



## Claremont Golf Course Tye Bentgrass A Proven Winner in Greens Conversion Project

**F**or two years, Stover Seed has been working with Dennis Bishop, turf manager at Claremont Golf course on a turfgrass conversion project. The decision to convert existing greens to Tye Bentgrass was made after a cascading series of fungal diseases, brown patch, dollar spot and summer stresses wrecked havoc on the original greens. The original turf consisted of older Bentgrass varieties.

The Bentgrass conversion was a 3-stage process. After meeting with Stover consultants, Bishop applied 2.5 lbs. /1000 Square foot of Tye seed on all nine affected greens.

### Reasons Tye Bentgrass was selected over other Bentgrass varieties:

- Brown Patch and Dollar Spot resistance
- High Salinity Tolerance
- Ability to reduce weed invasion
- Resistance to Pythium (a fungal disease of turfgrass)
- Ability to provide dense turf with fine leaf blade
- Tye tested in the top performers for NTEP (National Turfgrass Evaluation Trials) trials

- Tye retains attractive, dark, true-green summer-to-winter color
- Tye creates a superior putting surface

### The Conversion Process:

#### Step One - Preparation

- Best times for conversion are late spring, through the late summer.
- Apply a growth regulator such as Primo®, Cutless®, Turf Enhancer®, Prograss®, Embark® or Proxy®. Growth regulators that damage turf quality are often more effective, but less aesthetically acceptable. Do not apply a pre-emergent before seeding. (Always follow labeled rates and recommendations)
- Reduce height of cut on existing turf (scalp - <0.115" – or lower).
- Verticut heavily to reduce any thatch and TO further weaken existing turf (this can also be done after core aerifying).
- Core aerify with largest acceptable tines to create holes in canopy. Solid tines may also be used. The aim is to allow seedlings time to establish



before competition returns and to assure seed-soil contact.

- Top-dress or drag in cores to fill holes.
- Pythium control is very important – Allegiance® treatment of the seed will give you 14–17 days of Pythium control. Go as late in the spring as you can and still maintain acceptable playing conditions.

### **Step Two - Seeding**

- Seed with Tye, 007, SR 1150, SR 1119, Providence, SR 1020, Brighton, Dominant, Dominant Plus, Dominant X-treme or Dominant X-treme 7 at 1-2 lb./1000 ft<sup>2</sup> and top-dress or drag seed into surface. Seed-soil contact is vital.
- Keep surface moist – Stay on the dry side if converting from Poa annua.
- Fertilize lightly after seedlings germinate with quickly available nitrogen source.
- Keep height of cut low to enable more light to seedlings and reduce growth of existing stand (<0.125")
- Dimension may be applied 14-21 days after seedling emergence to limit Poa Annua competition.

### **Step Three - Establishment**

- Repeat spring and fall for at least two years. Significant results are generally observable in the third year.

Dennis Bishop has been extremely pleased with his newly seeded Tye Bentgrass greens and receives compliments on a daily basis. Golfer satisfaction has increased exponentially.

Stover Seed provides numerous products and consulting services that benefit the golf course superintendent and the golf industry as a whole. Stover is an independent distributor with the ability to custom-order, blend and deliver products to satisfy each course's individual requirements.



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