

# Penncross



## Creeping Bentgrass

*Agrostis stolonifera*

### **Plant Breeder:**

Dr. Joe Duich, Pennsylvania State University

*Penncross competes with Poa annua on putting greens, tees, and fairways. Penncross breeding began with 156 vegetatively propagated bentgrasses later reduced to 21. These were crossed for turf performance and the components were tested under a wide variety of locations in the U.S. and Canada. Results show that Penncross has wide adaptability, tight, upright growth characteristics and fine leaf texture.*

### **Characteristics:**

- Strong seedling vigor
- Aggressive growth and good wear tolerance
- Medium Dark Green Color
- Good Dollar Spot resistance

### **Recommended Use:**

Golf Courses (fairways, tees and greens) and Winter Overseeding of Bermudagrass Greens

### **Climatic Zones:**

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 (may not be adaptable to all areas within each zone)

### **Establishment & Maintenance:**

Plant the seed to make good seed to soil contact and keep seedlings moist until well rooted. Germination will take place in 7 - 15 days depending on soil temperatures, and the first mowing may be expected within 30 days, or when the plants have sufficiently rooted. Mow at a 3/4 inch (19.1 mm) height of cut or lower until turf is established. Limited use of the area can be expected in 6 weeks. **Penncross** performs best in soils with a pH of 5.5 to 8. It has a moderate nitrogen requirement with 1 - 2 pounds of actual N per 1,000 square feet per year adequate in most situations. Optimum greens mowing height for **Penncross** is 3/16 - 5/16 inch (4.8 – 7.9 mm) but can be adjusted higher or lower depending upon maintenance practices and intended use. **Penncross** performs best on sandy soils and tolerates clay soils with adequate drainage. Bentgrasses do not perform well in wet areas; however, **Penncross** can tolerate saturated soil conditions for short periods of time.

### **Seeding Rates:**

- New Turf Applications 1 - 2 lbs/ 1000 sq. ft.  
(1/2 – 1 kg/100 sq meters)
- Overseeding of Existing Turf 1/2 - 1 lb/1000 sq. ft.  
(1/4 – 1/2 kg/100 sq meters)

## Quality Ratings:

Table 19. **PERCENT LIVING GROUND COVER (SPRING) RATINGS OF BENTGRASS CULTIVARS  
GROWN ON A FAIRWAY OR TEE  
2000 DATA FROM 1998 TEST  
PERCENT LIVING GROUND COVER IN SPRING**

NAME	PERCENT
BRIGHTON (SRX 1120)	95.0
<b>PENNCROSS</b>	<b>95.0</b>
TRUELINE	95.0
SEASIDE	93.3
SRX 7MODD	93.3
GOLFSTAR	91.7
TIGER	91.7
LSD VALUE	2.6

Table 26. **BROWN PATCH (WARM TEMPERATURE) RATING OF BENTGRASS CULTIVARS  
GROWN ON A FAIRWAY OR TEE  
2000 DATA FROM 1998 TEST  
BROWN PATCH RATINGS 1-9, 9=NO DISEASE**

NAME	QUALITY MEAN
BACKSPIN	9.0
<b>PENNCROSS</b>	<b>9.0</b>
TRUELINE	8.7
SEASIDE II	8.3
GOLFSTAR	5.3
TIGER	3.3
SRX 7MOBB	2.8
LSD VALUE	1.1

Table 29. **POA ANNUA RATINGS OF BENTGRASS CULTIVARS  
GROWN ON A FAIRWAY OR TEE  
2000 DATA FROM 1998 TEST  
POA ANNUA RATINGS 1-9, 9=NONE**

NAME	RATING
SEASIDE	4.3
GOLFSTAR	3.3
<b>PENNCROSS</b>	<b>3.0</b>
TIGER	3.0
SEASIDE II	2.0
TRUELINE	1.7
GRAND PRIX	1.0
LSD VALUE	1.7

These examples represent 7 out of 25 varieties tested in the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program, Progress Report 2000, NTEP No. 01-3 1998 test. For complete trial data, go to [www.ntep.org](http://www.ntep.org)