



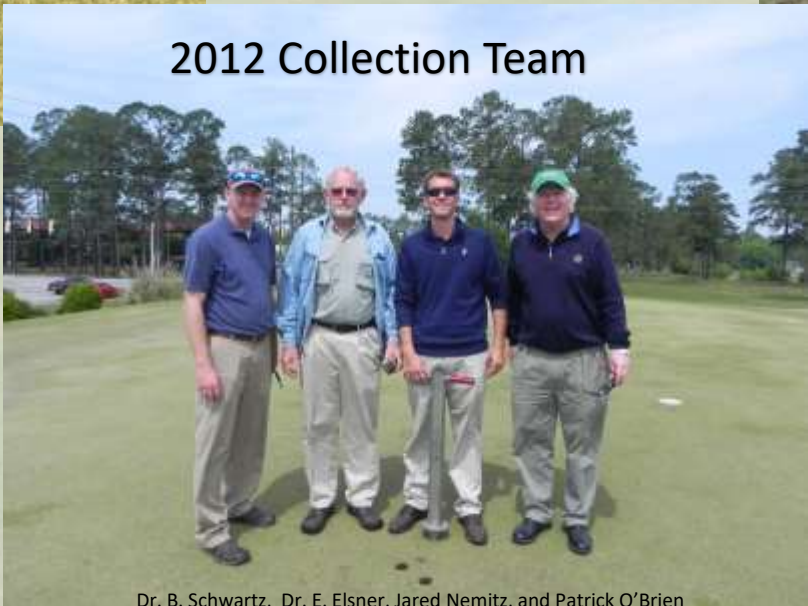
A Seedy Story

Amanda Webb, Patrick O'Brien, Earl Elsner, and Brian Schwartz

Tifgreen 328
1956



2012 Collection Team



Dr. B. Schwartz, Dr. E. Elsner, Jared Nemitz, and Patrick O'Brien

Taylor Creek Golf Course Greens



Tifgreen Bermudagrass: Past, Present, and Future

How a trip to Taylor's Creek Golf Course in Georgia offered an agronomic history lesson while simultaneously providing a glimpse into the future.

BY PATRICK O'BRIEN



Photo 1. An aggressive ultraviolet mutation from Tifgreen Bermudagrass was able to completely overtake green number 12. Could this ultraviolet someday become the putting green variety of choice in the future?

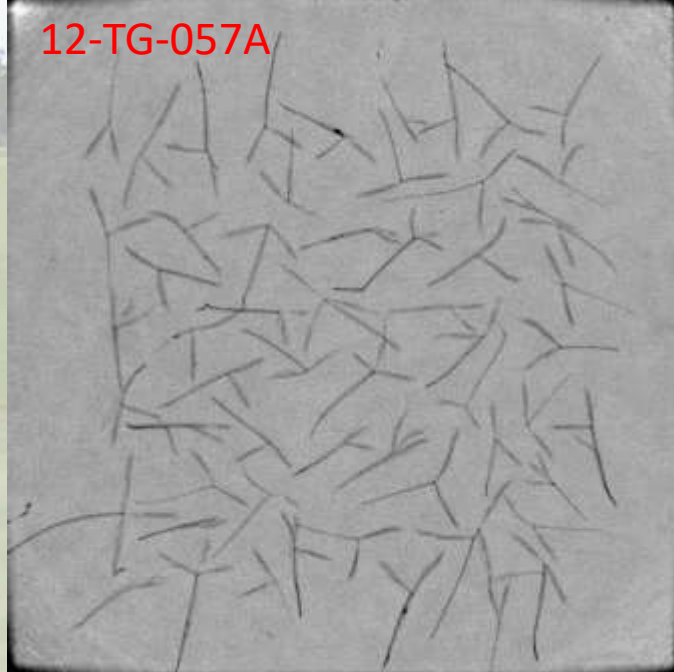
Tifgreen Bermudagrass, also commonly known as 328, isn't talked about much these days. It is not even commercially available on a wide scale as it once was. But to say that Tifgreen Bermudagrass is not contributing to make a major contribution to the turfgrass industry simply could not be further from the truth. A recent trip to Taylor's Creek Golf Course at Ft. Stewart, Ga., revealed that Tifgreen Bermudagrass has taken on a new and significant role in the industry. This article is a story about the past, revealing the future. Tifgreen Bermudagrass is the central character, and it

we coming years a tribute to make to one of the great turfgrass varieties of the past and details are offered on how it may forever influence the development of bermudagrass putting greens in the future.

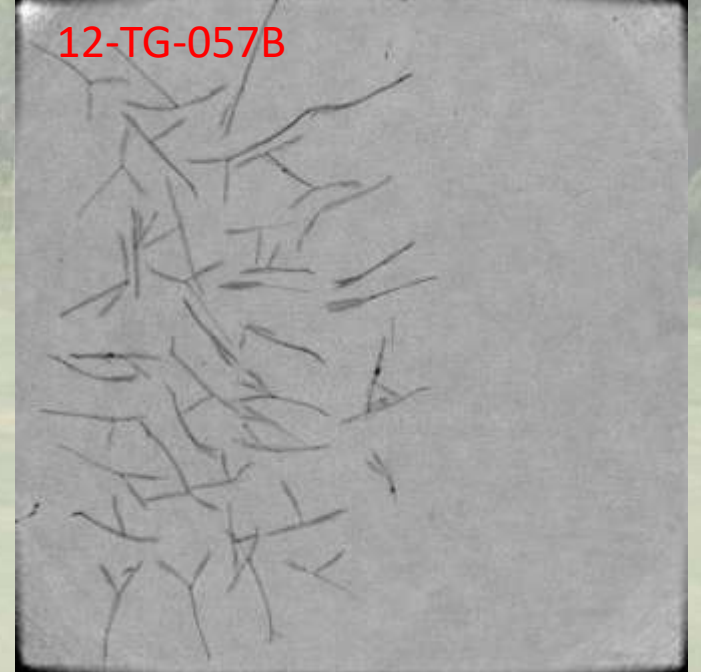
AN INVITATION TO TAYLOR'S CREEK
In March 2012, I received a call from Taylor's Creek superintendent Robert Green seeking assistance with an ongoing putting green regrassing project. Taylor's Creek was built in 1967 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the putting greens had not been reseeded since they were first planted to the original Tifgreen Bermudagrass. I trust you that upon my arrival at Taylor's Creek I was stunned by the appearance of the putting greens. They looked like a patchwork quilt. The number and variety of mutations was extraordinary. All but two greens were covered with patches — some large, some small — with differences in color and texture, tolerance to nematodes and thatch, and even competitive relationships among themselves. I had a hunch that these putting greens might hold some historical value and could be of interest to turfgrass breeders. Before continuing with the story, however, it is



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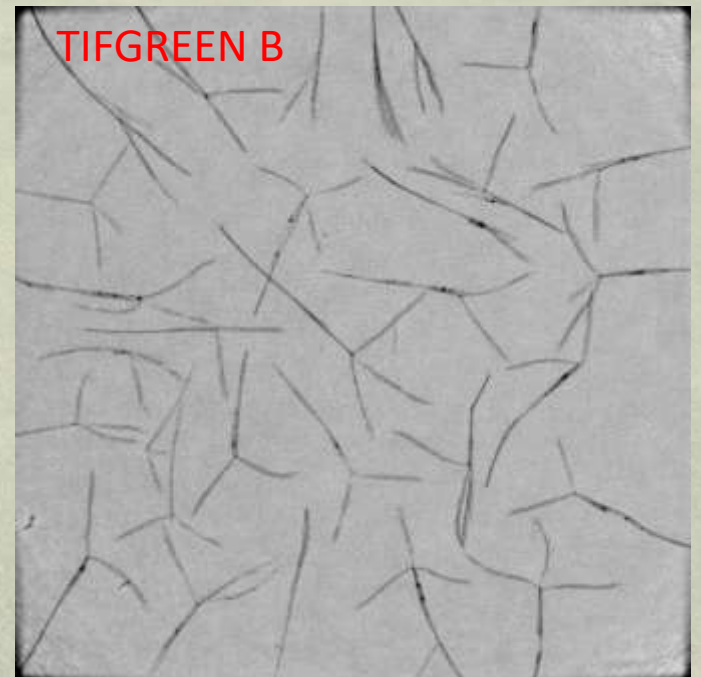
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TIFGREEN B



2015

Total of 11,925 Seed heads were x-rayed

Average of 15 florets per seed head

Approximately of 178,875 florets x-rayed

2016

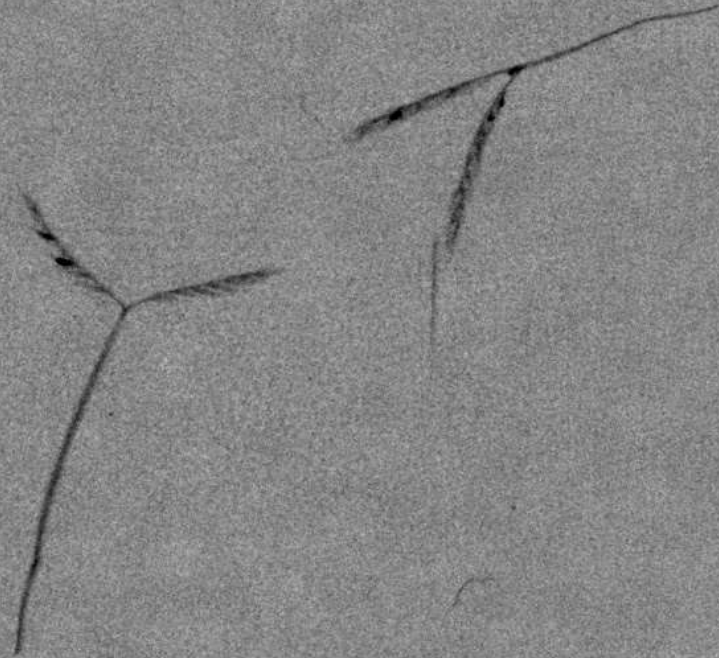
Total of 10,149 Seed heads were x-rayed

Average of 15 florets per seed head

Approximately of 152,235 florets x-rayed

Total of 331,110 Florets X-rayed

1 x-ray positive seed!



- 2 Years
- No Mowing
- 1 Acre

Possible to have 11 Seed!