

2005 NTEP Kentucky Bluegrass Test – 2007 Results

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Objective

To evaluate commercial and experimental varieties of Kentucky bluegrass under low maintenance conditions in central Indiana.

Rationale

Kentucky bluegrass is the most widely used turf species in Indiana under low maintenance conditions. Attributes such as good drought tolerance, fair heat tolerance, good wear tolerance, and excellent cold tolerance makes it a good choice for many turf sites. Kentucky bluegrass will form a dense, attractive turf stand when properly maintained. By determining performance of these 110 varieties, we will be able to offer sound information on which varieties of Kentucky bluegrass to plant in Indiana.

How It Was Done

One hundred and ten cultivars of Kentucky bluegrass were seeded on 3 Sep 2005 at the William H. Daniel Turfgrass Research and Diagnostic Center on a silt loam soil. Seeding rate was 2.2 lbs/1000 ft² and seed was spread using a hand shaker jar. After seeding, the area was lightly raked, and a starter fertilizer (6-24-24) was applied at the rate of 1.5 lbs P₂O₅/1000 ft². The area was covered with a germination blanket to prevent washing of seed and mixing of varieties. Plots were maintained under a low maintenance regime. The mowing height was 2.5 inches and the experiment was mowed twice per week or as needed when under drought stress. Annual fertilization was 2 lbs N/1000 ft² with 1 lb applied in mid-September and 1 lb in early November. No irrigation was applied to the plots.

Data collected in 2007 included genetic color, spring greenup, summer dormancy, spring seedhead formation, fall percent living ground cover, and monthly visual quality ratings from April to October. All data taken were visual observations of turf characteristics and performance. Visual color and greenup ratings were taken using a scale of 1 to 9 with 1 = light green or dormant and 9 = dark green turf. Summer dormancy was rated on a scale of 1 to 9 where 1 = complete dormancy and 9 = no dormancy. Spring seedhead formation was rated on a scale of 1 to 9 where 1 = maximum seedhead formation and 9 = none. Fall percent living ground cover was rated on a linear scale of 0 to 99 where 0 = no living turf and 99 = complete coverage. Visual quality ratings were taken using a scale of 1 to 9 with 1 = no living turf, 5 = acceptable turf, and 9 = ideal turf.

Results to Date

- There are no statistical differences in average visual quality during 2007 among the top 44 cultivars (Table 1). Cultivars are listed in order of decreasing mean quality for 2007.
- When making cultivar selections, it is best to consult the NTEP web page at www.ntep.org for complete performance data from around the country on cultivars, placing special emphasis on how cultivars perform in IN, IL, KY, MI and/or OH (depending if you are located in northern, central, or southern IN) under the specific maintenance regime you intend for that grass.

Acknowledgments

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Table 1. Visual quality, color, spring green-up, summer dormancy, spring seedheads and fall cover of 110 Kentucky bluegrass cultivars growing under high maintenance in 2007.

Cultivar	Visual quality ^a								Genetic Color ^b	Spring Greenup ^c	Summer Dormancy ^d	Spring Seedheads ^e	Fall Cover ^f
	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Mean					
Skye	7.3	7.3	6.7	3.7	5.0	6.3	7.3	6.2	6.7	5.0	4.3	7.0	98.7
Beyond	7.7	7.7	7.3	4.3	4.3	4.7	7.3	6.2	8.0	4.0	4.7	7.7	95.7
Bd 03-84	8.3	8.7	7.7	4.0	4.0	4.3	6.0	6.1	6.3	5.7	5.0	9.0	96.3
Bewitched	7.7	8.3	7.3	3.3	4.3	5.0	7.0	6.1	8.0	3.0	4.0	7.7	97.0
J-3429	7.7	8.3	7.3	4.0	4.3	5.0	6.0	6.1	8.0	5.3	4.7	8.3	94.7
Arrowhead	7.3	7.3	6.7	4.3	4.7	5.7	6.3	6.0	7.0	4.7	5.0	4.0	96.7
Yankee	7.7	7.7	7.0	4.0	4.7	4.7	6.3	6.0	6.7	3.3	5.3	8.0	97.7
A00-1400	7.7	7.7	7.3	3.7	4.7	4.7	6.0	6.0	7.3	5.0	4.0	8.7	91.0
CPP 822	7.7	7.7	7.0	3.7	4.0	5.0	6.3	5.9	6.0	5.0	3.0	7.0	98.0
Glenmont	7.0	7.0	7.0	4.0	4.7	5.3	6.3	5.9	7.0	5.7	4.7	7.0	96.3
Blue Note	7.3	7.7	6.7	3.0	4.7	5.7	6.3	5.9	7.0	5.0	3.7	7.0	99.0
A97-1287	7.7	7.3	7.0	4.0	4.3	5.0	6.0	5.9	7.0	6.3	4.3	8.7	94.0
America	6.7	6.3	6.3	4.7	5.0	5.7	6.7	5.9	5.7	6.7	4.3	6.3	97.3
A00-247	7.0	6.7	6.3	3.7	4.3	5.7	7.3	5.9	6.7	6.0	4.0	7.3	97.3
Bariris	7.0	7.0	6.3	3.7	4.7	5.7	6.7	5.9	5.3	6.0	4.0	5.3	98.3
DP 76-9066	7.3	7.3	7.0	3.0	4.3	5.3	6.3	5.8	7.0	4.3	3.3	7.0	96.3
CP 76-9068	7.3	7.3	7.0	3.3	4.3	5.0	6.3	5.8	6.0	6.0	3.3	8.0	98.3
J-1326	7.7	8.0	7.3	3.7	4.0	4.3	5.7	5.8	7.7	3.3	4.0	8.3	88.3
Harmonie	7.7	8.3	7.3	3.3	4.0	4.3	5.7	5.8	5.0	5.0	3.3	7.0	97.3
J-2791	7.3	7.3	6.3	3.7	4.7	5.0	6.0	5.8	7.0	5.0	4.3	8.7	96.3
Pinot	7.0	7.3	6.7	4.0	4.3	5.0	6.0	5.8	7.3	7.7	4.0	8.0	97.3
PST-109-752	7.0	7.0	6.7	3.3	4.3	5.3	6.3	5.7	6.3	6.0	4.0	6.7	97.7
PST-1A1-899	6.3	6.3	6.0	3.7	5.0	6.0	6.7	5.7	7.0	6.0	4.3	7.3	97.7
J-2502	7.3	7.3	6.7	4.3	4.3	4.0	5.7	5.7	7.0	4.0	4.7	8.7	92.0
Zinfandel	7.0	7.0	6.3	3.7	4.3	4.7	6.7	5.7	7.0	5.0	4.3	9.0	94.3
Diva	7.0	7.3	6.3	3.0	4.0	5.0	7.0	5.7	7.7	5.3	3.0	7.3	96.3
Belissimo	6.7	6.7	6.3	4.0	4.7	4.7	6.3	5.6	6.3	5.7	5.3	7.3	91.3
J-2870	6.7	6.7	6.7	3.7	4.3	5.3	5.7	5.6	7.7	5.0	4.0	9.0	96.0
Rhythm	7.0	7.0	6.7	4.0	4.0	4.0	6.3	5.6	7.3	3.3	4.0	9.0	94.7
Prosperity	6.3	6.3	6.0	4.0	5.0	5.3	6.0	5.6	8.0	5.7	5.0	8.3	96.3

CPP 821	7.0	7.0	7.0	3.3	4.0	4.7	5.7	5.5	6.3	5.0	3.3	7.3	97.7
J-1334	6.7	7.0	6.3	3.7	4.3	5.0	5.7	5.5	7.0	3.7	3.7	8.7	93.0
Everglade	7.0	7.3	6.7	3.3	4.0	4.0	6.3	5.5	7.0	3.0	4.3	8.3	92.0
Excursion	7.0	7.3	6.7	3.3	4.0	4.3	6.0	5.5	7.7	3.3	3.7	9.0	92.7
Barrister	6.3	6.7	6.3	3.7	4.3	4.7	6.7	5.5	7.3	3.0	4.0	8.0	97.0
J-1466	7.0	7.0	6.3	4.0	4.3	4.3	5.3	5.5	6.3	3.3	4.0	9.0	94.0
NA-3257	7.3	7.3	6.7	3.0	3.7	4.7	5.7	5.5	6.3	5.3	4.0	6.3	94.0
NA-3248	6.3	6.3	5.7	3.3	4.3	5.7	6.7	5.5	6.7	7.0	4.0	8.0	95.7
Mystere	5.7	5.7	5.7	3.7	5.0	6.0	6.7	5.5	5.7	7.0	3.7	6.7	97.7
Nu Destiny	7.0	7.0	6.0	3.7	4.3	4.0	6.0	5.4	6.7	3.0	4.3	7.7	88.7
1QG-38	6.7	6.7	6.0	3.7	4.3	4.3	6.3	5.4	6.0	4.3	3.7	7.7	96.7
Bd 03-159	6.7	6.3	6.3	4.0	4.3	4.3	5.7	5.4	6.7	6.7	4.3	7.0	96.3
Argos	7.0	7.0	6.0	3.3	4.3	4.7	5.3	5.4	7.3	5.7	4.0	6.7	92.0
Emblem	5.7	6.0	5.3	4.0	4.7	5.0	7.0	5.4	9.0	4.7	4.7	8.7	95.3
Blueberry	6.7	6.7	6.3	3.3	4.0	4.0	6.3	5.3	8.0	4.7	4.3	8.0	93.0
J-2024	7.3	7.3	6.7	3.3	3.7	4.0	5.0	5.3	8.0	4.0	3.7	8.3	90.3
Shiraz	6.7	7.0	6.3	3.3	3.7	4.3	6.0	5.3	7.3	5.0	4.0	7.7	93.3
AKB449	6.3	6.7	6.3	3.7	4.3	4.7	5.3	5.3	6.7	5.3	3.7	7.3	91.0
Corsair	7.7	7.7	6.7	3.0	3.3	3.7	5.0	5.3	6.3	6.7	4.0	5.3	92.0
PSG 711	5.7	5.7	5.3	4.0	4.7	5.0	6.7	5.3	6.3	5.3	4.3	7.3	97.0
SW AG 514	7.3	7.7	7.0	3.0	3.3	4.0	4.3	5.2	6.7	3.0	3.3	5.7	90.0
J-2404	7.3	7.3	6.7	3.3	3.3	3.7	5.0	5.2	7.0	3.0	4.0	8.7	90.3
PST-101-390	7.0	6.7	6.0	3.0	3.3	4.7	6.0	5.2	7.3	4.0	3.7	4.7	93.0
MSP 3722	7.0	6.0	5.3	3.3	4.3	4.3	6.0	5.2	6.3	4.7	4.3	7.3	94.3
NuGlade	7.0	7.0	6.3	3.7	3.7	3.7	5.0	5.2	6.7	3.0	3.3	8.3	89.3
A01-299	6.3	6.3	6.3	3.3	3.7	4.7	5.7	5.2	6.7	5.3	3.7	8.0	93.7
J-2399	6.3	6.0	6.0	3.7	4.0	4.3	5.7	5.1	7.7	3.0	4.0	8.7	93.7
STR 2553	5.7	5.7	5.7	3.7	4.0	4.7	6.7	5.1	6.3	4.7	4.3	6.7	94.7
STR 2485	6.3	6.0	5.7	3.0	3.7	4.7	6.7	5.1	5.7	5.7	3.0	6.7	96.3
Julia	6.3	6.0	5.3	3.0	4.0	4.7	6.3	5.1	6.0	4.0	3.7	4.3	96.7
A00-1254	6.3	6.3	5.7	2.3	4.0	5.0	6.0	5.1	6.7	7.0	3.0	5.7	95.7
RAD-0AN64	6.0	6.0	6.0	3.7	4.0	4.0	6.0	5.1	5.3	5.3	4.0	8.0	94.3
Starburst	6.3	6.3	5.7	3.0	4.0	4.3	6.0	5.1	6.7	6.3	3.0	7.0	95.7
Impact	6.7	6.7	5.7	3.3	3.7	3.7	5.7	5.0	7.7	4.0	4.0	8.7	89.0
SPTR 2959	7.0	7.3	6.3	2.7	3.3	3.7	5.0	5.0	6.3	5.0	3.0	4.0	90.7
Bd 98-2108	7.3	7.3	6.7	3.0	3.0	3.0	4.7	5.0	7.3	7.0	3.3	7.0	91.7
Bd 99-2103	6.7	6.7	6.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	5.3	5.0	8.0	4.7	3.7	8.3	92.0

MSP 3723	7.0	6.7	6.3	3.0	3.3	3.7	5.0	5.0	5.7	4.3	3.7	7.0	92.0
Award	6.3	6.3	5.7	3.3	4.0	4.0	5.3	5.0	7.0	3.3	4.0	8.7	90.3
A99-2559	5.7	5.3	5.3	3.7	4.0	4.3	6.7	5.0	7.0	6.7	4.0	8.0	96.3
Touche	5.7	5.7	5.7	3.3	4.0	4.7	6.0	5.0	5.3	6.3	4.0	6.7	96.0
A99-3119	6.0	6.0	6.0	3.7	3.7	3.7	5.7	5.0	6.0	4.3	3.7	7.0	94.7
MSP 3724	6.0	5.7	5.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	6.0	4.9	5.3	5.0	4.3	7.0	95.3
CPP 817	7.0	7.0	6.3	2.7	3.0	3.3	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.3	2.7	4.7	90.0
Washington	5.3	5.3	5.0	3.3	4.3	5.0	6.0	4.9	5.3	6.0	4.3	7.3	96.0
PST-101-73	5.7	6.0	5.7	3.3	4.0	4.3	5.3	4.9	7.0	5.3	4.0	7.0	93.7
A98-948	6.3	6.3	6.0	3.0	3.7	3.7	5.0	4.9	6.3	4.7	2.7	6.0	89.7
Aviator	6.3	7.0	5.3	2.7	3.7	3.7	5.3	4.9	5.7	5.7	3.0	6.0	92.0
A98-689	6.0	6.0	6.0	2.7	3.7	4.0	5.3	4.8	4.7	4.0	3.3	3.3	84.7
PSG 366	6.3	6.7	6.3	3.0	3.3	3.3	4.7	4.8	6.7	5.3	2.7	5.3	80.7
POPR 04594	5.7	5.3	5.3	3.0	3.7	4.7	6.0	4.8	5.0	6.3	3.7	7.3	95.3
Midnight	6.7	6.7	6.3	2.7	3.3	3.3	4.3	4.8	7.0	3.0	3.3	8.7	80.7
Bluestone	6.7	7.0	6.0	2.7	3.3	3.3	4.3	4.8	7.0	3.7	3.3	7.7	86.0
Baron	4.7	4.7	4.7	3.7	4.3	5.3	6.0	4.8	6.0	4.3	4.0	5.0	97.7
BAR VK 0710	5.3	5.0	4.7	3.0	4.3	5.0	6.0	4.8	4.3	5.7	3.0	5.0	98.3
Everest	6.3	6.3	6.0	3.3	3.3	3.3	4.3	4.7	7.7	3.0	3.7	8.7	86.3
Avid	5.7	6.0	5.7	3.3	3.7	4.0	4.7	4.7	8.0	4.0	4.0	8.3	93.7
H98-701	5.7	5.7	5.7	3.3	3.7	4.0	5.0	4.7	5.3	4.3	3.3	6.7	93.3
BAR VV 9634	5.7	5.7	5.7	2.7	3.7	3.7	6.0	4.7	4.3	6.0	2.3	2.3	92.7
A95-410	6.3	6.3	5.7	3.0	3.3	3.3	4.7	4.7	7.3	4.7	3.3	4.7	87.7
Dynamo	6.7	7.0	6.3	2.3	3.0	3.3	4.0	4.7	7.0	5.7	2.7	6.3	78.3
H94-305	5.0	5.0	5.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	5.7	4.7	4.7	6.7	3.3	6.0	97.7
BAR VV 8536	4.7	4.3	4.3	4.0	4.3	4.7	6.0	4.6	5.0	5.3	4.3	2.7	97.3
Bd 98-1358	6.0	6.0	6.0	3.0	3.3	3.3	4.3	4.6	6.0	4.7	3.0	5.0	89.0
Rugby II	6.0	6.0	6.0	3.0	3.3	3.3	4.3	4.6	5.3	4.3	3.3	5.3	86.0
Bandera	5.3	5.3	5.3	3.3	4.0	3.7	5.0	4.6	6.0	2.7	3.7	7.3	93.3
Shamrock	6.7	6.3	6.0	2.7	3.3	3.0	3.7	4.5	5.7	5.3	3.0	5.3	78.3
Volt	5.7	5.7	5.7	3.0	3.3	3.7	4.7	4.5	4.7	5.7	3.0	5.0	90.7
RAD-343	5.3	5.0	5.0	3.0	3.7	4.0	5.3	4.5	5.0	5.3	3.3	7.7	91.7
Wild Horse	5.7	5.7	5.7	2.7	3.3	3.3	4.7	4.4	6.0	5.3	3.7	5.3	86.0
Bd 95-1930	5.3	5.3	5.0	2.7	3.7	3.7	5.3	4.4	5.3	6.3	4.0	7.0	94.3
BAR VV 0709	4.0	3.7	3.7	2.7	4.0	6.0	6.3	4.3	4.7	7.0	3.3	6.3	99.0
DP 76-9081	3.7	3.3	4.0	3.7	4.3	5.3	5.7	4.3	5.7	6.7	4.0	7.3	97.0
RAD-504	5.0	5.0	4.7	2.3	3.3	4.0	5.3	4.2	6.7	4.0	2.7	4.7	90.0

RAD-762	5.0	5.0	5.0	2.7	3.3	3.3	4.3	4.1	5.0	5.3	3.0	7.0	88.3
DLF 76-9075	4.3	4.0	3.7	2.3	4.0	4.7	5.0	4.0	5.7	4.7	3.0	7.7	95.7
BAR VV 9630	4.7	4.3	4.0	2.3	3.7	3.7	5.3	4.0	4.0	5.7	2.3	2.3	90.7
Reveille	3.7	3.3	3.7	3.3	4.0	4.3	4.3	3.8	5.3	3.3	4.0	6.0	97.3
BAR VV 0665	4.0	3.3	3.3	2.3	3.0	4.0	5.3	3.6	5.3	5.3	3.0	4.7	93.0
Kenblue	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.7	3.0	3.7	5.3	3.2	4.3	5.0	2.7	5.0	92.7
LSD (0.05)	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.6	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.2	8.0

^a Visual quality ratings were taken using a scale of 1 to 9 with 1 = no living turf, 5 = acceptable turf, and 9 = ideal turf.

^b Color was rated on a scale of 1 to 9 where 1 = light green and 9 = dark green.

^c Spring greenup was rated on a scale of 1 to 9 where 1 = dormant and 9 = dark green.

^d Summer dormancy was rated on a scale of 1 to 9 where 1 = complete dormancy and 9 = no dormancy.

^e Spring seedhead formation was rated on a scale of 1 to 9 where 1 = maximum seedhead formation and 9 = none.

^f Fall percent living ground cover was rated on a linear scale of 0 to 99 where 0 = no living turf and 99 = complete coverage.