

Absolute Kentucky Bluegrass

FEATURES:

- Strong transition-zone performer with exceptional tolerance to summer heat stress
- Resistant to a host of turf diseases
- Excellent endurance under close mowing
- Rich, dark green color
- Superior shade tolerance



PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- **MOWING TOLERANT:** Nationally, Absolute was the #2 variety at test sites between 1.6 and 2 inches, including sites in Oklahoma, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Washington. And it was among the top varieties under 1 inch (data from the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program [NTEP] provided upon request).
- **SUPERIOR TURF QUALITY:** Absolute was a top overall performer in the most recent NTEP trial in a number of states and qualities. In our own testing in the tough Washington, DC transition-zone area, Absolute tied for #1 out of 200 top experimental prospects – three years running – with an overall turf quality rating of 7.6. Midnight, by comparison, rated 6.2, Unique 4.8, and Aspen 3.8.
- **GREAT WINTER PERFORMANCE:** Absolute is the very first of the dark, dense bluegrass cultivars to combine an attractive winter and early spring color with a dark green summer color. It maintains pleasing color for extended periods of cool weather.
- **AGGRESSIVE:** Absolute is moderately aggressive and forms a full, dense turf, crowding out many weeds, even at lower cutting heights. But unlike earlier aggressive bluegrasses, Absolute is not as thatch-prone.
- **EXCELLENT SHADE TOLERANCE:** Absolute outscored previous top shade varieties, ‘Glade’ and ‘Eclipse’ in the NTEP trial. Performance was also outstanding at our in-house trials in Post Falls, Idaho for shade tolerance and powdery mildew resistance.

DISEASE AND INSECT TOLERANCE:

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| • Leaf spot | Superior resistance | • Brown patch | Very good resistance |
| • Necrotic ring spot | Excellent resistance | • Stem rust | Good resistance |
| • Melting out | Superior resistance | • Snow mold | Improved resistance |
| • Stripe smut | Excellent resistance | • Summer patch | Improved resistance |
| • Crown rust | Very good resistance | | |

DEVELOPMENT: Absolute Kentucky bluegrass is an intraspecific hybrid, created between a mother plant in the *Aggressive Class* of bluegrass, and a father plant in the *Compact Class*, conveying the best characteristics of both classes into the turf.