

Bandera Texas hybrid bluegrass is a cross between Kentucky bluegrass (*poa pratensis*) and Texas bluegrass (*poa arachnifera*) and is a product of Pickseed research under the direction of Dr. Jerry Pepin.

**DESCRIPTION:**

Bandera produces a turf that has improved heat and drought tolerance derived from the Texas bluegrass while maintaining excellent turf characteristics and uniformity (due to a high level of apomixes) typical of Kentucky bluegrass. Bandera is a second generation hybrid with improved color and texture over first generation material such as Thermal Blue. Seed size, seeding rates, germination, establishment and handling is very similar to Kentucky bluegrass. No special settings or adjustments are required with seeding equipment.

**USAGE:**

Bandera can be blended with other bluegrasses or mixed with varieties of tall fescue, Kentucky bluegrass and fine fescue in typical standard formulations. It will establish well and persist under conditions of drought that would cause other species to die off or become dormant. It is excellent when mixed with improved varieties of turf type tall fescue. This mix forms a superior drought tolerant turf with improved spreading capabilities compared to tall fescue used alone.



**CHARACTERISTICS:**

**TEXTURE:** A medium wide leaf blade, similar to Crest Kentucky bluegrass

**UNIFORMITY:** Bandera is highly apomictic, which means that cross pollination with other bluegrass types is minimal and it will remain uniform over time in turf

**GROWTH TYPE:** Semi-upright and strongly spreading by rhizomes

**DORMANCY:** Bandera will go dormant under extreme drought but remains green much longer than Kentucky bluegrass

**TECHNICAL PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS**

Year of Introduction	2006
Main Uses	Golf roughs, sod, athletic fields, parks, lawns, mixes
Normal Days to Germinate	7 – 177 (Fall)
Normal Days to First Mowing	30 – 35 (Fall)
NTEP Quality Ratings (2006 Data)	Good – 5.5 Schedule B
Genetic Color	Medium green – 5.9
Summer Stress Tolerance	Good (93% ground cover in VA)
Leaf Texture	Medium – 5.6
Summer Turf Density	Good – 7.5
Shade Tolerance	High
Wear Tolerance (Rutgers)	Average – 4.8
Close Mowing Tolerance	Fair at ½ inch
Growth Rate	Medium slow
Mature Plant Height	Semi -dwarf, 22 – 30”
Leaf Spot Resistance	Good
Spring Green Up	Average – 5.5
Summer Patch Resistance	Good
Red Thread Resistance	Fair / Good – 5.0
Dollar Spot Resistance	Very good – 8.3
Powdery Mildew Resistance	Excellent