STOVER SEED®

Teaming confidence with nature since 1922

Technical Data and Information Product Sheet

SEASPRAY Seashore paspalum

DESCRIPTION

Seashore paspalum is a warm season, salt-loving grass that thrives in coastal climates but is also suited for inland and desert climates. It has a fine texture similar in appearance to bermudagrass and grows by stolons and rhizomes making it an excellent choice for sportsfields and golf courses. Seashore paspalum has tremendous salt tolerance and adaptability making it one of the few grasses that can successfully be grown along the beach. Being a warm season grass it has very good heat and drought tolerance due to its deep root system. Seaspray is an improved, seeded cultivar of Seashore paspalum.

CHARACTERISTICS

Features	Benefits
Very high salt tolerance	Can grow at beach and takes effluent water
Excellent heat and drought tolerance	Meets water conservation goals
Rhizomatous and Stoloniferous growth habit	Outstanding wear tolerance and recovery
Medium–fine texture	Uniform growth habit
Moderate shade tolerance	Only one grass needed for sun and shade
Grows in wide range of soil conditions	Improved adaptability

USES

Seashore paspalum can be grown successfully as turf on:

* Golf Courses	*Parks	*Sportsfields
* Playgrounds	*Lawns	*Commercial Developments

SEEDING RATES

New turf: 2 pounds of coated seed per 1,000 square feet or 86 pounds per acre.
Overseeding existing turf: 1/2 to 1 pound of coated seed per 1,000 square feet or 22 to 43 pounds per acre.

ESTABLISHMENT

Warm season grasses such as Seashore paspalum should be seeded when daytime temperatures are consistently 80 degrees or greater (generally between the months of April and October). Germination is delayed if soil temperatures are below 65 degrees F. Emergence can be anywhere between 14 and 21 days. The higher the soil temperature, the quicker the germination as long as there is adequate moisture (irrigation). Establishment in 8 to 10 weeks depending on date of planting.

SPECIFICATIONS

SEASPRAY Seashore paspalum

50% Minimum purity, coated seed

70% Minimum germination

415,000 seeds per pound, coated seed

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CULTURAL INFORMATION

Water Requirements

Frequent, light watering is necessary for seed to germinate and become established. Seashore paspalum is a warm season grass. Once the grass becomes established it has the ability to withstand summer drought conditions under reduced irrigation schedules. For turf managers that use irrigation systems and calculations, Seaspray paspalum can be irrigated at 60% of average ET_0 (Reference Evapotranspiration) rates to achieve optimum turf quality. Because of the ability of warm season grasses to establish roots at a depth of 3 feet or more it is able to draw water from a larger soil profile which enhances its drought tolerance. ***As a result, once Seashore paspalum becomes established (2-3 months in warm weather) it can withstand irrigation schedules at 40% of ET_0 (a reduction of 25%) and still produce acceptable turf.*** Specific information on turfgrass irrigation schedules and ET rates can be found at http://ucanr.edu/sites/UrbanHort/ and at http://ag.arizona.edu/pubs/water/az1195.pdf and http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/8395.pdf General irrigation guidelines dictate that turf should be watered in early morning hours and that about 3/4 of an inch of water should be applied but not to the point of runoff.

Climate Conditions

Seashore paspalum is classified as a warm season grass best suited to southern climates. Growth is greatest during warm months with some dormancy in winter months.

Soil Conditions

Seashore paspalum will tolerate a wide range of soils from heavy clay to sandy loam. It will grow in a wide range of pH from 4.5 to 9.0. Good drainage is important for root development.

Fertilization

Use of a starter fertilizer when seeding is highly recommended. After establishment fertilize during periods of active growth in warm months with a balanced fertilizer. Avoid using products with a high nitrogen (N) content as such use increases water use. Application rates should be between 2 and 3 pounds of nitrogen (N) per 1,000 square feet per year during the growing season. Slow release fertilizers are best.

Mowing

No special mower is needed. Results are best when blades are kept sharp. Recommended mowing height is from 1/2 to 1 1/2 inches. Do not mow more than 1/3 of the leaf blade whenever mowing turf.

Drought Tolerance Comparisons of Commonly Grown Grasses in California

Source: University of California, ANR Publication 8395

Relative Ranking	Cool-season turfgrasses	Warm-season turfgrasses
Superior		Bermudagrass Buffalograss
Excellent		Seashore paspalum Zoysiagrass
Good		St. Augustinegrass Kikuyugrass
Medium	Tall Fescue	
Fair	Perennial Ryegrass Kentucky Bluegrass Creeping Bentgrass Hard Fescue Chewings Fescue Red Fescue	

For more information on Seashore paspalum visit www.stoverseed.com

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