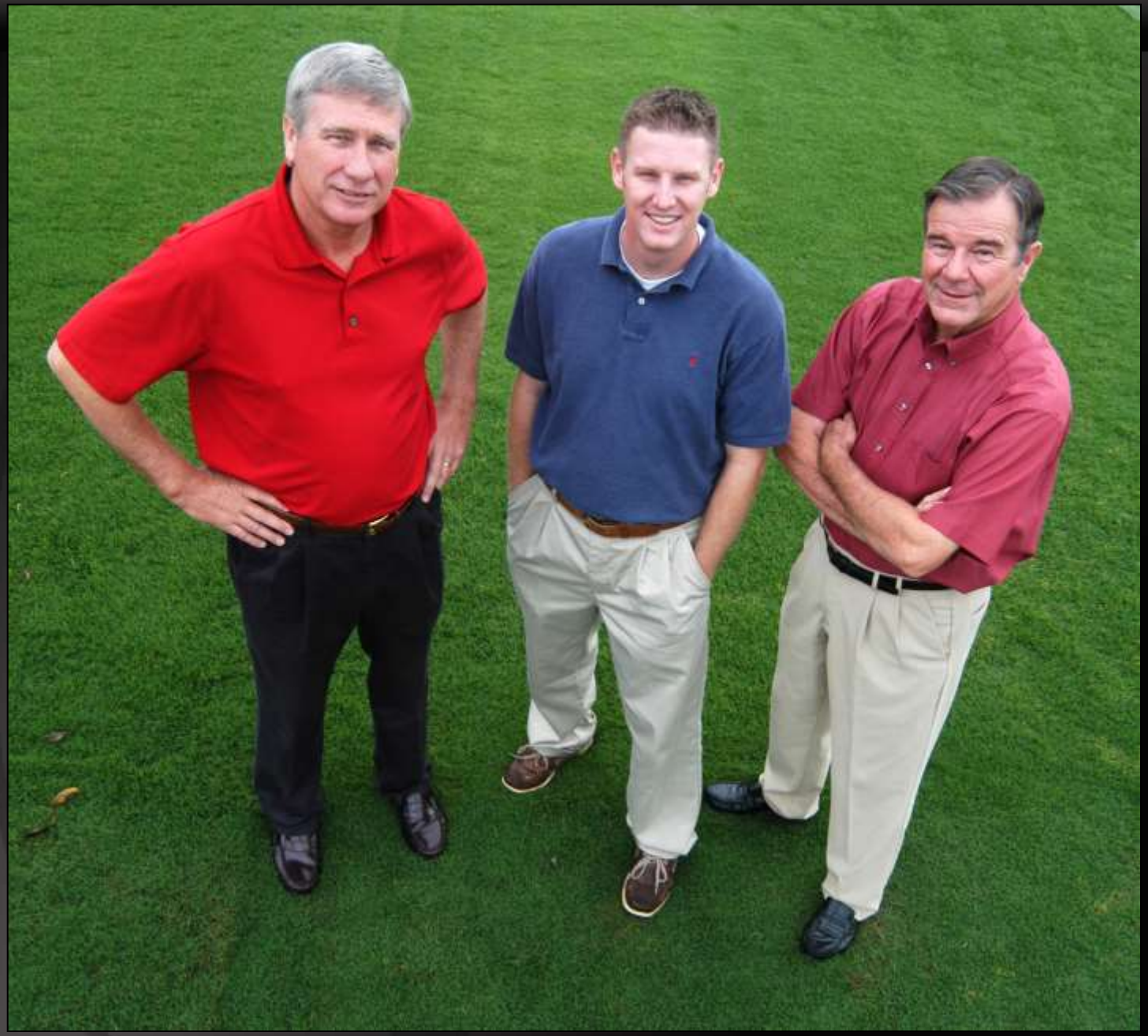
Turfgrass Breeding at the University of Georgia

Brian Schwartz – Tifton, GA

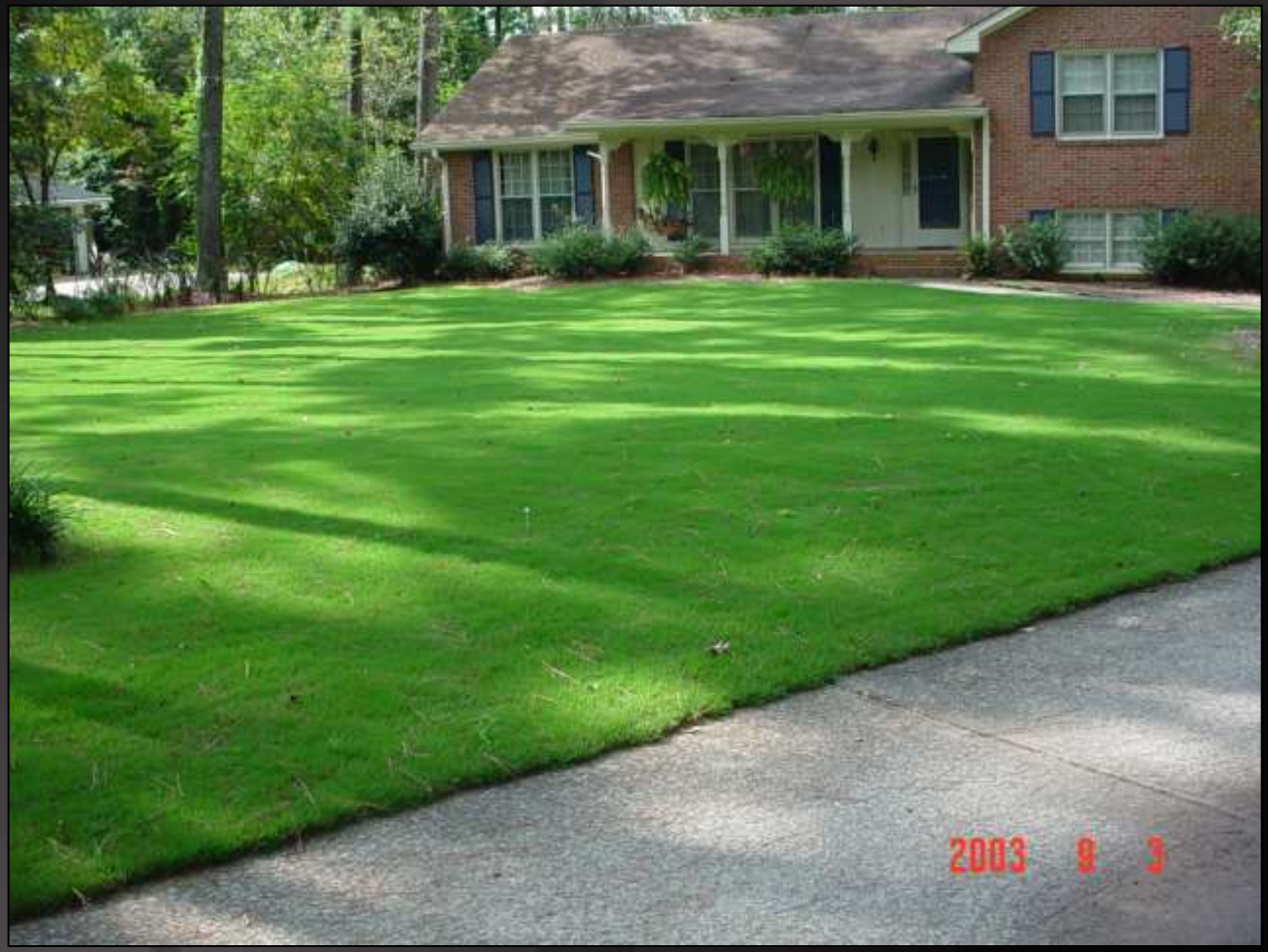


TifGrand™ Certified Bermuda

- **TifGrand (Shade Tolerant Bermudagrass)**
- Superior hybrid cross from (4x) by (2x) parents which has been tested for over 15 years
- Tolerates 60% continuous shade
- Tawny mole cricket resistance
- Dark green color with leaf texture that is intermediate between TifSport and TifDwarf.
- Flexible response to mowing heights between 0.250” to 1.5”
- Only “Certified” triploid (3x) material is available for distribution

TIFGRAND™

CERTIFIED BERMUDA



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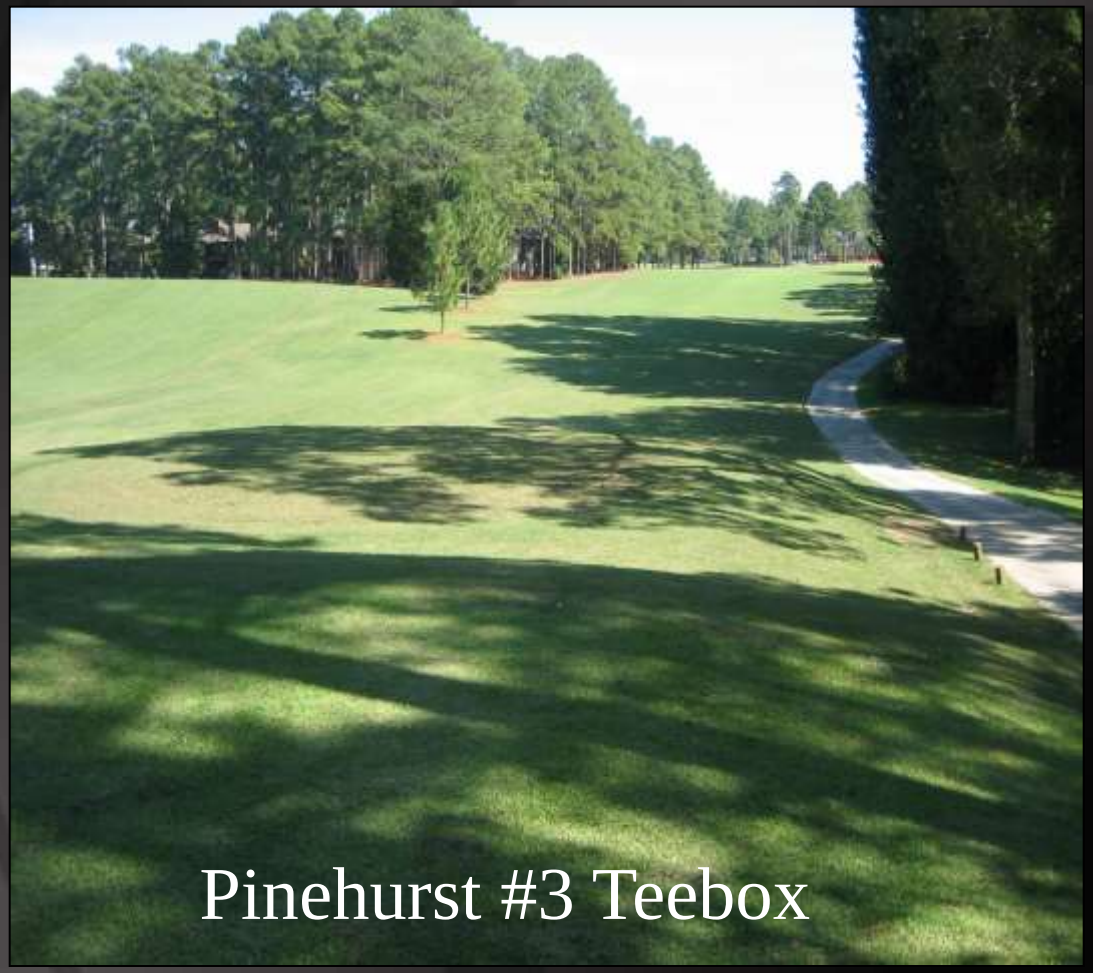

Pinehurst #3 Teebox

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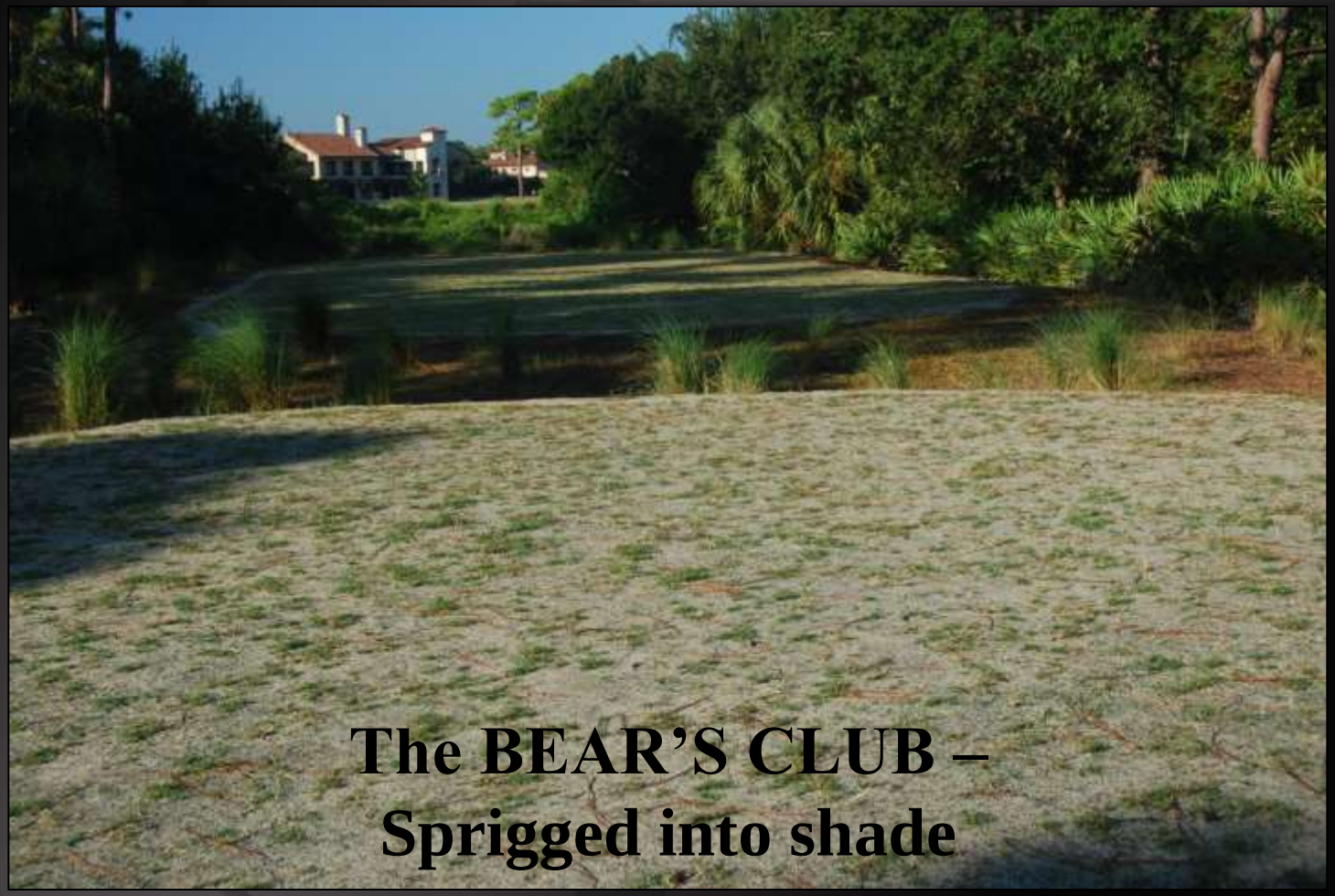

The BEAR'S CLUB –
Sprigged into shade

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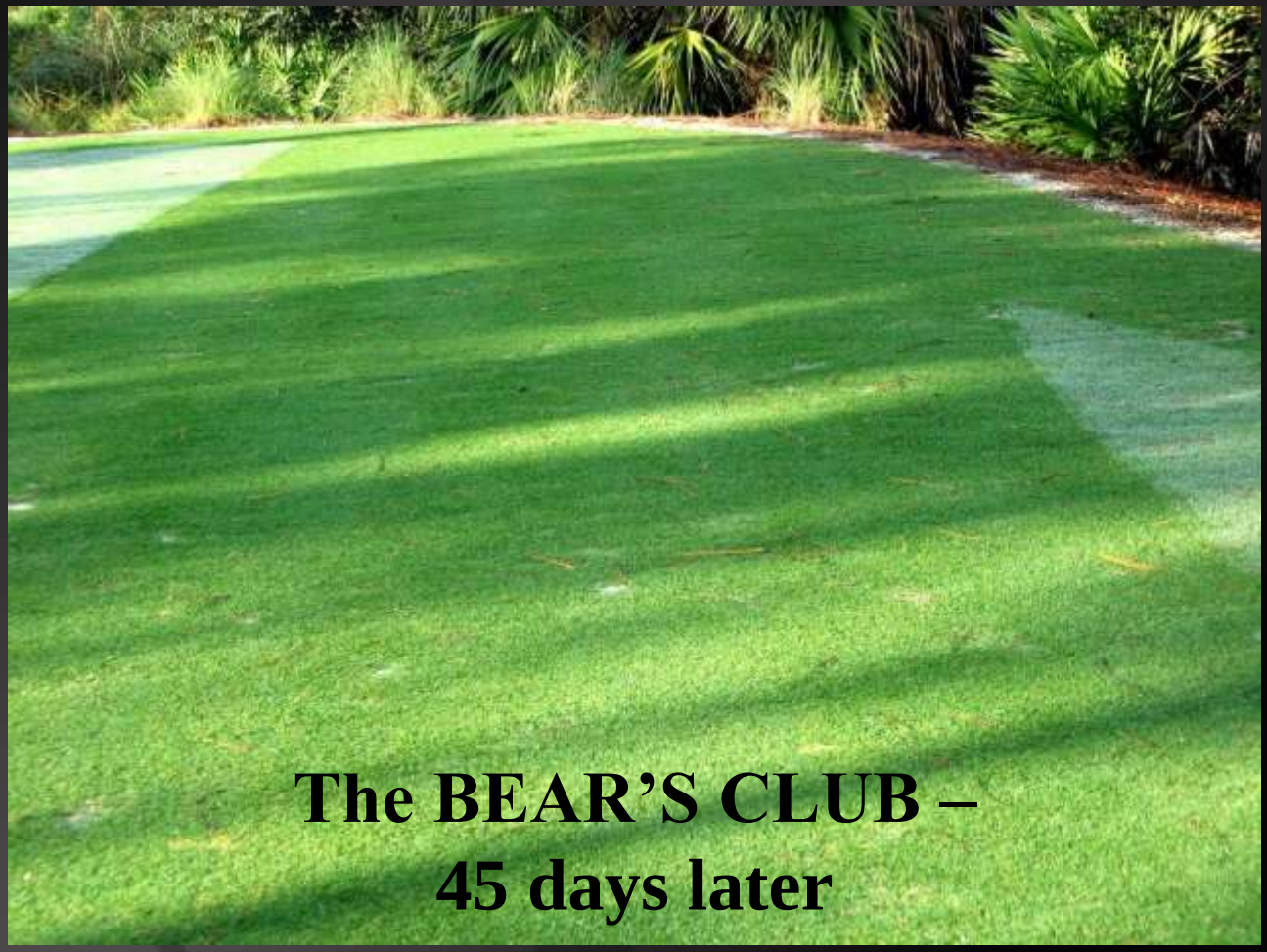

The BEAR'S CLUB –
45 days later

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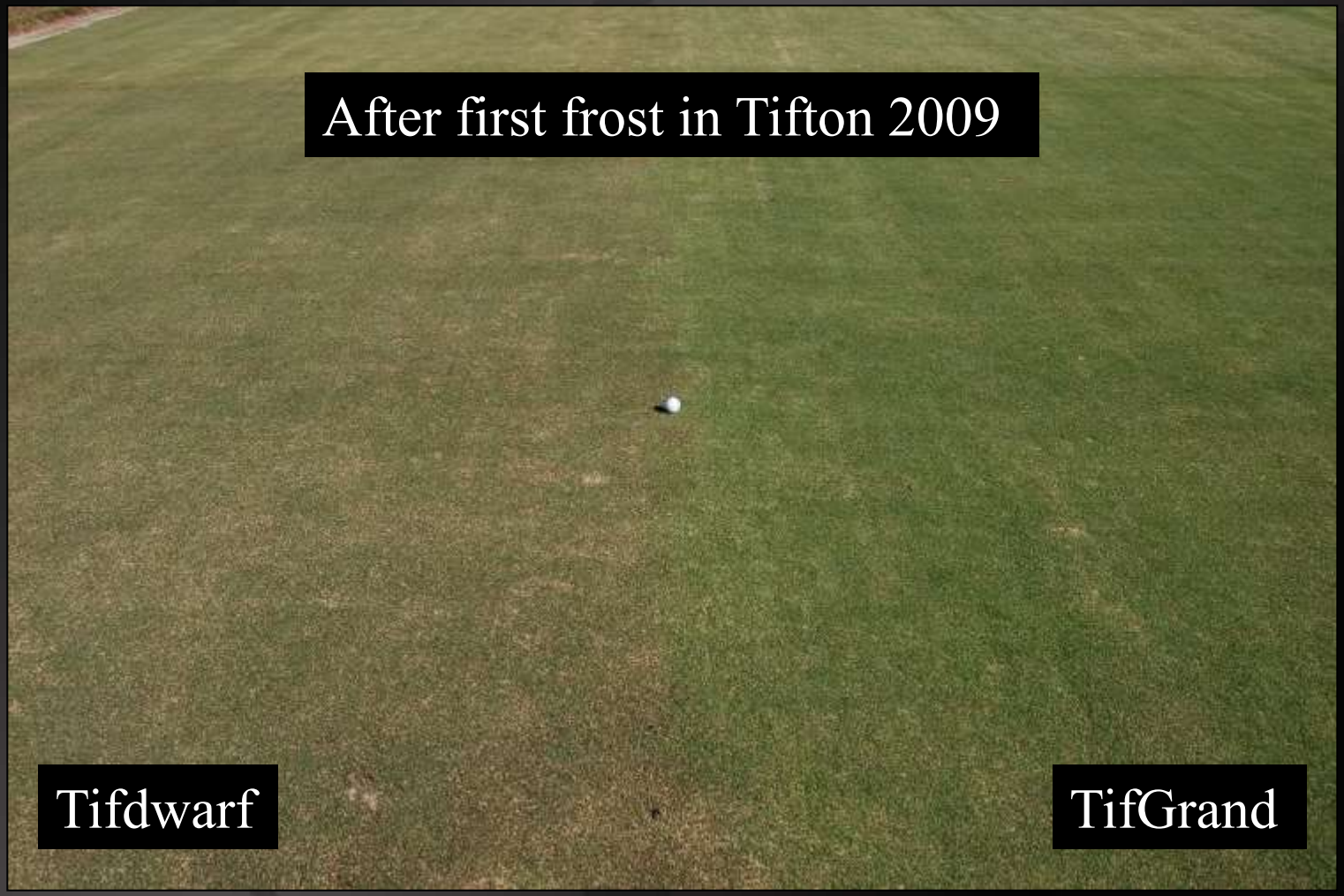

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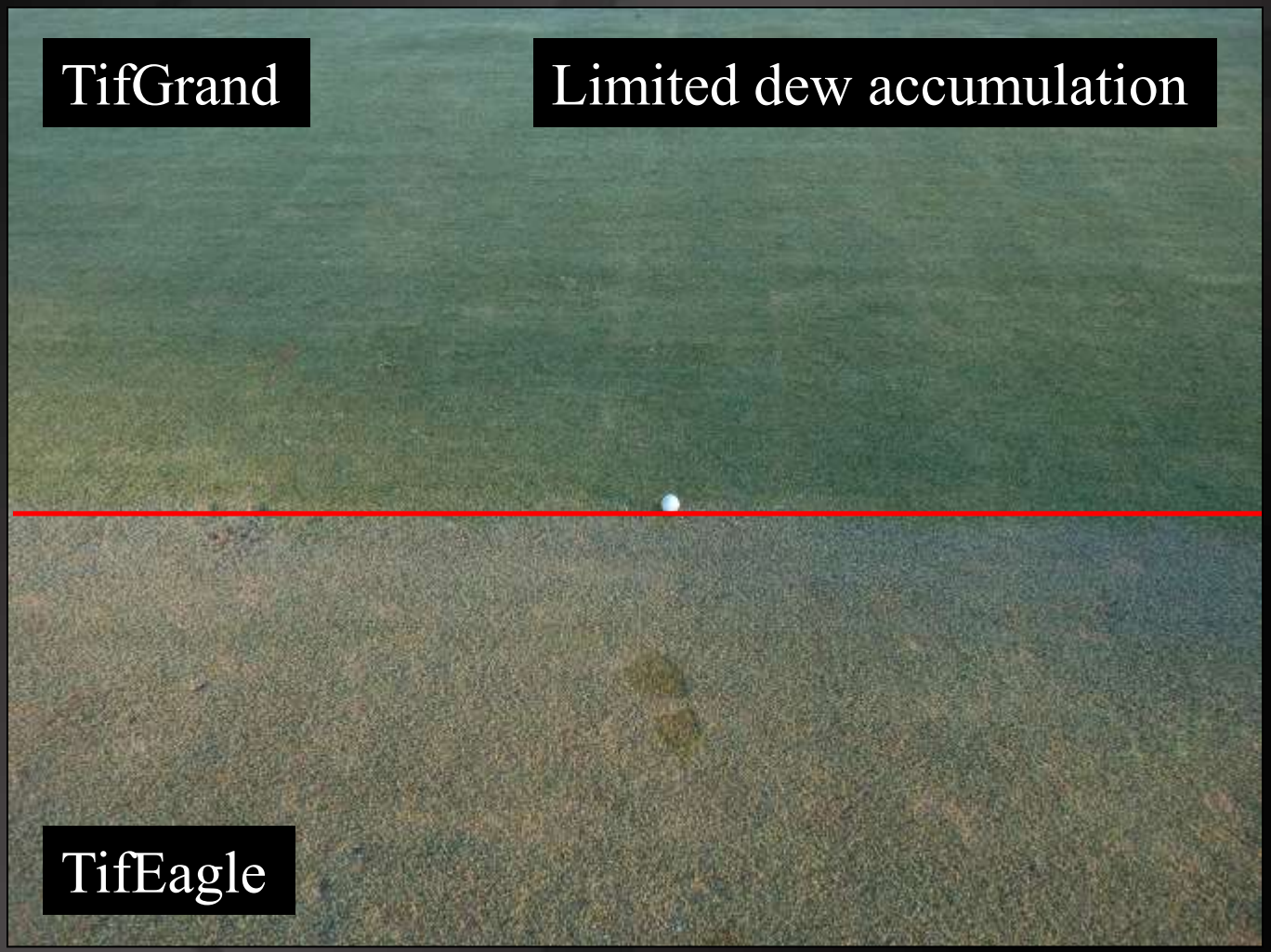
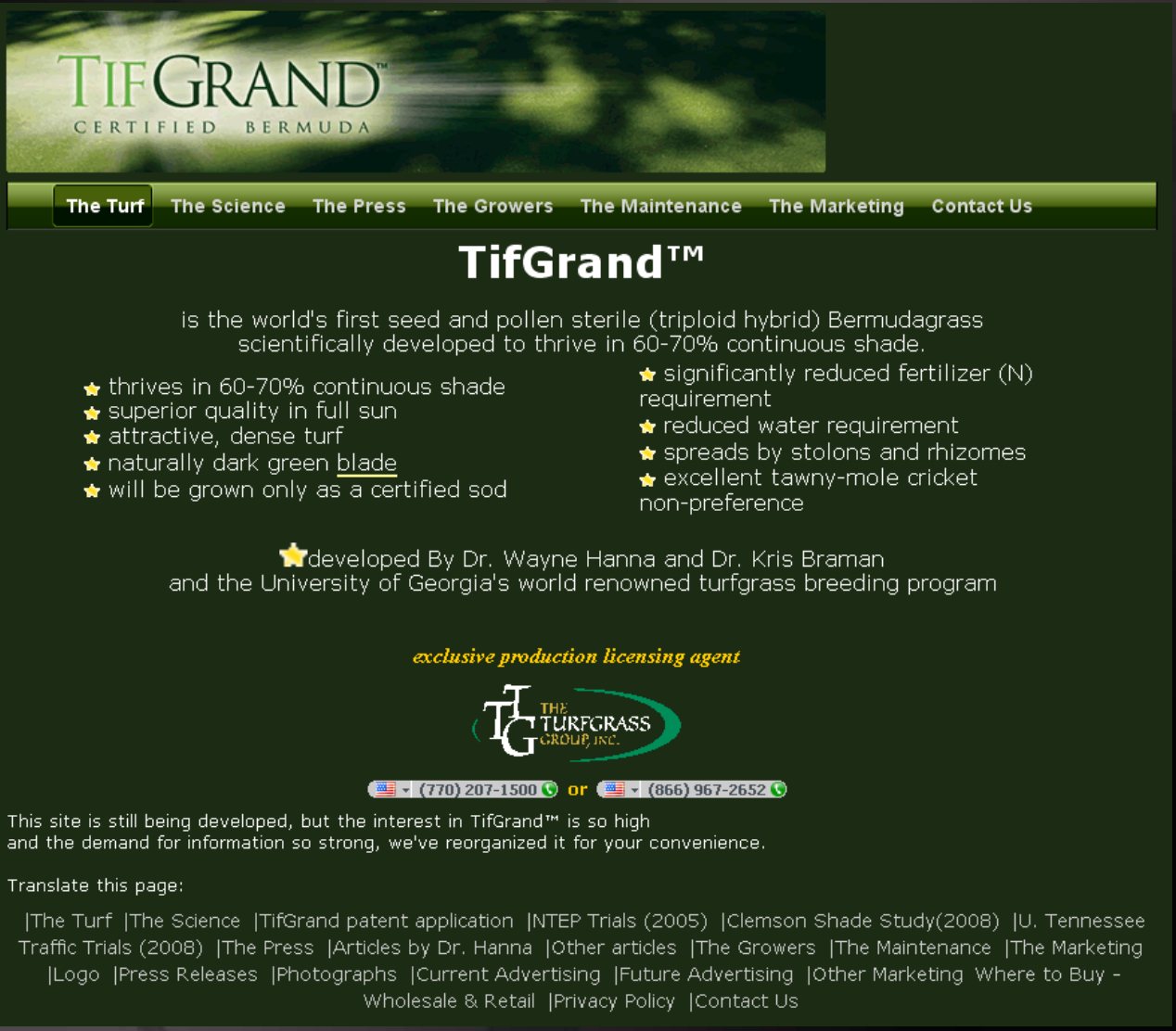


www.tifgrand.com



New Concept Turf (GA)

- Appes Sod Farm
- NG Turf, Inc.
- Patten Seed/Super Sod
- Pike Creek Turf, Inc.
- Sod Atlanta, Inc.

New Concept Turf (NC)

- Buy Sod, Inc. North Carolina
- Patten Seed/Super Sod
- Sandhill Turf, Inc.
- TriState Turf, Inc.

New Concept Turf (SC)

- Buy Sod, Inc. South Carolina
- New Life Turf, Inc.
- Patten Seed/Super Sod

New Concept Turf (TX)

- Holland Gardens, Inc.
- King Ranch Turfgrass
- Quality Turf Farms

New Concept Turf (AL, AZ, FL)

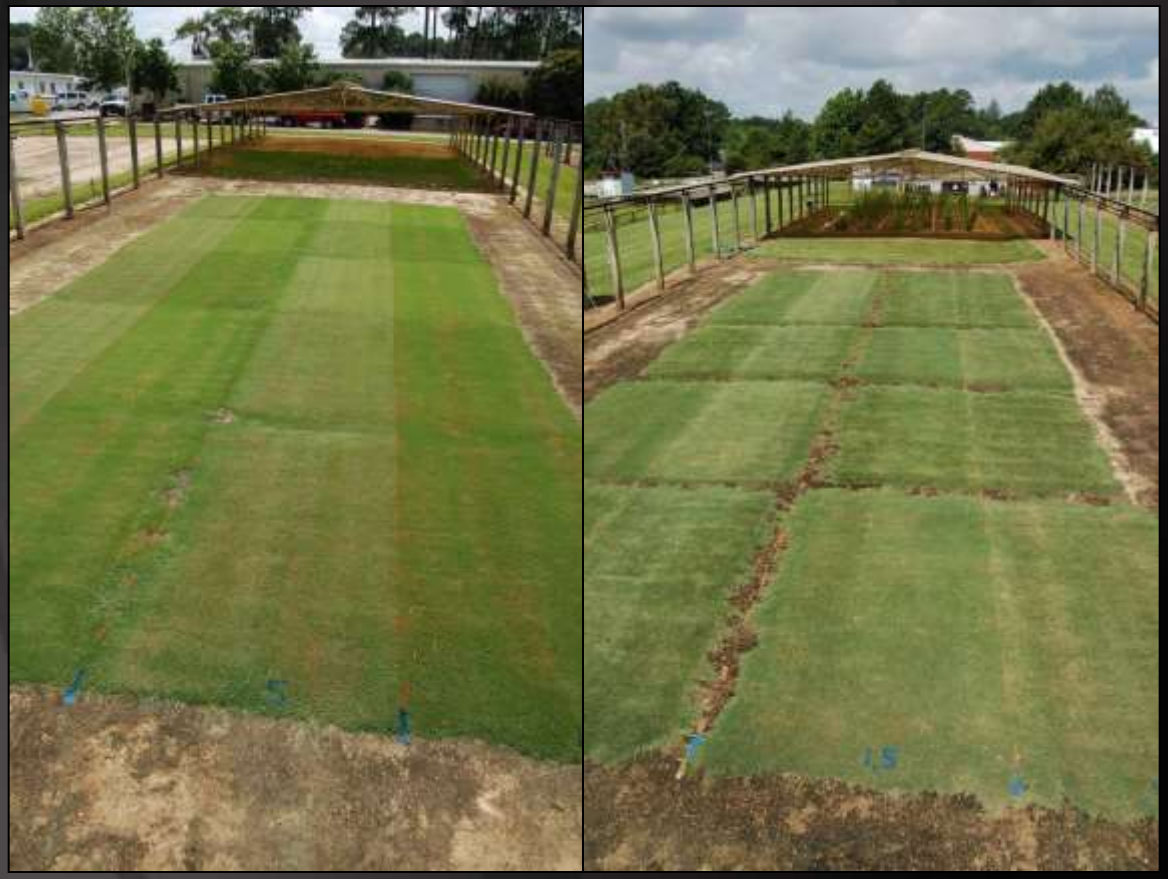
- **Coosa Valley Turf Farms** (AL)
- **Evergreen Turf** (AZ)
- **Master Turf Farm** (FL)

Turfgrass Breeding “Pipeline”

- (3) Potential Future Releases
  - DT-1, Tifton 11, and SB-1
- (17) Elite Hybrid Test
- (113) Advanced Clone Test
- (1340) Preliminary Clone Observations
- (10) Unique crossing blocks
  - Salt tolerance, Shade tolerance, Turf Quality

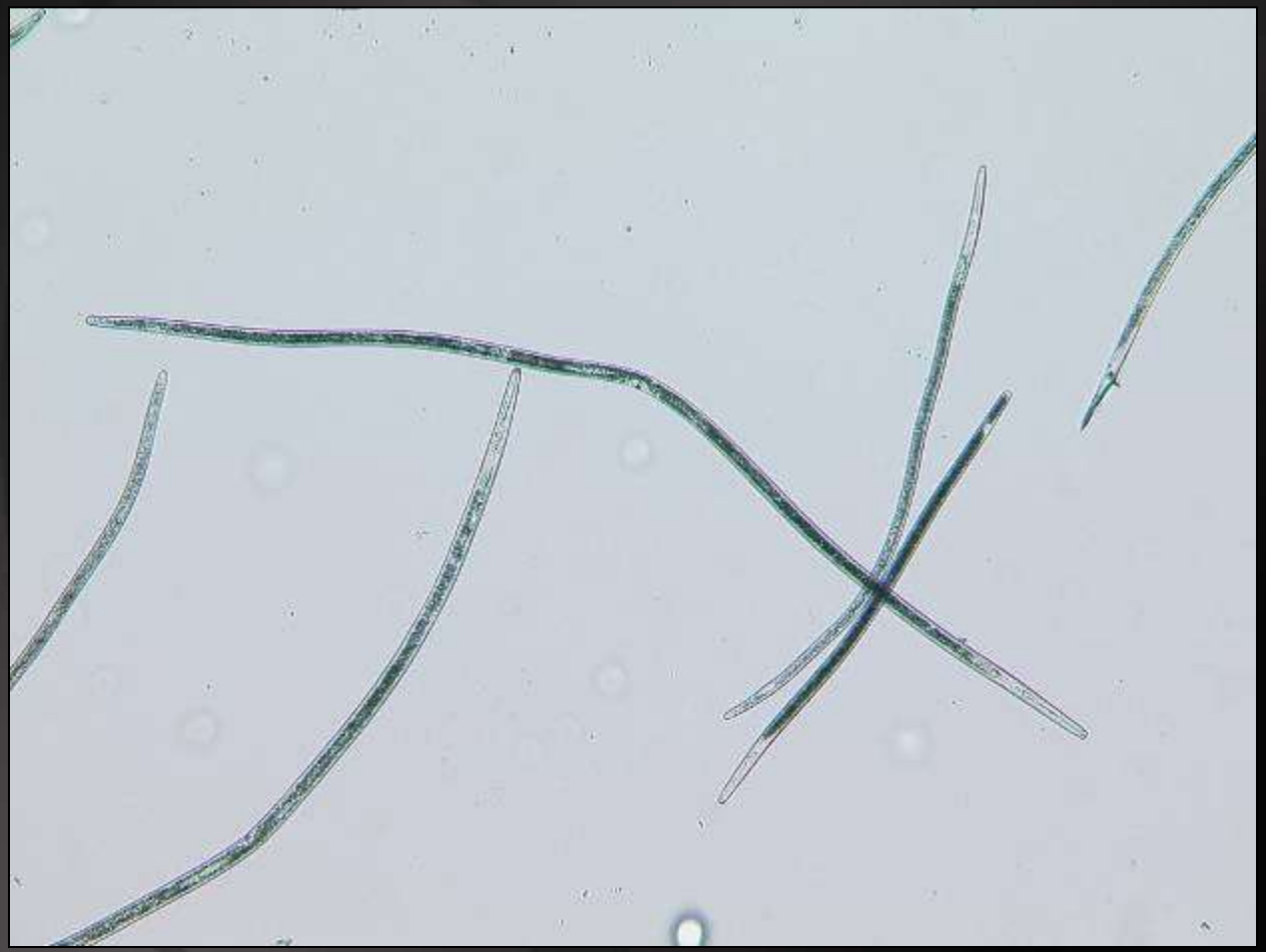
Drought and Stress Work

- DT-1: Has maintained turf quality without water 12 to 14 days longer than other cultivars
- TifGrand: Was selected under 70% to 90% shade



The Sting Nematode

- *Belonolaimus longicaudatus*

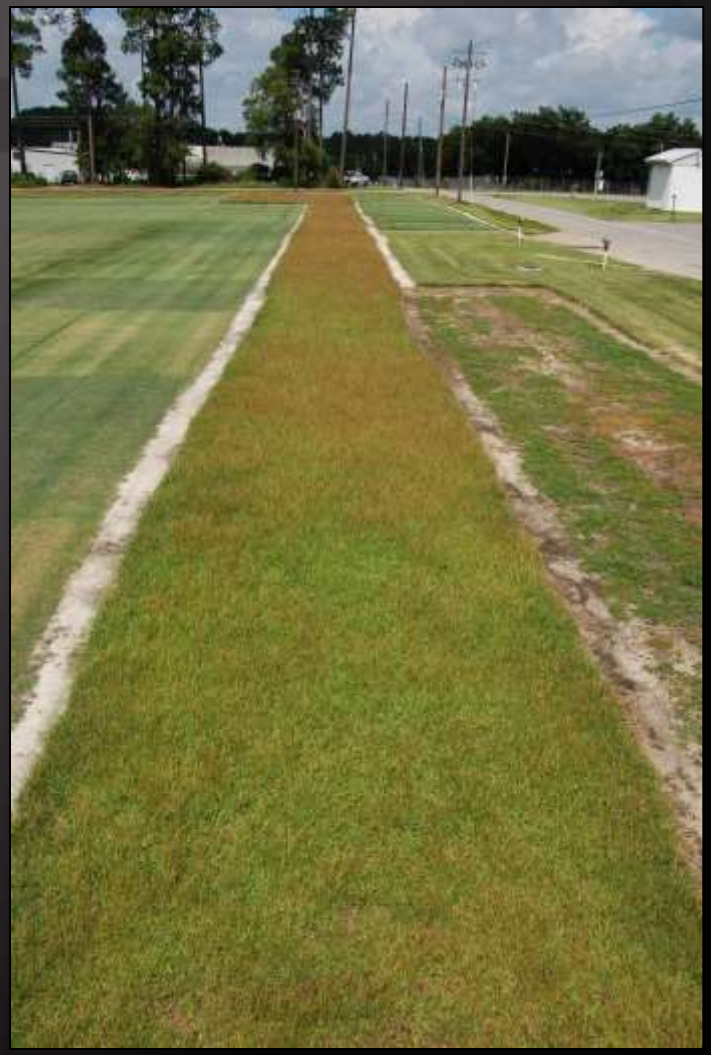


The Sting Nematode

- There were no significant differences for TRL (total root length) in the uninoculated controls between UGA 31 and SeaIsle1 or TifGrand and TifSport
- But promisingly, both UGA31 and TifGrand did maintain significantly greater TRL as compared to their respective species standards when subjected to sting nematode feeding.
- Additionally, there was no difference ($P \leq 0.05$) between the inoculated TRL of TifGrand and T89, a hardy “common” bermudagrass which has exhibited persistent growth under harsh environmental conditions in Tifton, GA for many years.

Centipedegrass

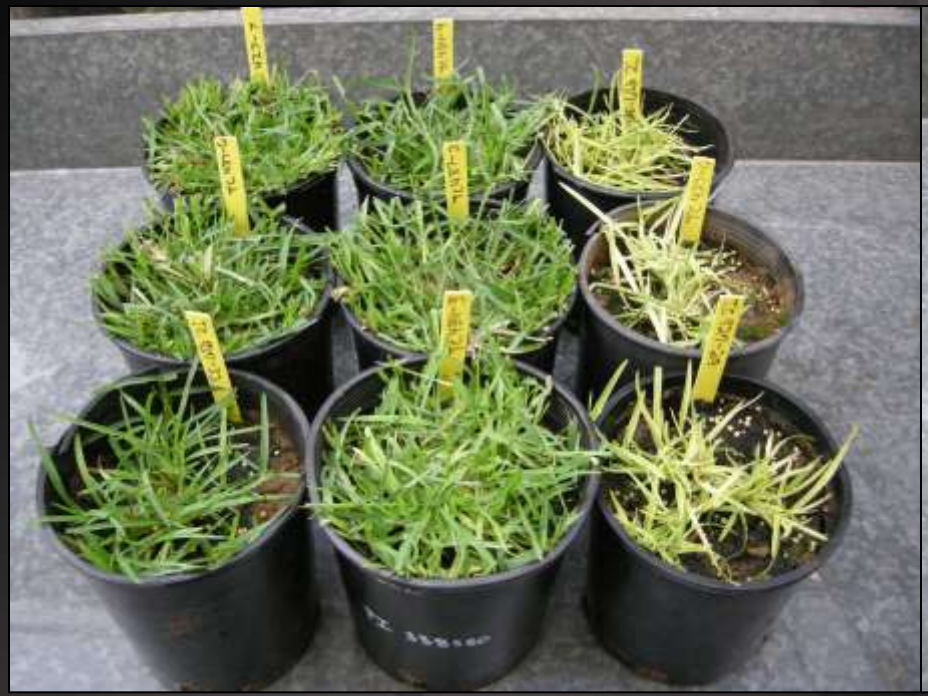
- Objectives
  - Spittlebug resistance
    - Dr. Kris Braman
  - Shade tolerance
  - Sting nematode resistance
    - Dr. Patty Timper
    - Dr. Karen Harris
  - High pH and High salinity
    - Dr. Gerald Henry
  - Cold tolerance
    - Dr. John Sorochan
  - Seed yield

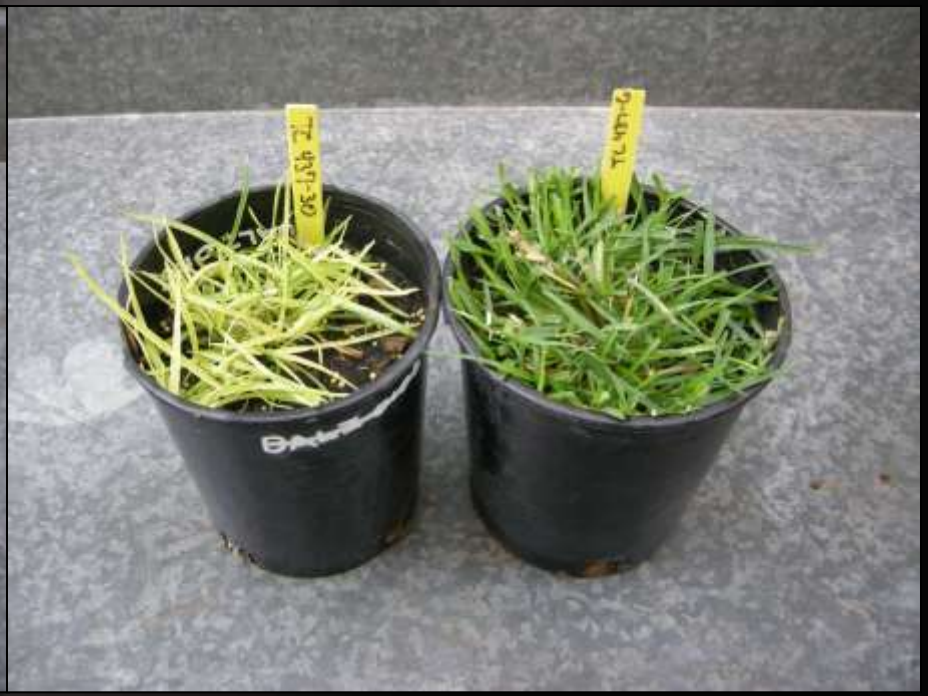


Centipedegrass

High pH and High salinity and Cold tolerance

- Dr. Gerald Henry





Zoysiagrass

- Objectives
  - Evaluate the feasibility of “ultradwarf” zoysiagrasses
  - Breed for large patch resistance
  - Improve growth and recover rates
  - Select for water use efficiency

Zoysiagrass

- (62) Advanced Clone Test
- (3800) Preliminary Clone Observations
- (1133) Unique Breeding “Families”

Questions