

Research Results

Ranks #1 In the Following Categories In NTEP & University Testing

Cold Tolerance: Winter Survivability Repair Low Water Use Repair Exceptional Turf Quality





Early Spring Green-Up Shade Tolerance Traffic Tolerance





#1 in Cold Tolerance: Winter Survivability

The winter of 2013 - 2014 swept a polar vortex into the Midwest that created record low temperatures. Dr. Cale Bigelow, a professor of

CULTIVAR	% WINTER KILL, MEAN SCORES IN & KY, 2014 - 2017
Tahoma 31	14.5
Iron Cutter	48.7
Latitude 36	57.3
TifTuf	88.3

turf science and ecology at Purdue University, located in West Lafayette, Indiana, participated in the NTEP study. In a December 2019 article in Golf Course Management magazine, Dr. Bigelow was quoted as saying only 9 of 42 bermudagrasses tested survived with at least 50% ground cover by spring. Some 14 of the grasses completely died. By the end of the NTEP study, Tahoma 31 was rated by far with the greatest winter survivability in Indiana at only 4% winter kill. Mean scores in two states where winter survivability was measured, Indiana & Kentucky, confirmed Tahoma 31's top status in the three year study period, 2014 - 2017.

#1 for Low Water Use

In tests that measured evapotranspiration rates (mm d-1) under non-limiting soil moisture conditions in Oklahoma (Amgain et al., 2018), Tahoma 31 fared best, while TifTuf used the most water. Overall, Tahoma 31 used 18% less water than TifTuf.

CULTIVAR	ET RATE
Tahoma 31	4.06 e
Northbridge	4.29 cde
Tifway 419	4.54 bcd
Latitude 36	4.59 bc
Premier	4.63 b
Celebration	4.77 ab
TifTuf	4.95 a



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#1 in Turf Quality

Turf quality ratings in NTETP tests at 17 locations over 5 years show Tahoma 31's exceptional turf quality among bermudagrasses, when tested against both vegetative & seeded varieties.

Cultivar	Mean
Tahoma 31	6.8
TifTuf	6.8 (tied)
Latitude 36	6.6
Patriot	6.4
Tifway 419	6.3
Celebration	6.0

#1 in Early Spring Green-Up

In NTEP tests from 2014 - 2017, Tahoma 31 ranked at the top spot for early spring green-up among all vegetative bermudagrass cultivars tested in 16 states.

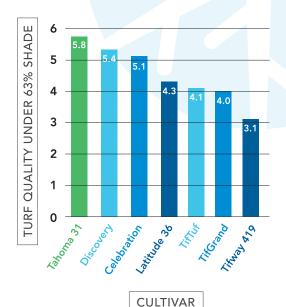
CULTIVAR	MEAN SCORE
Tahoma 31	5.7
Iron Cutter	5.3
TifTuf	5.3
Latitude 36	4.9
Tifway 419	4.5
Celebration	4.4

#1 in Shade Tolerance

Tahoma 31 was rated #1 in turf quality among major commercially-available bermudagrass cultivars in up to 63% shade. Results show the mean turfgrass quality across years 2018 and 2019 (Years 2 and 3 under 63% shade).

These values are means across 6 rating dates in these two years and are presented with no statistical analysis. That being the case, it is highly likely several of these grasses are statistically equivalent. Other considerations are that plots received no traffic and were mowed at 1.5-inches once per week. In our opinion, Tahoma 31 is a great choice (among bermudagrasses) for partial shaded locations in the transition zone of the US, although clearly many of the newer grasses are an improvement over the old standard Tifway.

- Analysis of preliminary findings of the Stillwater location SCRI shade trial, Charles Fontanier, Ph.D., Assistant Professor - Turfgrass Science, Dept of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture, Oklahoma State University.



#1 in Traffic Tolerance

Turfgrass quality under traffic in NTEP National Bermudagrass Test at Knoxville, TN

Tahoma 31 exhibits excellent traffic tolerance compared to all other bermudagrass cultivars tested.



