



Salt Tolerance Program



Maintain beautiful green turf even in high-saline soils and where effluent water is used with our salt-tolerant program varieties. These salt-tolerant varieties are well suited for use near seashores, in desert climates, and regions of the country where water quality continues to be an issue.



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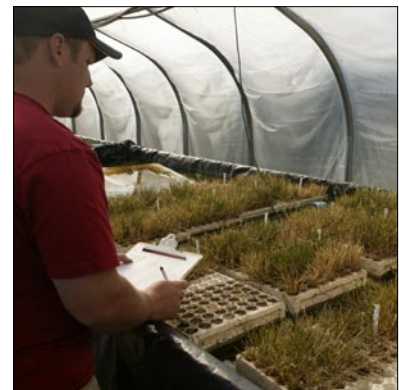


What qualifies Scotts Turf-Seed varieties as salt-tolerant?

The interest in salinity-tolerant turfgrasses grows as the availability of potable water for irrigating decreases. Therefore, Pure-Seed Testing, Inc. conducted turf survival tests in greenhouse saltwater baths, to determine which varieties tolerate high levels of salinity. Different ppm levels of salt were used for the various species of turfgrass, depending on the inherent tolerance to salt of the turfgrass species being tested. Any variety that had 50% or greater survival rate over the length of the study was deemed qualified to receive the Scotts Turf-Seed salt-tolerant icon.

Research & Breeding Work

Pure-Seed Testing, Inc. identifies plants with salinity tolerance for use in breeding projects and to find existing varieties that have natural high salt tolerance. Using a synthetic ocean salt (*Instant Ocean*® from Aquarium Systems), a salt bath was created, containing six different salts as well as minor elements. Plants were placed in saltwater baths in each of four replications for a specified period of time. Percent survival was calculated, based on the number of plants maintaining green color vs. number of dead plants subjected to a salt bath.



What varieties made it?

I. FINE FESCUE

Variety	ppm NaCl	Survival
Seabreeze GT	10,000	94.9%
Florentine GT	10,000	60.0%

III. KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS

Variety	ppm NaCl	Survival
Moonlight SLT	10,000	65.0%
North Star	10,000	57.5%
Moonbeam	10,000	50.0%

V. SEASHORE PASPALUM

Variety
Sea Spray

II. TALL FESCUE

Variety	ppm NaCl	Survival
Tar Heel II	25,000	85.0%
Pure Gold	25,000	66.0%

IV. PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

Variety	ppm NaCl	Survival
Brightstar SLT	17,000	84.0%
Salinas	22,000	61.7%
Gray Star	22,000	57.7%
Silver Dollar	22,000	56.9%