



Plant Breeder:

Dr. Arden Baltensperger, Seeds West, Inc. Experimental Designation - FMC 77

Princess •77 bermudagrass is the first dense, fine textured hybrid bermudagrass variety to be available in seeded form. **Princess** •77 seed is produced much like hybrid seed corn, but instead of two inbred parent lines, two self-incompatible but cross-fertile parent clones are planted in alternating rows. The specific combining ability of these two elite parent clones is what makes **Princess** •77, **an** F_1 **hybrid**, the first seeded bermudagrass that is competitive with the vegetative hybrid bermudagrasses for turfgrass quality, leaf texture, color, and density.

Characteristics:

- Outstanding drought tolerance
- Requires 21% less water than Tifway
- Dark green color
- Better divot recovery than Tifway
- Medium fine leaf texture

- High leaf density
- Excellent fall color retention
- Higher overall turf quality than all commercial seeded varieties in U.S. and International tests

Recommended Use: Golf Courses (fairways and tees), Athletic Fields, Parks, and Home Lawns

Climatic Zones: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 (may not be adaptable to all areas within each climatic zone)

Establishment & Maintenance:

Princess 77 should be planted when soil temperatures are consistently above 65° F (18° C). For best results, take a soil sample and follow fertility recommendations prior to planting. Care must be taken not to cover the seed with too much soil; no more than 1/4 inch (6 mm) covering over the seed is advised. After seeding, soil moisture in the root zone must be maintained for about 1 to 2 weeks, germination may begin within 7 to 10 days. After the new turf is established, less frequent, deep watering is desirable. Recommended mowing height is 3/16 to 1 inch (5 to 25 mm) with no more than 1/3 of the leaf blade removed per mowing. Full coverage may be attained in 4 to 6 weeks with proper management. Fertilize with 1/2 to 1 lb/1,000 sq ft actual N (0.25 to 0.5 kg /100 sq m) per month of growing season for optimum performance, fertilization may be reduced by 1/2 if clippings are returned. This is a dense hybrid – verticut at least once per growing season during periods of active growth. Winter overseeding may be completed for year round green color, but is generally not recommended on turf less than 6 months old.

Seeding Rates:

•	New Turf Applications	1 - 2 lbs/1,000 square feet
		(0.5 - 1 kg/100 square meters)

One pound of unhulled Princess-77 contains 2,200,000 seeds compared to 1,400,000 for unhulled NuMex Sahara, that is 57% more seed or 800,000 more seeds per pound. That is why we recommend a lower seeding rate for Princess-77 compared to other varieties.

Princess•77 represents a significant break through in seeded bermudagrasses. Turfgrass managers now have a seeded bermudagrass with sod quality, if you have seen it you already know.

1997 Nationa	l Bermudagr	ass Test – 1	1998, 1999, &	& 2000 Data fo	or selected	Furfgrass C	haracterist	
		Turfgrass Quality – Schedule A*			Genetic Color			
<u>Variety</u>	Type	1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000	
1-9; 9=Most Desira						rable		
Tifsport	Vegetative	6.4	7.1	6.7	6.8	6.9	6.9	
Tifway	Vegetative	6.4	6.9	6.7	7.0	7.0	6.9	
Princess-77	Seeded	6.5	6.7	6.6	6.9	6.8	6.6	
Tifgreen	Vegetative	6.3	6.6	6.1	6.4	5.9	5.8	
Savannah	Seeded	5.6	5.5	5.4	6.5	6.2	6.4	
Sun Devil II	Seeded	5.3	5.4	5.3	6.0	6.1	6.1	
Blackjack	Seeded	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.9	5.9	6.0	
Mirage	Seeded	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.9	6.1	5.9	
Jackpot	Seeded	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.9	5.9	6.0	
AZ Common	Seeded	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.6	5.8	5.9	
		0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	^ ^	
LSD (0.05)		0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	
Number of Locations		8	9	9	19	18	19	

* Schedule A – ½-¾ inch mowing height 3-5x per week, ¾-1 lb N/1,000 ft² per month, irrigation to prevent stress. For complete report go to: National Bermudagrass Test – 1997: Progress Report 1998, NTEP No.99-1, Progress Report 1999, NTEP No.00-4, Progress Report 2000, NTEP No.01-5.

1997 National Bermudagrass Test – 1998, 1999, & 2000 Data for selected Turfgrass Characteristics.									
		Turfgrass Density - summer			% Divot Recovery after 2 Weeks				
<u>Variety</u>	<u>Type</u>	1998	1999	2000	Data for Year 2000				
_		1-9; 9=Most Dense			June	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>		
Tifgreen	Vegetative	7.7	7.7	7.6	82.2	81.1	84.4		
Tifway	Vegetative	7.5	7.5	8.0	81.6	76.6	66.6		
Tifsport	Vegetative	7.4	7.4	7.7	76.6	77.2	69.4		
Princess-77	Seeded	7.3	7.3	7.6	91.6	94.9	87.7		
Savannah	Seeded	6.3	6.3	6.0	82.2	85.5	85.0		
Sun Devil II	Seeded	6.0	6.0	5.7	80.0	90.0	77.2		
Blackjack	Seeded	5.9	5.9	5.9	75.0	81.6	79.9		
Mirage	Seeded	5.6	5.6	5.6	74.4	81.6	82.2		
Jackpot	Seeded	5.4	5.4	5.8	74.4	79.4	80.5		
AZ Common	Seeded	5.1	5.1	5.2	73.3	80.5	76.1		
LSD (0.05)		0.4	0.4	0.4	6.9	8.3	13.0		
Number of Locations		9	9	7	Stillwater, OK				

For complete report go to: National Bermudagrass Test – 1997: Progress Report 1998, NTEP No.99-1, Progress Report 1999, NTEP No.00-4, Progress Report 2000, NTEP No.01-5.

Complete results may be reviewed at www.ntep.org