In 1999, Stover Seed Company was the first to release an improved variety of Kikuyu in California. AZ-1 Kikuyu is a warm season grass which in a coastal environment (So CA predominantly), will hold its color longer than Bermuda grass. In coastal areas it will not go dormant, turn brown and does not require over seeding.

Common Kikuyu grasses are very invasive and hard to control. AZ-1 was cultivated because it was less invasive and has better turf quality. Yet, you still get great wearability—it’s very durable grass and highly drought tolerant. Because of its durability and drought tolerance, AZ-1 Kikuyu is a terrific replacement for Bermuda.

Golf courses, sportsfields and dog parks use AZ-1 Kikuyu extensively; thousands of acres are under cultivation with satisfied groundskeepers. The ability of this grass to stay alive in a period of drought, take on heat with no water and still survive is remarkable.