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Yukon – The Superior Bermudagrass

by Dr. Leah Brillman

With spring upon us, you may discover that your bermudagrass was damaged by cold temperatures, Spring Dead Spot or fails to recover from overseeding. You could wait for potential recovery or pay for sprigging or re-sodding but all of those options require that you wait until much later in the season. The more rapid recovery method consists of using the new high-quality seeded bermudagrasses like Yukon. Yukon can be seeded as early as April to encourage a speedier recovery or later in the season to improve your stand. Yukon is also extremely winter hardy and has the added benefit of being resistant to Spring Dead Spot, so your repairs last.

Yukon seeded bermudagrass is the perfect solution for current times where there is a greater demand for water. Bermudagrasses generally use less water in the summer than cool season grasses but Yukon has been documented to use 25% less water than hybrid bermudagrass. In areas with water restrictions and/or drought conditions, using Yukon can help reduce your water needs. Yukon has also shown excellent performance when irrigated with saline water.

Yukon has very high turf quality due to its short internodes and high stolon density. The early spring green-up and fall color retention means an extended growing season compared to many bermudagrasses. Yukon has expanded the zone for bermudagrass from the



the equator through the transition zones. It can be used for golf course tees and fairways, sports fields, parks and home lawns.

Proven performance through years of trials and usage makes Yukon seeded bermudagrass an excellent choice whenever bermudagrass is used. It is top-rated for use in the transition zone. It has demonstrated excellent wear tolerance, high shear strength and fast divot recovery. Used alone, or blended with other bermudagrasses in La Prima XD, Yukon can help produce a high quality, environmentally-friendly turfgrass.

Percent Spring Greenup of Named Seeded Bermudagrass Cultivars at Georgia, Kentucky and North Carolina 2002 NTEP: 2003–2006 Data

<i>Cultivar</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Cultivar</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Yukon	81.1	Princess 77	43.2
Riviera	72.5	Sundevil II	43.1
Tifway (v)	70.8	Veracruz	42.9
Transcontinental	57.8	Southern Star	42.0
Sovereign	51.4	Sunstar	40.9
Sunbird	50.9	Arizona Common	40.3
Panama	48.6	Mohawk	34.4
Contessa	47.3	LSD @ 5%	16.6
NuMex Sahara	45.6		