

Comparison of lawns using hybrid ryegrass, annual ryegrass and perennial ryegrass varieties



Figure 1: SAGANE, 15 days after sowing (04/07/2019)

The hybrid ryegrass SAGANE was sown on 19/06/2019 to compare its growth to that of the annual ryegrass variety NUSPRINT and a test variety of perennial ryegrass. The sowing conditions were good.



Figure 2: NUSPRINT, 3 weeks after sowing

15 days after sowing, SAGANE has emerged evenly to a height of 5-6 cm, which was the indication for the first mowing. The annual ryegrass NUSPRINT also became established quickly, though with slightly less uniform growth and somewhat shorter, at heights of 3-6 cm. By this point, perennial ryegrass has begun field emergence and has grown to a height of 0-2 cm.



Figure 3: Perennial ryegrass, 3 weeks after



By the time the third cutting has been carried out, SAGANE shows the fastest regrowth after each mowing.

SAGANE's colouration is a medium green. NUSPRINT is one colouration point brighter and its leaves are larger than those of SAGANE, while perennial ryegrass is somewhat darker than SAGANE.

Figure 4: SAGANE, 5 weeks after sowing (23/07/2019)



There is a clear difference between hybrid ryegrass and annual ryegrass in terms of ground coverage. SAGANE has developed a medium to dense sward by 5 weeks after sowing, while NUSPRINT exhibits a loose to medium sward density.



Figure 6: Perennial ryegrass, 5 weeks after



All three varieties were regularly mowed twice per week and worn with intermediate intensity. Four days after cutting, SAGANE has grown 3-4 cm taller than NUSPRINT. In addition, 15-25% of NUSPRINT failed to regrow and the leaves frayed noticeably after mowing.



Figure 8: NUSPRINT, 9 weeks after sowing

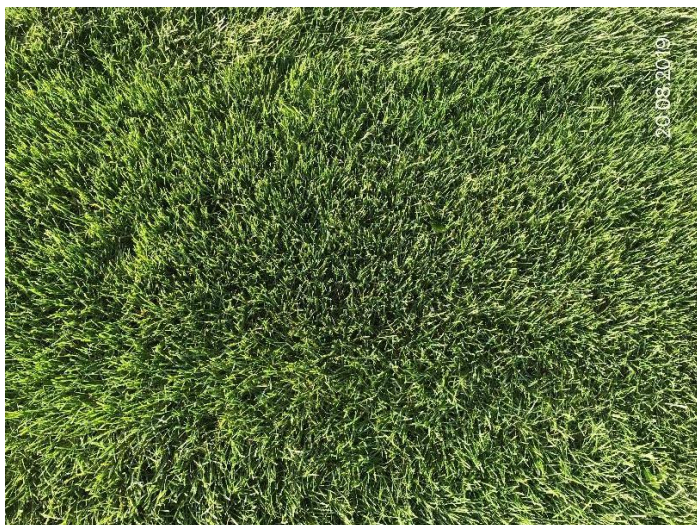


Figure 7: Perennial ryegrass, 9 weeks after



Figure 10: SAGANE, 12 weeks after sowing (10/09/2019)

Mowing was then changed to weekly intervals.

Throughout the growing season, SAGANE consistently exhibited the quickest regrowth. Seven days after cutting, its recorded growth was 5-6 cm greater than that of NUSPRINT. Meanwhile, gaps covered less than 10% of the surface with SAGANE, a figure that increased to 50% with NUSPRINT and progressively deteriorated with each cut.



Perennial ryegrass exhibits good sward density and typical development and green colour.

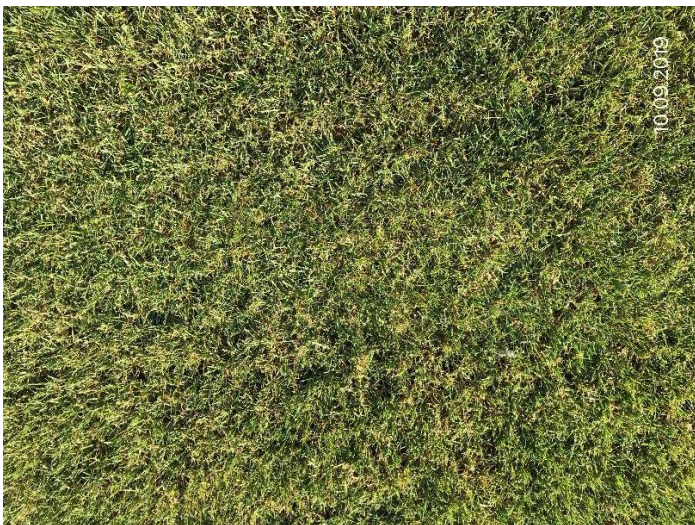


Figure 8: Perennial ryegrass, 12 weeks after



Figure 9: SAGANE, 21 weeks after sowing (13/11/2019)



Figure 10: NUSPRINT, 21 weeks after sowing

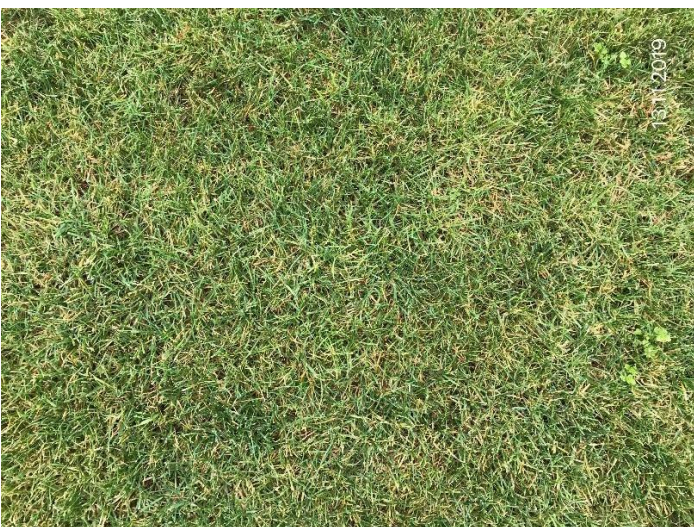


Figure 11: Perennial ryegrass, 21 weeks after

Growth during the previous winter was moderate (5) in SAGANE and low to very low in NUSPRINT. In perennial ryegrass, previous winter growth was good.



Figure 16: SAGANE, 35 weeks after sowing (19/02/2020)



Figure 17: NUSPRINT, 35 weeks after sowing

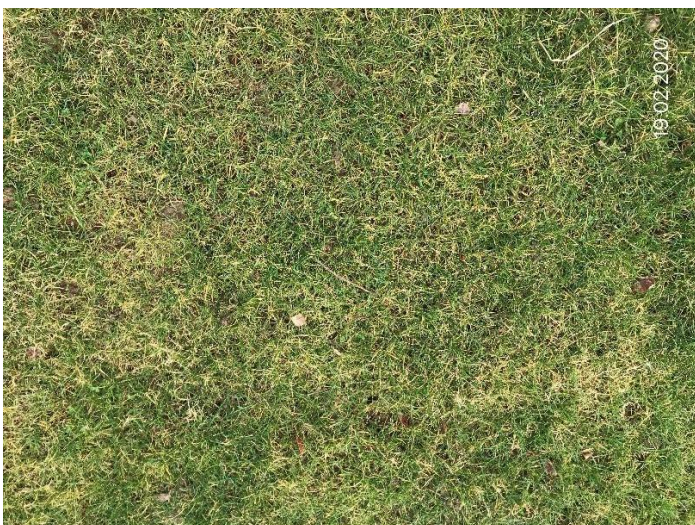


Figure 18: Perennial ryegrass, 35 weeks after

The appearance of NUSPRINT in spring was low (2.5).

In contrast, SAGANE has a moderate to very good spring appearance (5.5-6) and has clearly begun its growth. Perennial ryegrass exhibits a typical spring appearance.

Weekly mowing begins.



SAGANE continues to have a uniform sward, though there is a decrease in the sward density.

Meanwhile, NUSPRINT's sward quality and growth rate is poor. Nearly no regrowth is present once winter has passed. Perennial ryegrass exhibits typical spring development.



Figure 20: NUSPRINT, 41 weeks after sowing

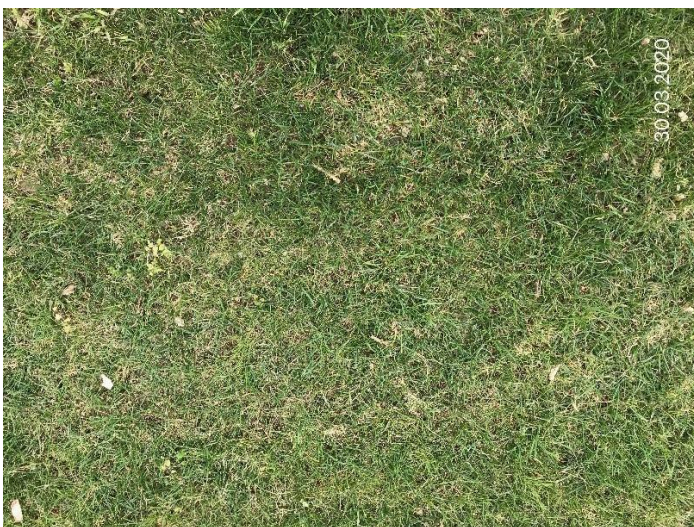


Figure 21: Perennial ryegrass, 41 weeks after