STOVER SEED®

Teaming confidence with nature since 1922

PURCHASE

Technical Data and Information Product Sheet

ROYAL BLUE™ Kentucky Bluegrass Blend, *Platinum Quality*™

DESCRIPTION

Kentucky Bluegrass is a perennial, cool season, sod forming grass that spreads by underground runners called rhizomes. Native to Europe and Asia and naturalized in North America, it is widely adapted throughout the cool humid and transitional zones and can be effectively utilized in arid zones with supplemental irrigation. Due to its wide adaptability and exceptional turf quality it is the most widely used cool-season grass.

Bluegrass varieties are unique in that they exhibit a wide range of genetic diversity. Such diversity is an advantage for disease and insect resistance and improved turf quality when bluegrasses are used in a blend such as Royal Blue Platinum. There are well over 100 varieties of Kentucky Bluegrasses with various traits and characteristics. The varieties chosen for this blend have been tested, highly rated, exhibit exceptional overall turf quality, and disease and drought resistance when compared to other bluegrasses. It meets our platinum standards of superiority for variety quality and seed purity. Learn More.

Interesting facts: The reason it is called "Kentucky" Bluegrass is that the grass was originally used as a pasture grass for horse grazing. When weather is favorable, one Kentucky Bluegrass plant can produce from 20 to 50 feet of rhizomes in five months.

CHARACTERISTICS

Features	Benefits
Wide genetic diversity	Improved resistance to diseases, better turf quality
Rhizomatous growth habit	Improved density, recovery from injury
Low temperature hardiness	Fall color retention, early Spring green-up
Grows full sun to light, open shade	Adapts to sunlight conditions

Pros	Cons
Outstanding turf quality	Shallow root system requires regular watering
Excellent cold hardiness	Slow to establish
Superior wear tolerance	Can go dormant in hot weather

USES

Because of its rhizomatous growth habit, Royal Blue is a natural for sportsfields and high traffic areas such as:

* Residential Lawns	* Playgrounds	*Parks	*Roadsides
* Athletic Fields	* Sod Production	*Cemeteries	*Institutional Grounds

SEEDING RATES

New turf: 2-4 pounds per 1,000 square feet or 85-170 pounds per acre.
Overseeding existing turf: 1 to 2 pounds per 1,000 square feet or 45-90 pounds per acre.
Seed when soil temperatures are above 60^{o} at a depth of 1/4 inch.
Best time for seeding is early fall.

ESTABLISHMENT

Emergence: Kentucky Bluegrass is slower to establish than other cool-season grasses (Ryegrasses, Fescues) and may take up to 21-28 days for full germination under less than optimal conditions.

First mowing approximately 21 days after emergence.

STOVER SEED®

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SPECIFICATIONS

ROYAL BLUE™ Kentucky Bluegrass Blend
25% Bewitched Kentucky Bluegrass
25% Bedazzled Kentucky Bluegrass
25% Skye Kentucky Bluegrass
25% Blue Note Kentucky Bluegrass

Platinum Quality (Exceeds Certified Quality Standards)
98% Minimum Purity
0.0% Crop and Weed Seed
85% Minimum Germination
2,200,000 seeds per pound

Note: Depending upon availability, alternate varieties of equal quality and standards may be substituted.

Varieties listed are protected under the US Plant Variety Protection Act. ROYAL BLUE™ is a registered trademark of Stover Seed Company.

Bewitched Kentucky Bluegrass: Excellent color and density with good disease resistance. Rated #2 in NTEP trial for overall turfgrass quality and #1 for wear tolerance. Exceptional drought tolerance.

Bedazzled Kentucky Bluegrass: Low, compact growth and good summer patch disease resistance. Rated among top performers in various NTEP trials. Also is TWCA qualified for improved drought tolerance.

Skye Kentucky Bluegrass: Exhibits a fine, lush texture with excellent density. Recovers quickly from wear. High NTEP ratings in several turf categories.

Blue Note Kentucky Bluegrass: Features include excellent color, texture and density with good shade tolerance and exhibits a broad range of disease tolerance. It has achieved an A-List rating for low-input sustainable turf.

Option: This bluegrass seed blend may be mixed with about 20% of a fine fescue which would serve as a nurse crop and not compete with the bluegrass.

Turfgrass Testing Programs Listed:
NTEP: National Turfgrass Evaluation Program www.ntep.org
TWCA: Turfgrass Water Conservation Alliance www.tgwca.org
A-LIST: Alliance for Sustainable Turf www.a-listturf.org

CULTURAL INFORMATION

Water Requirements

Frequent, light watering is necessary for seed to germinate and become established. Kentucky Bluegrass takes longer to germinate and become established than other cool season grasses. After establishment, water infrequently but deeply to encourage root development. Kentucky Bluegrass is a cool season (C3) grass with a shallow root system that requires more frequent irrigation for optimal turf. Once the grass becomes established it has the ability to withstand summer drought conditions under reduced irrigation schedules. For non-irrigated sites Kentucky Bluegrass can go into dormancy and survive 4 to 5 weeks without water. General irrigation guidelines dictate that turf should be watered in early morning hours and that about 1/2 to 3/4 of an inch of water should be applied but not to the point of runoff.

Climate Conditions

Kentucky Bluegrass is widely distributed throughout the United States except in arid regions and the Gulf States and Hawaii. Water usage is lowest in cool humid regions with highest use in arid regions. Once it becomes established it can withstand periods of heat and drought.

Soil Conditions

Kentucky Bluegrass prefers well drained soil (clay or sandy) with a pH of 7.0. It does not do well under acidic soil conditions.

Fertilization

Use of a starter fertilizer when seeding is highly recommended. After establishment, fertilize during periods of active growth in Spring and Fall with a balanced fertilizer. Avoid using products with a high nitrogen (N) content as it increases water use. Apply no more than 4 pounds of N per 1,000 square feet per year.

Mowing

Ideal mowing height is between 2 and 3 inches. Lower heights of 1 inch may be tolerated under ideal growing conditions. Higher mowing heights of 3 to 4 inches are recommended in summer to reduce heat and drought stress. Never mow more than 1/3 off of the height at one time. Mow during the cooler periods of the day. A mower with sharp blades reduces stress and improves the appearance.

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