



BENEFITS OF USING 3-D SOD

ULTRA 3-D SOD
DARKER • DENSER • DWARFER



What is 3-D Sod and Ultra 3-D? - Darker Denser Dwarfer

3-D Sod Blend: Contains 3 to 5 Elite Kentucky bluegrass varieties
• Blending Strategy: Select varieties with genetic diversity yet produce a uniform turf based on climate and market application.

Ultra 3-D Sod: contains 1 or 2 varieties for even more uniformity
• Only very elite recent release varieties that meet Ultra 3-D Sod criteria.
• Our experience shows a select few varieties produce improved results by not blending them with other varieties.
• This is why Ultra 3-D Sod was created.



Kentucky Bluegrass Groupings from Rutgers University

- Rutgers University developed a grouping system that divides the bluegrass into 14 categories or types of Kentucky bluegrass.
- Kentucky bluegrass genetic diversity is amazing.
- The Rutgers grouping is used to start the variety selection process.
- It takes a bit of time to learn the groupings since each grouping represents a different set of varietal requirements.
- Some groupings have considerable genetic diversity while others may have nearly no genetic diversity.



We Support Genetic
FINGERPRINTING

Genetic Fingerprinting

- Genetic finger printing takes the Rutgers groupings to another level of understanding. It also allows us to ensure genetic accuracy of the components.
- There is more diversity within Kentucky bluegrass than ever before.
- Yet there are more varieties “like” each other than ever before.
- Genetic Finger Printing will be a more common place in the future for variety selections, verification and variety purity.
- Summit Seed has supported and assisted funding to further the genetic finger printing research for the betterment of our industry.

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Summit Turfgrass Center simulates sod production

- Evaluating varieties under wide range of environmental and management conditions from germination to harvest to final installation of the sod.
- Evaluation establishment under irrigated and non irrigated.
- Varieties are evaluated for establishment, fertility, color, density, growth habits, mowing height, drought tolerance, spring green up, disease resistance, and tinsel strength.
- Varieties are evaluated in blends for varietal compatibility.
- Weed control methods are evaluated including Poa annua control in sod production.
- It takes a while to get to know the varieties and how they perform within various conditions. This is the main purpose of the Turfgrass Center, to provide an environment to evaluate and better understand turf seed and its attributes in a wide range of agronomic conditions.



3-D Sod Blend and Ultra 3-D Retesting going beyond Certification

- Our program starts before the seed is ever sampled by being sensitive to production areas. Certain areas of product are not allowed.
- Smaller lot size in certified 22,000 pound lots.
- First the lot has to pass a State Certification Test for sod quality.
- Then the lot will be re-sampled and re-tested by Agri-Seed Testing who sets the standards of excellent for our industry.
- The seed is shipped from our location where the lot will be sampled again prior to blending and tested again by Agri-Seed Testing.
- In total the seed will have been tested three different times with three different pulled samples. Allowing us three separate times to evaluate mechanical quality.

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Blending Facility

- One dedicated blender is used for sod quality Kentucky bluegrass to avoid contamination from other turfgrass species.
- Extra care is taken to avoid bluegrass varieties contamination between blends, we have a rigid regimented cleaning process between blends.
- Traces of lighter green vegetative varieties in a dark green dwarf variety blend will reduce turf uniformity.



Soil Testing

- Optimum growth of turf depends on many management factors, one of which is ensuring a sufficient supply of plant nutrients.
- Many urban soils are disturbed during the construction process.
- Top soil is often scraped off and removed and, as a result, nutrient and organic matter levels are often lower in these disturbed sites than in native soils.



Marketing, the new frontier

- Good marketing is educating your customer to make a good buying decision.
- The sod industry has under marketed the benefits of sod and turfgrass in general, sod offers some phenomenal values to the end user.
- The turfgrass industry faces many challenges that are tied to water conservation.
- Our opportunity is to educate that turfgrass, including sod, is a solution for water conservation and improving our environment
- Ignitra Marketing Group, LLC was created to assist in marketing 3-D Sod and Ultra 3-D Sod.

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