



STOVER SEED®

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Technical Data and Information Product Sheet

ZOYSIA JAPONICA Varieties Zenith and Compadre

DESCRIPTION

Zoysia is a warm season grass that exhibits a medium texture and medium to dark green color. It forms a very dense turf by spreading above ground (stolons) and underground (rhizomes). Since zoysia is slow growing it is less invasive than bermudagrass and needs less mowing than other types of grasses. Like other warm season grasses, zoysia will go dormant and turn brown during cold winter months but will green up in early spring. Zoysia has some moderate shade tolerance and has shown to produce a Canada goose non-attractant Turfgrass surface. **Zoysia is classified as "California Friendly" by California Water Agencies and recommended for use in landscapes as a low water user.**

CHARACTERISTICS

Features

Excellent heat and drought tolerance
Rhizomatous and Stoloniferous growth habit
Medium texture
Shade tolerant

Benefits

Meets water conservation goals
Outstanding wear tolerance and recovery
Uniform growth habit
Only one grass needed for sun and shade

USES

Zoysia can be grown successfully as turf on:

- | | | |
|----------------|--------|--------------------------|
| * Golf Courses | *Parks | *Sportsfields |
| * Playgrounds | *Lawns | *Commercial Developments |

SEEDING RATES

New turf: 3 pounds of raw seed per 1,000 square feet or 130 pounds per acre.

Overseeding existing turf: 1/2 to 1 pound of raw seed per 1,000 square feet or 22 to 43 pounds per acre.

It is not recommended that zoysia grass be mixed with other types of grasses.

ESTABLISHMENT

Warm season grasses such as zoysia should be seeded when daytime temperatures are consistently 80 degrees or greater (generally between the months of April and October). Germination is delayed if soil temperatures are below 65 degrees F. Emergence can be anywhere between 14 and 21 days. The higher the soil temperature, the quicker the germination as long as there is adequate moisture (irrigation). Establishment in 10 to 12 weeks depending on date of planting.

SPECIFICATIONS

ZOYSIA JAPONICA (Varieties Zenith or Compadre)

95% Minimum purity
80% Minimum germination
200,000 seeds per pound



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CULTURAL INFORMATION

Water Requirements

Frequent, light watering is necessary for seed to germinate and become established. Zoysia is a slower growing, warm season grass. Once the grass becomes established it has the ability to withstand summer drought conditions under reduced irrigation schedules. For turf managers that use irrigation systems and calculations, Zoysia can be irrigated at 60% of average ET_0 (Reference Evapotranspiration) rates to achieve optimum turf quality. Because of the ability of warm season grasses to establish roots at a depth of 3 feet or more it is able to draw water from a larger soil profile which enhances its drought tolerance. **As a result, once zoysia becomes established (2-3 months in warm weather) it can withstand irrigation schedules at 40% of ET_0 (a reduction of 25%) and still produce acceptable turf.** Specific information on turfgrass irrigation schedules and ET rates can be found at <http://ucanr.edu/sites/UrbanHort/> and at <http://ag.arizona.edu/pubs/water/az1195.pdf> and <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/8395.pdf> General irrigation guidelines dictate that turf should be watered in early morning hours and that about 3/4 of an inch of water should be applied but not to the point of runoff.

Climate Conditions

Zoysia is classified as a warm season grass best suited to southern climates. Growth is greatest during warm months with some dormancy in winter months.

Soil Conditions

Zoysia will tolerate a wide range of soils from heavy clay to sandy loam. Ideal pH range is 6.0 to 7.5. Good drainage is important for root development.

Fertilization

Use of a starter fertilizer when seeding is highly recommended. After establishment fertilize during periods of active growth in warm months with a balanced fertilizer. Avoid using products with a high nitrogen (N) content as such use increases water use. Application rates should be between 1 and 2 pounds of nitrogen (N) per 1,000 square feet per year during the growing season. Slow release fertilizers are best.

Mowing

No special mower is needed. Results are best when blades are kept sharp. Recommended mowing height is from 1 to 2 inches. Do not mow more than 1/3 of the leaf blade whenever mowing turf.

Drought Tolerance Comparisons of Commonly Grown Grasses in California

Source: University of California, ANR Publication 8395

| Relative Ranking | Cool-season turfgrasses | Warm-season turfgrasses |
|------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Superior | | Bermudagrass Buffalograss |
| Excellent | | Seashore paspalum Zoysiagrass |
| Good | | St. Augustinegrass Kikuyugrass |
| Medium | Tall Fescue | |
| Fair | Perennial Ryegrass Kentucky Bluegrass Creeping Bentgrass Hard Fescue Chewings Fescue Red Fescue | |

For more information on Zoysia visit www.stoverseed.com

