

Turfgrasses of Michigan: Characteristics and Adaptation



Turfgrass Species	Recommended for Michigan	Heat Tolerance	Cold Tolerance	Drought Tolerance	Shade Tolerance	Wear Tolerance	Mowing Height (inches)	Nitrogen Requirement	Irrigation Requirement
Kentucky bluegrass	Yes	Fair	Good	Medium	Poor	Medium	2 to 4	Medium to High (2 to 6 lbs. N/year)	Yes
Tall Fescue	Yes	Good	Poor	Excellent	Good	Good	2.5 to 4	Low to Medium (1 to 2 lb.s N/year)	Seldom
Perennial Ryegrass	Yes	Poor	Very Poor	Fair	Fair	Good	1.5 to 2.5	Medium to High (2 to 6 lbs. N/year)	Yes
Annual Ryegrass	Yes*	Very Poor	Very Poor	Very Poor	Poor	Poor	1.5 to 2	Medium to High (2 to 6 lbs. N/year)	Yes
Fine Fescues Sheep, Creeping Red, Hard	Yes	Fair	Medium	Good	Excellent	Poor	1.5 to 3	Low (<2 lb.s N/year)	Seldom
Zoysiagrass	No	Excellent	Medium	Excellent	Good	Excellent	0.5 to 1.5	Low to Medium (1 to 2 lb.s N/year)	Seldom
Buffalograss	No	Excellent	Medium	Excellent	Very Poor	Fair	2 to Unmowed	Low (<2 lb.s N/year)	Seldom
Bermudagrass	No	Excellent	Poor	Good	Poor	Excellent	0.5 to 1.5	High (6 lbs. N/year or >)	Yes



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