

SEED RESEARCH OF OREGON

The germination of ideas

FEATURES

- Texas x Kentucky bluegrass hybrid
- Moderate salt tolerance
- High drought resistance
- High heat tolerance
- Very dark green color
- Extensive rhizomes
- High turf quality
- Uses: Ideal for use on sports fields, sod farms, parks and home lawns. Can be used further south than typical Kentucky bluegrasses

BENEFITS

- Reduced water and fertilizer inputs
- Very high sod strength
- Excellent year-round performance
- Deep rhizomes for faster wear recovery
- More disease resistant than Kentucky bluegrass in humid southern areas

SEEDING RATES

- Seeds/lbs: 1,000,000
- Seeds/kg: 2,200,000
- New Turf:
2–3 lbs/1,000 sq ft
10–14 gr/m²
90–125 lbs/acre

ESTABLISHMENT

- Germinations: 4–8 days under ideal conditions
- First mowing: approximately 14 days after emergence
- First limited use: 21 days after emergence



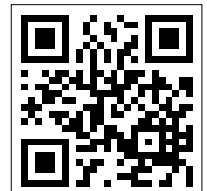
Spitfire Texas x Kentucky bluegrass hybrid combines the extensive rhizomes and heat and drought tolerance of Texas bluegrass with the turf quality and density of Kentucky bluegrass. Spitfire is darker green than other Texas x Kentucky hybrids which makes it a better match for turf-type tall fescues in color and texture. Spitfire extends the range of bluegrass usage much further south and also shows superior wear tolerance. Sod growers and sports fields will benefit from its high performance.



Spitfire is the result of the innovative work done in cooperation with Rutgers University. Spitfire started as a cross between a Texas bluegrass female and Kentucky bluegrass male resulting in the plant designated BDF. This plant was then crossed with Midnight Kentucky bluegrass to obtain a darker color and additional stress tolerance. The progeny were evaluated for speed of establishment, seed yield, apomixis and turf quality. After further turf testing, a superior progeny was selected that became Spitfire.

Uses

This unique cross extends the benefits of Kentucky bluegrasses deeper into the south. Spitfire's dark green color makes it particularly suited for mixing with turf-type tall fescues. In addition, it can be mixed with other Texas x Kentucky bluegrass hybrids, with Kentucky bluegrasses and with perennial ryegrasses or fine fescues. Spitfire's deep rhizomes and sod strength make it ideal for sports turf and sod farmers. Spitfire has excellent drought and heat resistance which, along with low water and nitrogen inputs, making it a good choice for low maintenance areas. For best performance, Spitfire should be planted in a blend with other bluegrass. It also does well when blended with turf-type tall fescues.





**Turf Quality 2005 CTB T Bluegrass Trial
Trial Established at Fayetteville, AK
2006 Data**

Turf Quality Ratings (Digital Analysis): 1-9; 9=Best

| Variety | Mean | Longhorn TxK | 6.9 | Midnight Star KB | 6.4 | LSD @ 5% | 0.8 |
|---------------------|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|-----|----------|-----|
| Midnight KB | 7.6 | Touché KB | 6.6 | Livingston KB | 6.0 | | |
| Spitfire TxK | 7.4 | America KB | 6.5 | Julia KB | 5.5 | | |

**Turf Quality 2005 CTB T Bluegrass Trial
Trial Established at Fayetteville, AK
2006 Data**

Digital Color: 1-9; 9=Best

| Variety | Mean | Midnight Star KB | 6.3 | Longhorn TxK | 5.8 | LSD @ 5% | 0.7 |
|---------------------|------------|------------------|-----|---------------|-----|----------|-----|
| Spitfire TxK | 7.3 | America KB | 6.0 | Livingston KB | 4.6 | | |
| Midnight KB | 6.6 | Julia KB | 5.9 | | | | |

**Spring Green-up Bluegrass
Trial Established at Adelphia, NJ
September 2002**

Spring Green-up: 1-9; 9=Earliest

| Variety | Mean | Reveille TxK | 5.3 | P-105 KB | 2.3 | Midnight KB | 1.0 |
|---------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| Spitfire TxK | 6.0 | Cynthia KB | 5.0 | Blackberry KB | 2.3 | LSD @ 5% | 1.5 |
| SR 2284 KB | 6.0 | Cannon KB | 5.0 | Midnight Star KB | 1.3 | | |

**Stem Rust in 2005 Bluegrass
Trial Established at Fayetteville, AK
2006 Data**

Percent Stem Rust Based on Digital Analysis

| Variety | % Stem Rust | Longhorn TxK | 31.7 | Midnight Star KB | 70.0 | LSD @ 5% | 34.6 |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|------|------------------|------|----------|------|
| Touché KB | 3.3 | Livingston KB | 36.7 | America KB | 96.7 | | |
| Spitfire TxK | 15.0 | Midnight KB | 56.7 | Julia KB | 96.7 | | |

To determine whether a cultivar's performance is different from another, subtract one entry's mean from another entry's mean. If this value is larger than the LSD value, the observed difference in cultivar performance is significant and did not happen by chance. Complete tables are available upon request.