



Photos by H. Liu

Painting Dormant Bermudagrass Putting Greens

*Haibo Liu, Ph.D.,
Clemson University
(haibol@clemson.edu)*

Objective

Evaluate the effects of paints and turfgrass management practices on winter, spring and summer bermudagrass putting green performance.

Summary

Bermudagrass greens traditionally have been overseeded to provide winter color. Overseeding can damage the bermudagrass turf and is expensive. Painting dormant bermudagrass greens offers a simple, inexpensive way to transform a brown putting green to a green one.

TifEagle bermudagrass was mowed at three mowing heights four weeks before painting, fertilized with either 100% granular or 100% liquid fertilizer, treated or not treated with a plant growth regulator during the growing season and either overseeded with *Poa trivialis*, painted with one of three brands of paint or allowed to go dormant.

Results

- All the paints evaluated provided acceptable or better quality. Fall mowing height had no effect on the quality of painted turfgrass.
- Painted turfgrass had longer ball-roll distance than overseeded turf at the same mowing height.
- Painted turfgrass had slightly higher surface and soil temperatures, which enhanced spring green-up.
- Among the overseeded plots, turfgrass treated with 100% foliar fertilizers in summer and winter had the best turf quality.



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