

## BENTGRASS CONVERSION - IT WORKS!

Bentgrass conversion can refer to changing from one bentgrass cultivar to another, or converting from Poa annua or perennial ryegrass to bentgrass. This can be done on greens, tees and fairways but the success depends on the climate zone of the course, the acceptable amount of disruption of the playing surface, timing of conversion and amount of perseverance.

### KEY CONCEPTS

Bentgrass seedlings are very small and initially weak. Some varieties such as Macdonald, Focus, MacKenzie, Cobra 2 or Ninety-Six Two have greater seedling vigor and can greatly increase your chances of success.

In competition for critical resources including light, water and nutrients the established plant always has an advantage over the seedlings.

Timing the overseeding to correspond with favorable growing conditions is extremely important. In some regions this may be an early fall application, whereas in other regions it may be in the late spring or early summer.

The existing plants must be weakened to give the seedlings a chance to compete.

The new seedlings must be kept moist, which may make the existing playing surface softer and slower.

### BENTGRASS TO BENTGRASS OR POA ANNUA TO BENTGRASS

1. Apply a growth regulator such as Primo or Paclobutrazol
2. Do not apply a pre-emergent herbicide before seeding.
3. Reduce height of cut on existing turf (scalp <0.115 or lower for greens).
4. Verticut heavily to reduce any thatch and further weaken existing turf (this can also be done after core aerifying)
5. Core aerify with largest acceptable tines to create holes in canopy. Solid tines may also be used. The aim is to allow seedling time to establish before competition returns and to assure seed to soil contact. Topdress or drag in cores to fill holes. Dimple tines and Graden sand inject have also worked well.
6. Best times for conversion are late spring, through the summer until late summer. Pythium control is very important -- Allegiance treatment of the seed will give you 14-17 days of Pythium control. Seed as late in the spring or early in the fall as you can and still maintain acceptable playing conditions. Seeding dates of June 19, July 1, August 17 and 20 were most successful in New Jersey. August seeding dates were better at Purdue.
7. Seed with Macdonald, Focus, Futura Pro, MacKenzie, Futura Greens, or Cobra 2 at 1-3 lbs/1000 ft and topdress or drag seed in.
8. Keep surface moist -- Stay on the dry side if converting from Poa annua.
9. Fertilize lightly after seeds germinate with quick release nitrogen.
10. Keep height of cut low to enable more light to seedlings and reduce competition.
11. Selected herbicides are safe to use before and after seeding to help reduce or prevent Poa annua. Consult a chemical rep for advice.
12. Repeat spring and fall for at least two years. Results are generally seen in the third year.



## BENTGRASS BLENDS & CULTIVARS

### FUTURA GREENS

BENTGRASS BLEND

**Uses: Superior choice for greens, tees & fairways**

Blend of Macdonald and versatile. Genetically diverse product for superior performance  
Superior dark green color, with upright dense growth  
Excellent Dollar Spot & Brown Patch resistance  
Top ranked for density on greens  
Strong seedling vigor for fast establishment  
Cold and heat tolerance  
Excellent summer stress tolerance  
Superior close-mowing tolerance

### FUTURA FAIRWAY

BENTGRASS BLEND

**Uses: Fairways & reduced maintenance greens & tees**

Blend of two versatile varieties  
Great performance on greens, tees & fairways - especially in stress conditions  
High fairway performance at a reduced cost  
Summer stress tolerance  
Strong root growth in the summer  
Excellent resistance to Brown Patch, Dollar Spot, Pink Snow Mold, Pythium

### FUTURA PRO

BENTGRASS BLEND

**Uses: Premier choice for superior greens & tees**

Blend of Macdonald and MacKenzie  
Heat & stress tolerant  
Defeats Poa annua  
Top rated for high density in all seasons  
Excellent cool weather active growth  
High disease resistance

### FOCUS

CREeping BENTGRASS

**Uses: Superior choice for greens, tees & fairways**

High performance variety  
Superior Dollar Spot resistance  
Fast establishment  
High turf quality with superior density  
Rapid repair

### MACKENZIE

CREeping BENTGRASS

**Uses: Ideal for greens, tees & fairways**

Excellent turf quality  
High density in all seasons  
Stress tolerant germ-plasm, with excellent summer performance  
High resistance to Dollar Spot and Brown Patch  
Excellent wear tolerance, uniform putting surface

### MACDONALD

CREeping BENTGRASS

**Uses: Versatile variety for greens, tees, & fairways**

Superior turf quality  
Excellent Dollar Spot resistance  
High wear tolerance  
High Density all year for less Poa annua  
High density in all seasons



CREeping BENTGRASS

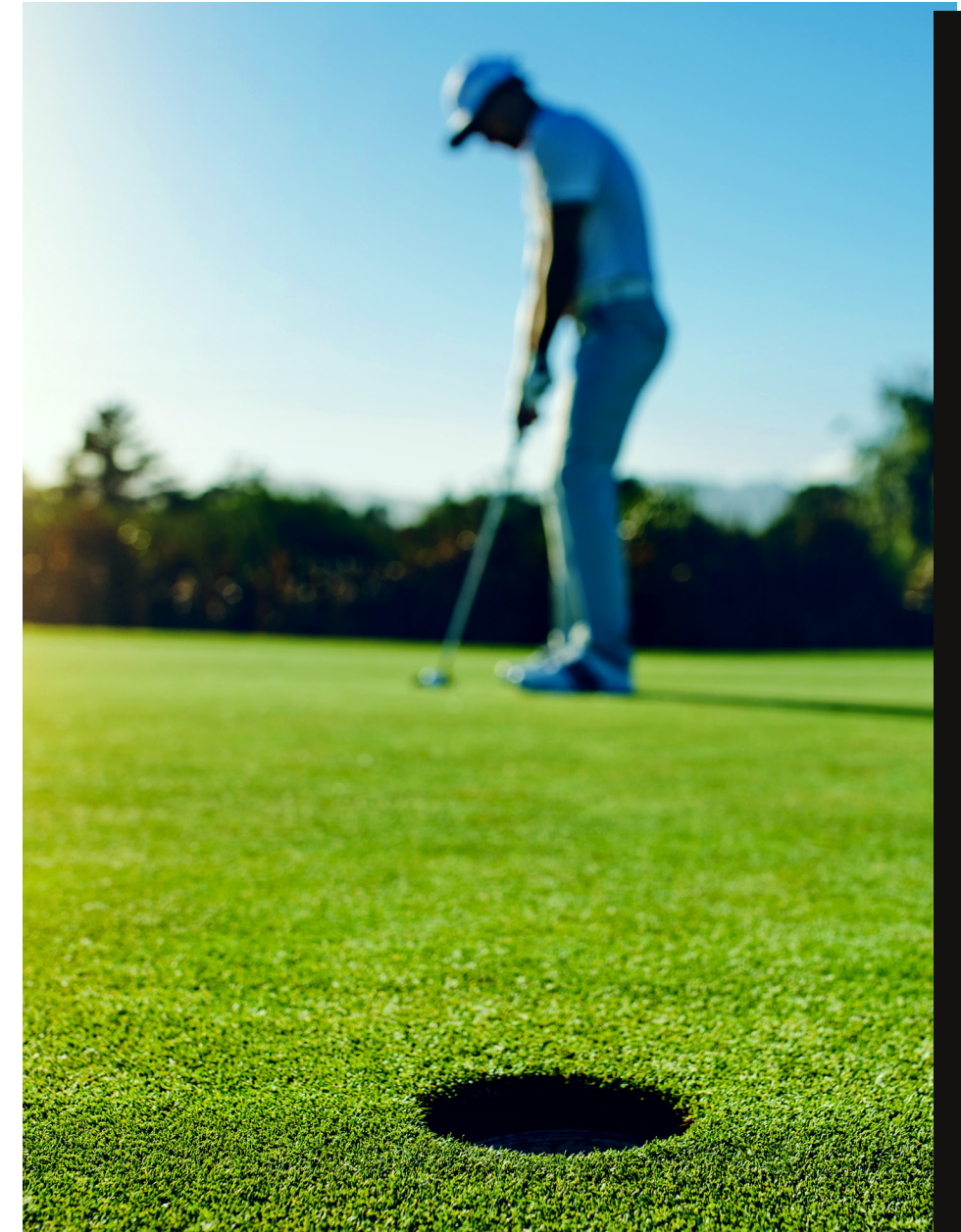
**Uses: Versatile variety for greens, tees, & fairways**

High turf quality  
Excellent winter color and growth  
Good disease resistance  
Heat/ humidity tolerance

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SUPERIOR GENETICS

**SUPER BENTS™**

CREeping BENTGRASS REPORT CARD



| Bentgrass Type   | Cultivar            | Company            | Color                | Leaf Texture         | Bentgrass Bloat - Scalp | Summer Stress Tolerance | Dollar Spot Resistance | Brown Patch Resistance | Cool Temperature Active Growth | Poa annua Resistance | Establishment | Salt Tolerance |           |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|
| <b>Ultra - Very High Density Greens, Tees</b>                  | <i>SB</i> 777       | SRO                | dark green           | very fine            | low                     | very high               | very high              | very high              | excellent                      | superior             | very rapid    | -              |           |
|  |                     | Tyee               | SRO                  | very dark green      | very fine               | none                    | very high              | high                   | excellent                      | excellent            | very rapid    | good           |           |
|  |                     | Penn A-4           | Tee 2 Green          | dark green           | fine                    | slight                  | high                   | moderate               | low                            | good                 | very good     | moderate       | high      |
|  |                     | Penn A-1           | Tee 2 Green          | very dark green      | fine                    | slight                  | high                   | high                   | moderate                       | low                  | very good     | slow           | high      |
|  |                     | Authority          | Site One             | dark blue green      | very fine               | low                     | high                   | high                   | moderate                       | good                 | excellent     | rapid          | -         |
|  |                     | Declaration        | Lebanon              | dark green           | fine                    | high                    | moderate               | very high              | moderate                       | excellent            | excellent     | very rapid     | good      |
|  |                     | T-1                | Simplot/Jacklin      | very dark blue green | fine                    | low                     | high                   | low                    | moderate                       | moderate             | good          | rapid          | -         |
|  |                     | Shark              | Mountain View        | dark blue green      | very fine               | low                     | high                   | low                    | moderate                       | moderate             | excellent     | rapid          | high      |
|  |                     | Pure Distinction   | Tee 2 Green          | light green          | very fine               | slight                  | very high              | low                    | high                           | good                 | excellent     | slow           | -         |
|  |                     | V8                 | Jacklin              | dark green           | very fine               | slight                  | very high              | high                   | low                            | moderate             | very good     | moderate       | -         |
|  |                     | Luminary           | Landmark             | dark green           | very fine               | slight                  | high                   | moderate               | high                           | good                 | good          | moderate       | -         |
|  |                     | Barracuda          | Mountain View        | dark green           | very fine               | slight                  | high                   | very high              | high                           | good                 | very good     | moderate       | -         |
|  |                     | Proclamation       | Lebanon              | dark green           | fine                    | slight                  | moderate               | very high              | moderate                       | good                 | good          | rapid          | -         |
|  |                     | PinUp              | ProSeeds             | dark green           | fine                    | moderate                | high                   | moderate               | high                           | moderate             | good          | slow           | -         |
|  |                     | Pure Select        | Tee 2 Green          | dark green           | very fine               | slight                  | high                   | low                    | very high                      | moderate             | high          | rapid          | -         |
|  |                     | L-93XD             | Simplot/Jacklin      | medium green         | very fine               | slight                  | high                   | high                   | moderate                       | moderate             | very good     | slow           | -         |
|  |                     | TourPro            | Columbia Seed        | medium green         | very fine               | low                     | moderate               | high                   | moderate                       | moderate             | very good     | rapid          | -         |
|  |                     | Piranha            | Mountain View        | blue green           | very fine               | slight                  | high                   | very high              | very high                      | good                 | very good     | moderate       | -         |
|  | Armor               | Jacklin            | very dark blue green | fine                 | moderate                | moderate                | low                    | moderate               | low                            | good                 | slow          | -              |           |
|  | Kingdom             | Jacklin            | very dark blue green | fine                 | moderate                | moderate                | moderate               | moderate               | low                            | moderate             | moderate      | -              |           |
| <b>Versatile - High Density Tees, Fairways</b>                 | <i>SB</i> Macdonald | DLF Pickseed       | dark green           | very fine            | none                    | very high               | very high              | very high              | excellent                      | excellent            | very rapid    | -              |           |
|  | <i>SB</i> MacKenzie | SRO/DLF Pickseed   | dark bright green    | very fine            | none                    | very high               | high                   | very high              | excellent                      | excellent            | rapid         | high           |           |
|  |                     | Focus              | DLF Pickseed         | very dark green      | very fine               | none                    | very high              | very high              | good                           | excellent            | very rapid    | excellent      |           |
|  | <i>SB</i> Flagstick | SRO/DLF Pickseed   | dark green           | very fine            | none                    | very high               | superior               | very high              | excellent                      | excellent            | very rapid    | -              |           |
|  |                     | Cobra 2            | DLF Pickseed         | dark blue green      | fine                    | low                     | high                   | very high              | high                           | excellent            | very good     | rapid          | excellent |
|  |                     | CY-2               | DLF Pickseed         | dark green           | fine                    | slight                  | very high              | very high              | moderate                       | excellent            | excellent     | rapid          | high      |
|  | <i>SB</i> 007       | SRO                | very dark green      | very fine            | none                    | very high               | very high              | very high              | excellent                      | excellent            | very rapid    | excellent      |           |
|  |                     | Nightlife          | Simplot/Jacklin      | dark blue green      | fine                    | moderate                | moderate               | low                    | very high                      | low                  | good          | rapid          | -         |
|  | Memorial            | Landmark           | medium green         | medium               | slight                  | high                    | very high              | moderate               | good                           | very good            | rapid         | -              |           |
|  | Kingpin             | ProSeeds           | dark blue green      | moderate fine        | slight                  | moderate                | high                   | moderate               | moderate                       | very good            | slow          | excellent      |           |
| <b>Improved - Moderate High Density Greens, Tees, Fairways</b> |                     | Ninety-Six Two     | DLF Pickseed         | dark green           | fine                    | moderate                | very high              | low                    | high                           | moderate             | very good     | rapid          | high      |
|  |                     | SR 1150            | SRO                  | dark bright green    | fine                    | low                     | very high              | very high              | high                           | excellent            | very good     | very rapid     | high      |
|  |                     | L-93               | Simplot/Jacklin      | dark green           | moderate fine           | slight                  | moderate               | high                   | high                           | good                 | very good     | rapid          | good      |
|  |                     | LS-44              | Ampac                | medium green         | moderate fine           | low                     | moderate               | moderate               | moderate                       | good                 | moderate      | rapid          | -         |
|  |                     | Alpha              | Simplot/Jacklin      | dark blue green      | moderate fine           | none                    | moderate               | low                    | moderate                       | low                  | good          | moderate       | high      |
|  |                     | Bengal             | Barenbrug            | dark green           | medium                  | none                    | high                   | moderate               | moderate                       | high                 | good          | moderate       | -         |
|  |                     | Pennlinks II       | Tee 2 Green          | medium green         | medium                  | slight                  | moderate               | very high              | low                            | moderate             | very low      | moderate       | -         |
|  |                     | Benchmark DSR      | TMI                  | dark blue green      | fine                    | fine                    | low                    | moderate               | high                           | low                  | moderate      | slow           | -         |
|  |                     | 13-M               | Pennington/Landmark  | dark green           | moderate fine           | low                     | moderate               | high                   | moderate                       | good                 | very good     | moderate       | -         |
|  |                     | Crystal Blue Links | Tee 2 Green          | dark blue green      | fine                    | low                     | high                   | high                   | moderate                       | good                 | good          | rapid          | -         |
| <b>Improved - Moderate Density Greens, Tees, Fairways</b>      |                     | Princeville        | Site One             | medium green         | coarse                  | slight                  | moderate               | moderate               | low                            | moderate             | good          | rapid          | good      |
|  |                     | Century            | ProSeeds             | blue green           | moderate fine           | moderate                | low                    | very low               | moderate                       | moderate             | good          | moderate       | high      |
|  |                     | Imperial           | ProSeeds             | dark green           | moderate fine           | slight                  | high                   | low                    | moderate                       | moderate             | good          | rapid          | high      |
|  |                     | Putter             | Simplot/Jacklin      | medium green         | moderate coarse         | moderate                | very low               | moderate               | low                            | low                  | good          | moderate       | good      |
|  |                     | Seaside II         | Tee 2 Green          | medium green         | medium                  | moderate                | moderate               | high                   | low                            | low                  | moderate      | rapid          | high      |
|  |                     |                    |                      |                      |                         |                         |                        |                        |                                |                      |               |                |           |
| <b>Standard - Low Density Greens, Tees, Fairways</b>           |                     | Seaside            | Standard             | light green          | very coarse             | high                    | low                    | moderate               | very low                       | low                  | very rapid    | high           |           |
|  |                     | Penncross          | Tee 2 Green          | medium green         | coarse                  | slight                  | very low               | moderate               | low                            | low                  | very rapid    | high           |           |
|  |                     |                    |                      |                      |                         |                         |                        |                        |                                |                      |               |                |           |