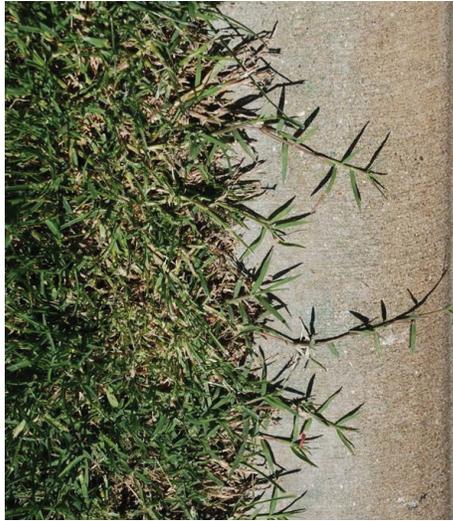


Bermuda Grass



Bermuda grass growing in cracks

What is Bermuda Grass?

Bermuda is a warm season grass. As a grass, it has many fortunate characteristics such as a high tolerance to many formidable conditions like excessive heat, salty soils and humid/arid climates. This grass species also has the fastest growth rate of any other warm season grass. However, as a weed (or unwanted plant material), this species can be quite troublesome.

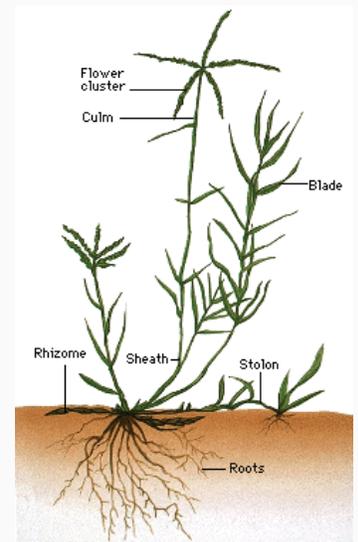
The same qualities that make this a great warm season grass also make this species particularly tough to eliminate. Its root system for example, helps it survive in many altering conditions but it also makes it nearly impossible to eliminate. Though most of the time Bermuda roots stay within 6" of the soil surface, the roots can grow up to 6 feet or more in depth! Every time a lawn is freed from this grass, in no time, it starts growing back. Therefore, special techniques are used to eliminate this grass completely, if required. Before using methods of elimination, one must first identify the grass type so that the relevant technique can be used. In the following sections you will come to know about appropriate ways for identifying and eliminating Bermuda grass.

Identifying Bermuda Grass

Grass size is one of the factors that helps in identification. Bermuda grass is usually 4-12 inches long. Its leaves have a pointed appearance and can be up to 6 inches long with leaf sheaths that are about 5 inches in length. Bermuda grass produces star-shaped flowers. They appear like bird's feet growing at the tip of the stem. Blooming starts from late summer and continues into the beginning of winter. The flower has 3-8 purple branches. Small oval seeds are attached to the flower stalks giving it a spiky, zig-zag appearance. The grass develops a fibrous root with deep rhizomes. Young roots are white in color which turn brown or yellow when they mature. Growth takes place with the help of rhizomes and stolons. Rhizomes thrive below the ground, whereas stolons grow above it. Growth of this species is very fast as compared to other warm-season grasses. This weed develops a characteristic tuft of hair in the collar region which is absent in most other grasses. Another noticeable characteristic of this grass is that it becomes dormant at low temperatures and resumes growth with the arrival of the warm climate.

Characteristics of Bermuda Grass

- Fast growing grass/weed
- Tough to remove/eliminate
- Easier to kill in the growing season
- Extensive root systems
- Goes dormant in the winter
- Extremely drought tolerant



Bermuda Illustration



Dormant Bermuda Grass

How Center Cut's Spray Division Removes Bermuda

Prevention is fundamental! Pre-Emergent weed control can prevent invasive grasses and weeds from developing in landscaped areas by eliminating unwanted seeds before they germinate. Follow up with Post-Emergent herbicide is beneficial as well even if the Pre-Emergent has been applied, especially in regards to Bermuda Grass. Center Cut Landscape uses a selective herbicide specially designed for Bermuda Grass! This herbicide is safe to apply over the top of existing ornamental plants and after 15 minutes of application is safe for pets and people! Contact your Center Cut Landscape Specialist to get more information about how you can keep your landscape looking beautiful all year long!