	43.3	Southern Choice II	40.0	PST-5A1	36.7	Bingo	31.7
PST-57E	43.3	MRF 26	40.0	JT-6	36.7	Tomahawk RT	31.7
LPT-7801	41.7	MRF 28	40.0	JT-15	36.7	K01-E03	31.7
Rebel Exeda	41.7	MRF 29	40.0	JT-9	36.7	01-ORU1	31.7
Prospect	41.7	ATF-803	40.0	K01-E09	36.7	CIS-TF-60	30.0
Revel Sentry	41.7	Dominion	38.3	PST-5TUO	36.7	JT-18	30.0
BE-2	41.7	Focus	38.3	CAS-157	36.7	DP 50-9226	30.0
						LSD (0.05)	11.3

^a Percent of the plot area covered by desired species.