

Exeter is the direct result of a breeding program started by the Rhode Island Agricultural Experimental Station. The original selection of Exeter was made by Mr. C.H. Allen from an old turf area near Kingstown, Rhode Island. After many years of extensive testing and evaluation, Exeter was released for commercial use.

DESCRIPTION:

Exeter is a fine leafed, low growing selection of colonial bentgrass that creates a beautiful, dense, uniform turf. It has medium green color, excellent winter hardiness, and a slower rate of vertical growth than many other colonial bentgrasses. It is also capable of producing unusual aggressiveness. In turf trials in the U.S., Canada and Europe, Exeter has demonstrated significantly better turf performance than Highland or Astoria.

USAGE:

Exeter is well adapted for use on golf course fairways and tees, particularly in the cooler parts of North America. It is especially well suited to moist and / or acid soils. Exeter can be used alone, but it is generally recommended as a component in mixes with creeping bentgrass, fine fescue and perennial ryegrass. A popular tee and fairway mix is composed of 1/3 each of Exeter, Mariner, and Penncross or Penneagle.

SEEDING:

Exeter has a seed count of approx. 7.5 million seeds per pound. The germination, seedling vigor, and establishment of Exeter are similar to Kentucky bluegrass, but slower than fine fescue and ryegrass. When seeded alone or mixed with other bentgrasses, a seeding rate of 1 – 2 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. is recommended. In mixtures with fine fescues or perennial ryegrasses, Exeter should comprise no more than 10 – 20% of the mix by weight.



SEEDING:

To maintain a healthy turf, Exeter should be groomed at a height of ½ - 1". A medium level of fertility is generally recommended. Too high a fertility level may encourage excessive competition with other turfgrass species and disease susceptibility. In cool season regions, about 3 – 5 lbs. of actual N per 1000 sq. ft. per year is generally sufficient. This rate will vary with the soil type so the actual amounts of NPK applied should be based on a soil test. Exeter is well adapted to acid soils so liming is seldom necessary.

TECHNICAL PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS	
Year of Introduction	1970
Main Uses	Tees and fairways, particularly in cooler northern areas, southern overseeding
Seed Count	8,500,000 seeds / lb.
Normal Days to Germinate	5 - 9 days, fall
Normal Days to First Mowing	20 - 28 days, fall
Quality Ratings	Fair / good, northern areas
Genetic Color	Medium Green.....5.0
Summer Stress Tolerance	Fair / poor (Southern data)
Leaf Texture	Medium Fine
Turf Density	Medium Dense
Shade Tolerance	Fair
Wear Tolerance	At fairway heights – Good
pH Range	4.6—8.0
Mature Plant Height	Medium
Close Mowing Tolerance	At ¼" or less - Fair
Growth Rate	Medium
Fusarium Patch Resistance	Very good
Leaf Spot Resistance	Very good
Salt Tolerance	Fair / good (RI observations)
Brown Patch Resistance	Fair
Dollar Spot Resistance	Fair / good