

EVALUATION OF POST-HARVEST RESIDUE REMOVAL EQUIPMENT ON  
KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS GROWN FOR SEED IN CENTRAL OREGON  
UPDATE

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Due to the untimely death during 1995 of Dale Coats, who had taken the lead in this long-term project, this report is incomplete and abbreviated. Thanks to Margie Durette, Neysa Farris, Scott Culver, George Mueller-Warrent, Pat Foltz, Peter Tomseth, Bill Durette, and others for assisting in completion of 1995 field work. A more complete report for 1995 may be produced during early 1996. A final report summarizing all 1990-1996 data from growers' fields should be available during 1997.

Post-harvest residue management methods were evaluated in a study initiated in 1991 on two commercial Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis* L.) fields in central Oregon, which had been planted in the fall of 1990. One field was planted with an aggressive variety and the other field with a non-aggressive variety. Aggressive varieties included those that were highly rhizominous and filled in between a 30 cm row spacing within a year or two. Non-aggressive varieties included those that were less rhizominous. Additional planting locations for both aggressive and non-aggressive types were added to the study each year through 1993 until a total of six locations were included. In each field, residue treatments were organized in a randomized block design with four replications. Because the standard industry practice for residue management of grass seed fields began with baling the straw prior to open-field burning, all residue management treatments in this study included this practice. Data gathered included seed yield, fertile tiller numbers, thousand seed weight, and seed germination. This study will continue through 1996.

On the COARC Madras field, paired plantings of a non-aggressive and an aggressive variety were established in 1992, 1993, and 1994. Randomized and replicated treatments of all residue management options used in the above growers' fields were also established in the on-station trial during 1993, 1994, and 1995, respectively. Treatments will be conducted for three successive seasons for each planting, and will be completed following harvest in 1998. Results from this trial will be merged into a final overall report on residue management in central Oregon in 1998 or 1999.