

Strategies for Converting Turf from Tall Fescue into Buffalograss

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Objectives: Determine optimal timing and planting rate of UC Verde buffalograss plugs along with eradication method of tall fescue to achieve the most rapid conversion with the least amount visual discoloration.

Location: UCR Turf Facility

Soil: Hanford fine sand loam

Experimental Design: Randomized complete block with 3 replications

Plot Size: 5' by 10'

Species/Cultivars: Mature stand of Crossfire 2 tall fescue; UC Verde buffalograss

Application of Roundup ProMax: 8/19/2008, 4.7 qts/A

Application Information: CO₂ Bicycle sprayer
TeeJet 8002VS Nozzles
19" nozzle spacing
22" boom height
Speed: 1 mph
Output: 2gal/1000ft²
Pressure: 41psi tank and 38psi handle
Calibration of 1060ml/ nozzle minute

Plugs Established: 8/29/2008

Fertility: 0.5 lb N/1000 ft² at planting

Mowing Height: 3 inches

Irrigation Regimes: Once the buffalograss has overcome transplant shock, plots will be irrigated according to buffalograss water use needs.

Data Collection: Buffalograss cover (visual and with digital imaging)

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North

1	2	3	4	9	8
5	6	7	10	11	12
2	10	4	6	9	11
8	12	1	7	3	5
4	6	10	8	12	1
7	9	2	11	3	5

Treatments

1. Roundup entire plot, plant plugs at 6" spacing
2. Roundup entire plot, plant plugs at 12" spacing
3. Roundup entire plot, plant plugs at 18" spacing
4. Remove sod, plant plugs at 12" spacing
5. Roundup 10" strips, plant plugs within at 12" spacing
6. Roundup 10" strips, plant plugs within at 12" spacing; repeat procedure on adjacent living turf next June
7. Plant plugs at 12" spacing in untreated tall fescue turf
- 8-14. Same as treatments 1-7, but plant next June and August