

Crest Kentucky bluegrass was developed from a selection from an old turf area near Route 70 in New Jersey. It was tested under the experimental designation of RT70, obviously in honor of its venerable highway home. Crest seed was taken to the Pickseed research station and tested for seed production characteristics and turf quality.

DESCRIPTION:

Crest is an improved selection of Kentucky bluegrass that combines excellent turf quality with very good seed production characteristics. An aggressive spreading bluegrass with good rhizome development and a medium turf density, Crest produces a uniform, attractive turf with a dark green color and medium leaf texture. Crest also has a very good seedling vigor and establishment for a bluegrass.

USAGE:

Crest is adapted for use as a high quality turfgrass throughout the cool season turf areas where bluegrasses are normally used in the United States and Canada. Crest is best suited for use in blends with other bluegrasses, such as Touchdown, America, Indigo and Banff, and in seed mixtures with fine fescue and perennial ryegrass. Crest also mixes well with turf-type tall fescue, but should total no more than 10% (by weight) of the mixture with tall fescue. Crest is well suited for use on golf fairways and roughs, athletic fields, parks, home lawns and all other areas where a high quality Kentucky bluegrass turf is desired. Crest is also an excellent variety for use in sod fields.

DISEASE RESISTANCE:

Crest has exhibited very good resistance to the Helminthosporium Leaf Spot and Melting Out disease. It also has good resistance to the Summer Patch disease (formerly and fondly known as Fusarium blight) and to leaf, stem and stripe rust. Crest has good resistance to Brown Patch, and is only moderately susceptible to Powdery Mildew.

Seeding:

The recommended seeding times for Crest are early to mid spring and late summer to early fall. A seeding rate of 3 – 4 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. is recommended. Seeding rates as low as 1-1/2 – 2 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. can be used where speed of establishment is not important. A soil test is recommended before seeding to determine proper fertilizer and lime applications. Generally incorporating 1 – 1-1/2 lbs. of actual NPK fertilizer per 1000 sq. ft. before planting is helpful. Under normal conditions, germination and establishment will occur 10 – 15 days after seeding.



MAINTENANCE:

Generally, Crest requires 1/2 - 1 lb. actual N per 1000 sq. ft. per month of growing season. Apply P and K according to soil tests. While Crest can tolerate cutting heights as low as 3/4 inch, it does best when mowed between 1 – 2-1/2 inches.

For excellent turf quality and the seeds you need, make it Crest, the aggressive bluegrass that grows on you.

TECHNICAL PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Year of Introduction	1990
Main Uses	Lawns, sports turf, sod, parks, golf course roughs
Seed Count	975,999 seeds per lb.
Normal Days to Germinate	7 – 9 (fall)
Normal Days to First Mowing	36 days (fall)
NTEP Quality Ratings (1991 – 1995 Data)	Good – 5.4
Genetic Color	Medium dark – 6.2
Summer Stress Tolerance	Very good – 5.3
Leaf Texture	Medium – 5.5
Turf Density	Medium – 5.9
Shade Tolerance	Medium
Sod Strength	Good – 32.7 lbs.
Wear Tolerance	Good
Close Mowing Tolerance	Medium – down to 1.1”
Growth Rate	Medium slow
Mature Plant Height	Medium
Leaf Spot Resistance	Very good – 5.8
pH Range	4.9 – 7.9
Summer Patch Resistance	Medium – 6.3
Brown Patch Resistance	Very good
Dollar Spot Resistance	Very good – 7.3