



Creeping Bentgrass
Agrostis stolonifera

Plant Breeder:

Dr. Joe Duich, Pennsylvania State University

Penncross competes with *Poa annua* on putting greens, tees, and fairways. *Penncross* breeding began with 156 vegetatively propagated bentgrasses later reduced to 21. These were crossed for turf performance and the components were tested under a wide variety of locations in the U.S. and Canada. Results show that *Penncross* has wide adaptability, tight, upright growth characteristics and fine leaf texture.

Characteristics:

- Strong seedling vigor
- Aggressive growth and good wear tolerance
- Medium Dark Green Color
- Good Dollar Spot resistance

Recommended Use:

Golf Courses (fairways, tees and greens) and Winter Overseeding of Bermudagrass Greens

Climatic Zones:

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 (may not be adaptable to all areas within each zone)

Establishment & Maintenance:

Plant the seed to make good seed to soil contact and keep seedlings moist until well rooted. Germination will take place in 7 - 15 days depending on soil temperatures, and the first mowing may be expected within 30 days, or when the plants have sufficiently rooted. Mow at a 3/4 inch (19.1 mm) height of cut or lower until turf is established. Limited use of the area can be expected in 6 weeks. *Penncross* performs best in soils with a pH of 5.5 to 8. It has a moderate nitrogen requirement with 1 - 2 pounds of actual N per 1,000 square feet per year adequate in most situations. Optimum greens mowing height for *Penncross* is 3/16 - 5/16 inch (4.8 - 7.9 mm) but can be adjusted higher or lower depending upon maintenance practices and intended use. *Penncross* performs best on sandy soils and tolerates clay soils with adequate drainage. Bentgrasses do not perform well in wet areas; however, *Penncross* can tolerate saturated soil conditions for short periods of time.

Seeding Rates:

- New Turf Applications 1 - 2 lbs/ 1000 sq. ft.
(1/2 - 1 kg/100 sq meters)
- Overseeding of Existing Turf 1/2 - 1 lb/1000 sq. ft.
(1/4 - 1/2 kg/100 sq meters)

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Quality Ratings:

Table 19.

**PERCENT LIVING GROUND COVER (SPRING) RATINGS OF BENTGRASS CULTIVARS
GROWN ON A FAIRWAY OR TEE
2000 DATA FROM 1998 TEST
PERCENT LIVING GROUND COVER IN SPRING**

NAME	PERCENT
BRIGHTON (SRX 1120)	95.0
PENNCROSS	95.0
TRUELINE	95.0
SEASIDE	93.3
SRX 7MODD	93.3
GOLFSTAR	91.7
TIGER	91.7
LSD VALUE	2.6

Table 26.

**BROWN PATCH (WARM TEMPERATURE) RATING OF BENTGRASS CULTIVARS
GROWN ON A FAIRWAY OR TEE
2000 DATA FROM 1998 TEST
BROWN PATCH RATINGS 1-9, 9=NO DISEASE**

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
BACKSPIN	9.0
PENNCROSS	9.0
TRUELINE	8.7
SEASIDE II	8.3
GOLFSTAR	5.3
TIGER	3.3
SRX 7MOBB	2.8
LSD VALUE	1.1

Table 29.

**POA ANNUA RATINGS OF BENTGRASS CULTIVARS
GROWN ON A FAIRWAY OR TEE
2000 DATA FROM 1998 TEST
POA ANNUA RATINGS 1-9, 9=NONE**

NAME	RATING
SEASIDE	4.3
GOLFSTAR	3.3
PENNCROSS	3.0
TIGER	3.0
SEASIDE II	2.0
TRUELINE	1.7
GRAND PRIX	1.0
LSD VALUE	1.7

These examples represent 7 out of 25 varieties tested in the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program, Progress Report 2000, NTEP No. 01-3 1998 test. For complete trial data, go to www.ntep.org