



Poa pratensis

Plant Breeder: Dr. William Meyer, Pure Seed Testing, Inc.
Experimental Designation - PST-B8-13

Blue Star Kentucky Bluegrass is a variety possessing good disease tolerance and a rich green color. This variety exhibits improved resistance to Leaf Spot, Stripe Smut, Fusarium Blight, Leaf and Stem Rust, and Dollar Spot. Blue Star's low growth habit and fine textured leaves produce a high quality turf even when grown under low to moderate fertility levels. It is moderately tolerant of shade and is a strong component of turf mixtures for areas of combined sun and shade conditions. It is a strong variety with good rhizome and tiller development, and is persistent when used at recommended seeding rates.

Characteristics:

- Excellent drought tolerance
- Fine textured leaf, dark green color
- Good disease resistance
- Good turf density, low growing
- Moderate shade tolerance

Recommended Uses:

Golf Courses, Parks, Home Lawns, Athletic Fields, and Sod Farms

Climatic Zones:

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 (may not be adaptable to all areas within each climatic zone)

Establishment & Maintenance:

Blue Star, like all Kentucky Bluegrasses, requires about 3 weeks for complete germination. Color may be observed before that time, however, in good growing weather where soil temperatures are above 65° F (18° C), expect 3-4 weeks after germination for a complete turf stand. First mowing may be expected within six weeks from the date of planting. *Blue Star* possesses good mowing qualities and can be maintained at heights ranging from 1 inch to 2 1/2 inches. (2.5 – 6.4 cm). *Blue Star* does well in sand or heavy clay soils, and like all bluegrasses, performs best in soils with a pH of 5.5 to 8.

Seeding Rates:

- Tees, Parks, Home Lawns 2 - 3 lbs/1000 sq ft
(1 – 1 1/2 lbs/100 sq meters)
- Fairways 100 lbs/acre
(112 kgs/hectare)
- Renovated Fairways 25 - 30 lbs/acre
(28 – 34 kgs/hectare)
- Sod Farms/Athletic Fields 80 - 120 lbs/acre
(90 – 134 kgs/hectare)

Quality Ratings:

Table 6. MEAN TURFGRASS QUALITY RATINGS OF KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS CULTIVARS
GROWN UNDER LOW INPUT AT ELEVEN LOCATIONS USING 1.1-2.0 LBS
OF NITROGEN/1000 SQ FT /YEAR
1999 DATA FROM 1995 TEST
TURFGRASS QUALITY RATINGS 1-9, 9=IDEAL TURF

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
BARONIE	4.9
BLUE STAR	4.1
VB16015	4.1
BARUZO	3.9
BAR VB 6820	3.8
LIPOA	3.7
LSD VALUE	0.6

Table 12. MEAN TURFGRASS QUALITY RATINGS OF KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS CULTIVARS
GROWN UNDER LOW INPUT IN DIFFERENT CLIMATIC ZONES
1999 DATA FROM 1995 TEST
TURFGRASS QUALITY RATINGS 1-9, 9=IDEAL TURF

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
EAGLETON	5.0
BLUE STAR	4.4
VB16015	4.3
BARUZO	4.3
LIPOA	4.2
BAR VB 6820	4.2
LIPOA	4.2
LSD VALUE	0.3

Table 20. SUMMER DENSITY RATNGS OF KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS CULTIVARS
GROWN UNDER LOW INPUT
1999 DATA FROM 1995 TEST
DENSITY RATINGS 1-9, 9=MAXIMUM DENSITY

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
BARONIE	6.3
BLUE STAR	5.7
VB16015	5.6
BARUZO	5.3
BAR VB 6820	4.9
LIPOA	4.8
LSD VALUE	0.7

These results represent examples of the 21 varieties tested in the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program, Progress Report 1999, NTEP No. 00-11 from 1995 test (Low Input). For complete trial data, go to www.ntep.org.