

UCRTRAC Accumulative Research Summary
Section C: Unbiased Product Testing (fertilizers, pesticides, equipment, etc.)
Project 4

Title: 1996-1997 Evaluation of Slow-Release and Fast-Release Nitrogen Fertilizer Products Applied on an Overseeded Common Bermudagrass During the Cool Season.

Objective: To evaluate the performance of nitrogen fertilizer products (in terms of visual turfgrass color response) when applied on overseeded bermudagrass maintained similar to fairway conditions during a five-month cool season.

Location: A bermudagrass plot overseeded with perennial ryegrass located at the UCR Turfgrass Field Research Facility.

Duration: One cool season

Funding Source: Ten companies that manufacture and/or distribute fertilizers.

Findings:

- A rate of 4.0 lb N/1000 ft² produced good turfgrass color on overseeded common bermudagrass with an average visual color rating of 6.6 (on a 1 to 9 scale, with 1 = brown, 5 = minimally acceptable, and 9 = darkest green overseeded common bermudagrass). This average includes all treatments that were applied at a nitrogen rate of 4.0 lb/1000 ft² during the 5-month cool season.
- Nitrogen treatments, which included differences in seasonal nitrogen rates, nitrogen source, and number of applications during the five-month study, significantly affected visual turfgrass color ratings.
- Selected treatments, involving either a fast-release or slow-release nitrogen source, performed well in these studies.
- Note: A second season of evaluation is needed to complete the data.

Status: A one-season study was completed and a final report was prepared. Findings were reported in *Better Turf Thru Agronomics*. An article is scheduled to be published in *Turf Tales Magazine*.
