Creeping Bentgrass

Agrostis stolonifera

Plant Breeder: Dr. Joseph Duich, Pennsylvania State University
Experimental Designation - PSU - 126

Pennlinks *creeping bentgrass is a seed propagated variety released by the Agricultural Experiment station of the Pennsylvania State University. Novel features of* ***PennLinks*** *include an upright growth habit (non-graining), finer foliar texture, and minimal amount of plant type segregation when managed as a putting green. Disease tolerances are considered to be within the range of this species, and when compared to Penncross,* ***PennLinks*** *has a more upright growth habit, is finer bladed and produces a higher turf density.*

Characteristics:

- Excellent drought tolerance and drought recovery
- Increased turf density
- Very good Leaf Spot and Dollar Spot resistance
- Fine textured leaf, medium dark green color
- Performs well on sand or soil greens
- Good winter color retention

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 10 - 21 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 mm) height of cut or lower until turf is established. Limited use of the area can be expected in 6 weeks. ***PennLinks*** 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. ***PennLinks'*** optimum mowing height 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. ***PennLinks*** performs best on a sandy soil and tolerates clay soils with adequate drainage. Bentgrasses do not perform well in wet areas; however, ***PennLinks*** has shown tolerance to saturated soil conditions for short periods of time.

Seeding Rates:

- New Turf Applications — 1 – 2 lb/1000 sq ft (1/2 – 1kg/100 sq meters)
- Overseeding Existing Turf — 1/2 - 1 lb/1000 sq ft (1/4 – 1/2kg/100 sq meters)

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Quality Ratings:

Table 21. **WINTER COLOR RATINGS OF BENTGRASS CULTIVARS GROWN ON A GREEN 2000 DATA FROM 1998 TEST WINTER COLOR RATINGS 1-9, 9=COMPLETE COLOR RETENTION**

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
PENN A-4	6.4
PENNLINKS	**5.4**
CENTURY	5.3
BRIGHTON (SRX 1120)	5.2
IMPERIAL	5.1
PROVIDENCE	5.1
BACKSPIN	4.8
LSD VALUE	0.6

Table 24. **DROUGHT TOLERANCE (DORMANCY) RATINGS OF BENTGRASS CULTIVARS GROWN ON A GREEN 2000 DATA FROM 1998 TEST DROUGHT TOLERANCE (DORMANCY) RATINGS 1-9, 9=NO DORMANCY**

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
BAVARIA	5.8
PENNLINKS	**5.3**
BRIGHTON (SRX 1120)	4.7
PROVIDENCE	3.5
CENTURY	3.0
IMPERIAL	3.0
SYN 96-3	2.3
LSD VALUE	2.0

Table 28. **DOLLAR SPOT RATINGS OF BENTGRASS CULTIVARS GROWN ON A GREEN 2000 DATA FROM 1998 TEST DOLLAR SPOT RATINGS 1-9, 9=NO DISEASE**

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
BAVARIA	7.9
PENNLINKS	**6.8**
BRIGHTON (SRX 1120)	6.2
IMPERIAL	5.9
PROVIDENCE	5.6
CENTURY	5.1
CRENSHAW	5.0
LSD VALUE	0.5

These examples represent 7 out of 29 varieties tested in the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program, Progress Report 200, NTEP No. 01-2 .from the 1998 test. For complete trial data, go to www.ntep.org