



# TECHNICAL REPORTS



Suitable for use throughout the bermudagrass zone of the world, **La Paloma (SRX 9500) Turf-Type Seeded Bermudagrass** will prove to be a perfect choice for any high-end turfgrass project, including golf tees, fairways and roughs, sports fields, parks and commercial landscapes.

This very high quality, dark green, dense and fine textured seeded bermudagrass is a recent release of Dr. Leah Brilman, Research Director for Seed Research of Oregon.

Under proper maintenance, **La Paloma** exhibits turfgrass quality similar to the other high end seeded bermudagrass varieties such as Princess, Yukon (OKS91-11) and Riviera (OKS95-1). **La Paloma** is also similar to Tif 419 vegetative bermudagrass in turf color, texture, density and other growth habits.

## BREEDING

Germplasm collected by Dr. Brilman, along with Dr. Jack Murray on older turf sites in Maryland, was screened over several years in Maryland, Florida and Oregon for turf quality, seed yield and cold tolerance characteristics. The early progeny from these original plants were tested for turfgrass quality ratings at several university and commercial turfgrass sites in Texas and Arizona, with high ratings from independent turfgrass researchers.

Seedlings derived from the original parent clones were screened and then the best plants were combined in a pre-breeder seed block in Maricopa, Ariz., at the Seed Research of Oregon warm season turfgrass research farm.

Breeder and foundation stock seed fields have since been planted and harvested. The first large stock seed crop in the summer of 2002 was used to establish certified production fields. The variety is fully available in the fall of 2003.

Initial turfgrass trials of **La Paloma Seeded Bermudagrass** have been planted in Australia, Italy, North Carolina, California and Arizona.

## PLANT & TURF CHARACTERISTICS

**La Paloma Turf-Type Bermudagrass** plants show good reproductive fertility and flowering to ensure good seed production, with adequate seed yields. The variety exhibits short plant height, a distinguishing characteristic among available seed-propagated bermudagrass varieties. **La Paloma** is noted for good stolon length for rapid cover and fill-in on planting sites, important for earlier opening and use of planted projects. Stolon internode length for **La Paloma** is noticeably shorter than 'common' bermuda, and a number of commercially available seeded varieties. These short internodes are consistent with the other dwarf growth characteristics of this variety. Longer stolons, with shorter internodes, along with overall shorter plant height, are important factors for higher turf density and better turf quality on a project site.

## SEEDING RATE

- New Turf: 2-3 pounds per 1,000 square feet or 90-125 pounds per acre
- Seeds per pound: Approximately 1.5-2 million

## ESTABLISHMENT

- Emergence in 5-7 days
- First mowing approximately 18-21 days, depending on usage
- First limited use in 60-90 days