



Zoysia & Sustainability

Speaker: Brad Burgess

Company: Sports Turf Solutions

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MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Brad Burgess

Came to SE Asia in 1995. West Papua, Indonesia.



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Imported Bermudagrass from USA.



Our workers had never seen golf before.
Had no idea what they were building.

I also had no idea how we were going to
get this job done in all this rain. 10 to 15
meters of rain per year.



We found common Zoysia growing native.



Every year we lost our
Bermuda Greens.

No sun from July to Sept.

10 to 15 meters of rain per
year.

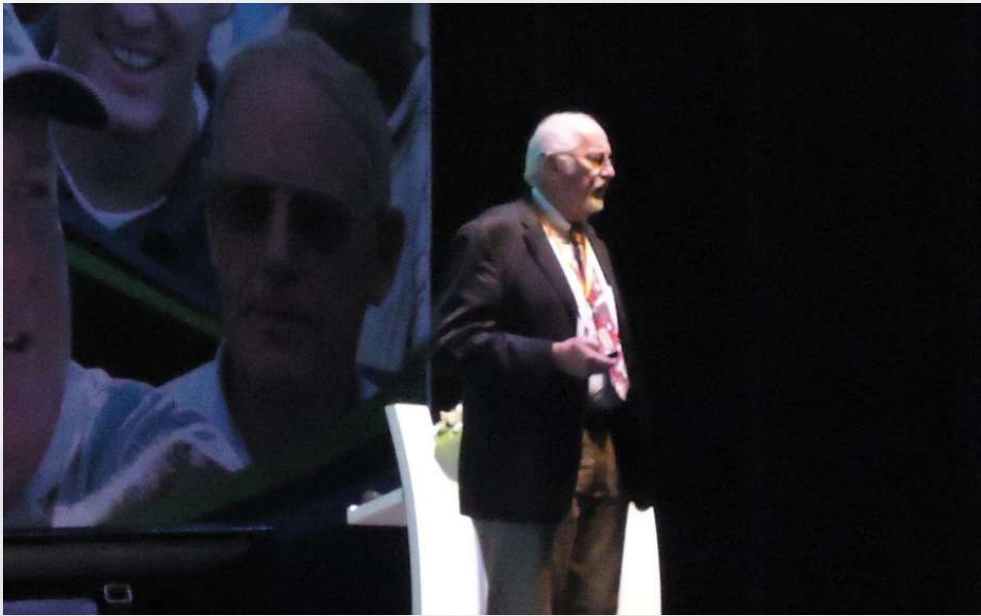
2007, Dwarf Zoysia appeared in the greens.

Local Zoysia found in greens.

- Suitable to local conditions.
- Slow and Thatchy, but acceptable to members.
- Better than the previous Bermuda greens.



**2011 – Asia Pacific Golf Summit
Dr Milt Engelke**



**2013 – Visited BladeRunner Farms
Inspected hundreds of Zoysia varieties.**



2015



2017



2020



2024



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Our Farms - Thailand
The Largest Certified Turfgrass Provider in Asia.



Thailand Turf Farms – 2, Locations. Built in 2015.



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Vietnam Farms – 2 Locations, 2019



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Malaysia, 2024.



Our Farms;

- Thailand – 22Ha (Tif Eagle, Zeon Zoysia, Stadium Zoysia, Lynkz Zoysia)
- Vietnam – 40Ha (Tif Eagle, Zeon Zoysia, Stadium Zoysia, Primo Zoysia, Lynkz Zoysia)
- Malaysia – 12Ha (Stadium Zoysia, Lynkz Zoysia)
- 2024, STS was the largest selling supplier of Certified Tif Eagle Bermuda in the world. But we don't recommend it.
- Philippines Turf Farm – Under Construction. Aqua Terra Integrated.



Zoysia Trials Thailand

Planted in Chonburi, Thailand and Hoi An, Vietnam in December 2021 together with several other new varieties.

Lazer Zoysia which is already becoming extremely popular in the USA.





Zoysia Trials Vietnam

It has shown almost zero signs of disease. Minimal superficial dollar spot. We have never had to apply a fungicide to it in the most extreme low light and wet humid conditions. We did see some spots of Mycelium on it once but it wasn't at all detrimental to the turf.

Even with standing water on it for 8 days. Nothing happened to the quality of the turf.

It is very aggressive against Bermuda grass as seen below.

Zoysia Trials Vietnam

Hoi An Nursery Trials.
Pythium, Bermuda Grass
Decline, now called
ERI's?

Tif Eagle is extremely
Pesticide Dependent.



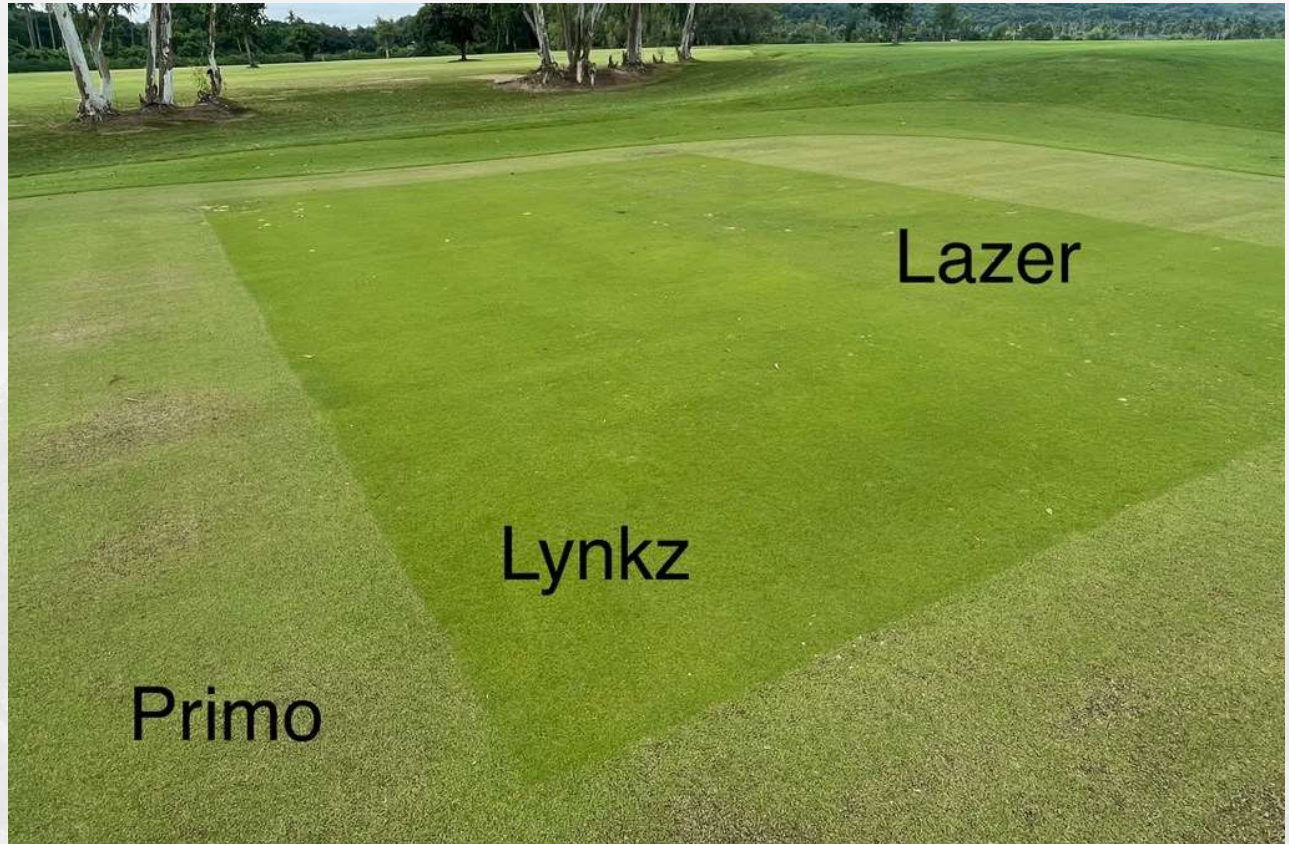
Zoysia Trials Vietnam



Lynkz Zoysia

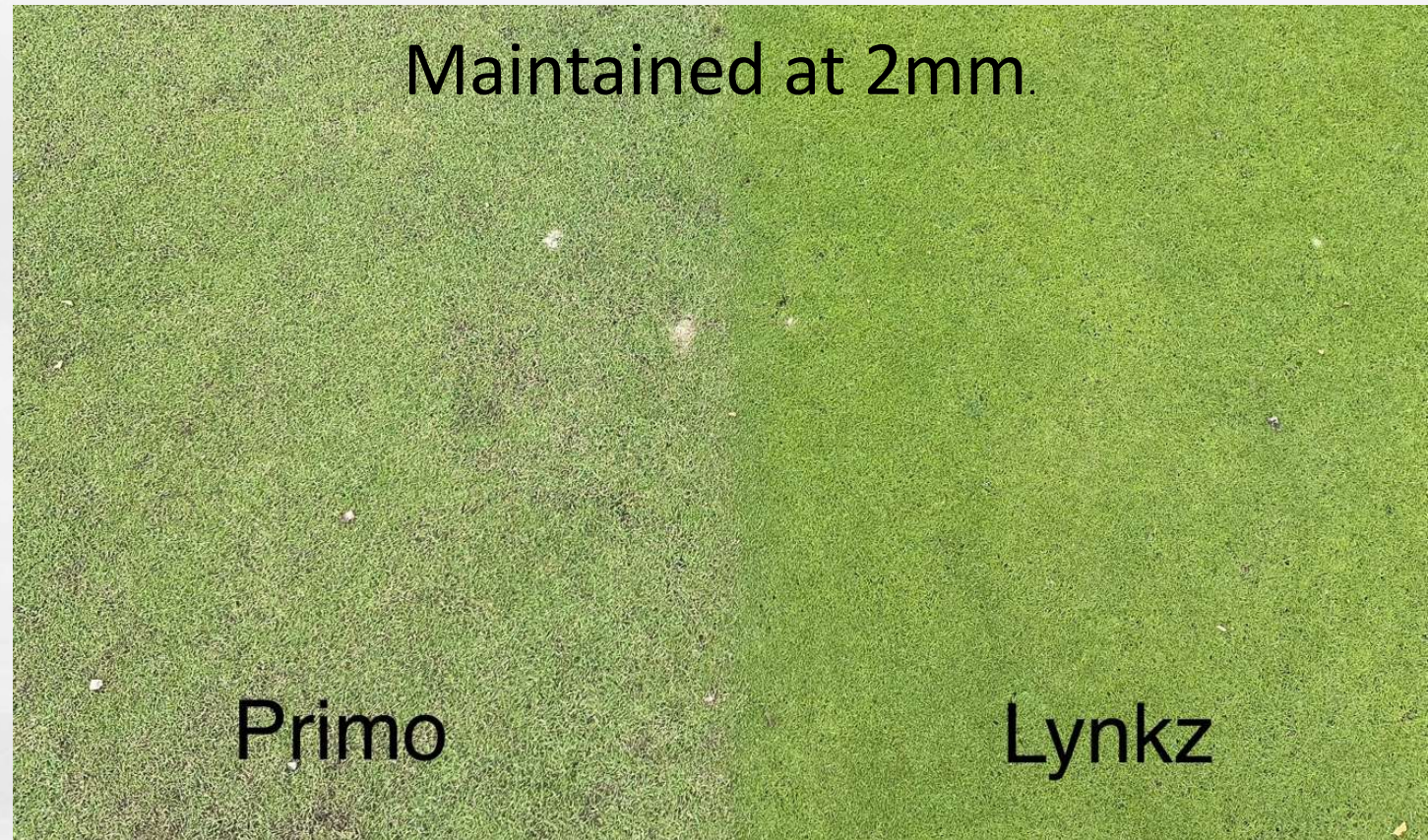
Green Trial on Native Sandy Loam.

- Very minimal maintenance.
- No Grooming, No Top Dressing, No Brushing, No Rolling, only mowing 4 times a week.
- Still produces a decent putting surface. Primo did not perform anywhere near as well as the Lynkz.
- No fungicides & Insecticides have ever been applied.
- Speeds 10 feet + with no stress.



Lynkz Zoysia

Primo Zoysia is proven to produce great putting surfaces throughout Asia, including Singapore, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. Lynkz Zoysia outperformed Primo in every aspect.



Lynkz Zoysia (formally BRG)

Zoysia grasses side by side don't interact badly with each other the way it does with Bermuda.

Lynkz Zoysia is also extremely Drought and Salt Tolerant.

Zoysia will extract salts from the profile unlike Paspalum that tolerates it.



Zoysia Trials Singapore.

Establishment Rates are quite fast. Proper nutrient and cultural practices are important. Early mowing is vital for swift establishment. 12 weeks full cover and low HOC.

Grow in trial conducted by Mark Isley, Laguna National, Singapore.

BRG-2, 12 weeks.
HOC 2.5mm



FOLIAR FEEDING ONLY ONCE A MONTH

Zoysia Trials Thailand



Zoysia Trials Asia

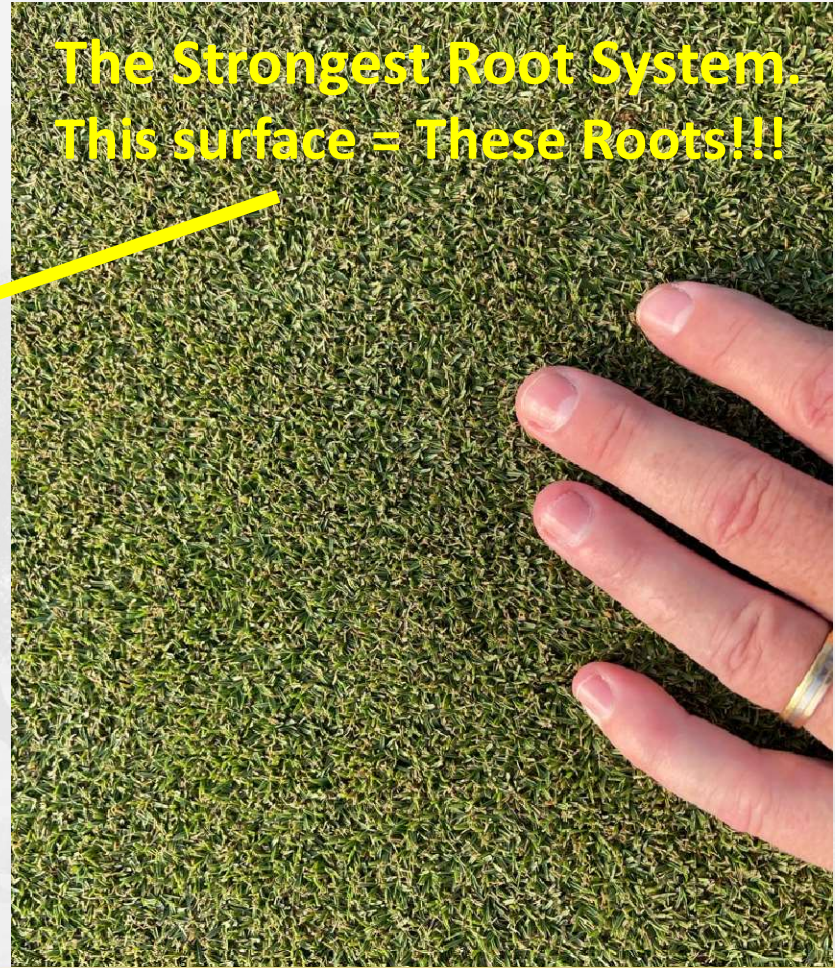
Observations include:

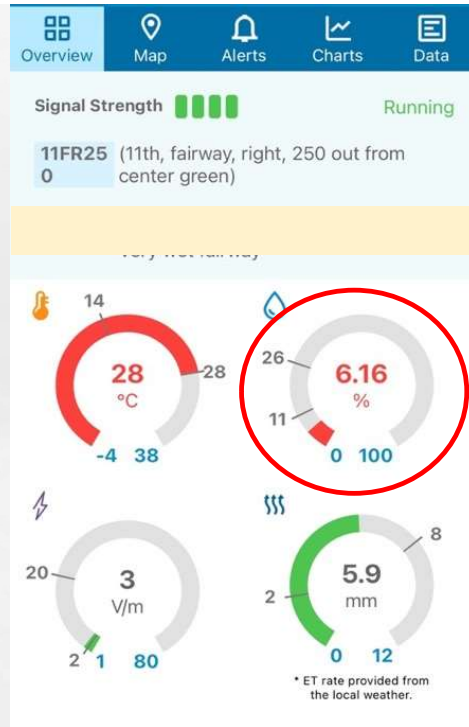
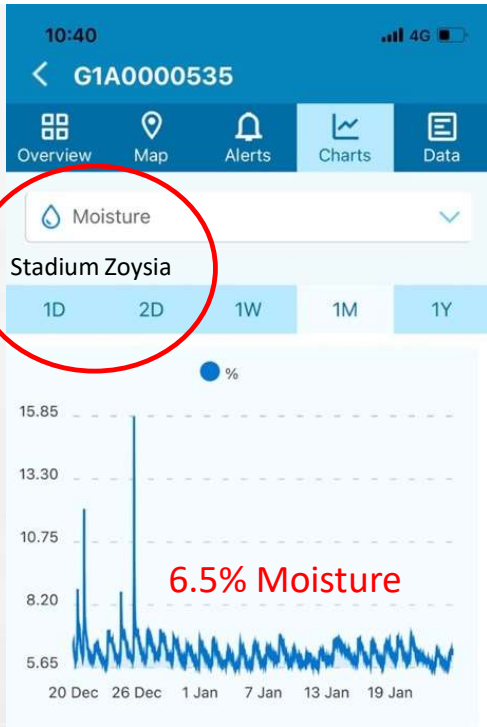
- Disease & Insect Tolerance.
- Thatch Accumulation.
- Speed.
- Drought Tolerance.
- Shade Tolerance.
- Establishment & Recovery Rates.
- Nutrient Requirements.
- Root Structure.





**The Strongest Root System.
This surface = These Roots!!!**





Tif Tuf Bermuda is Approved as the most Drought Tolerant Bermuda in Australia & in the USA. But it is not as Drought Tolerant as Zeon & Stadium Zoysia...



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Drought Tolerance Data from STS Turf Farms.

- Zoysia handles 6 to 8% before wilting.
- Paspalum wilting point at 20 to 25%.....
- Bermuda at 14% Wilt Point + Slow Recovery.

Primo Zoysia

Clients are very satisfied with Primo Zoysia and it's proven to produce great putting surfaces throughout Asia, including Singapore, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

Lynkz Zoysia outperformed Primo in every aspect.



Singapore Island Country Club

Primo Zoysia

**Singapore Island
Country Club.**

Tees & Greens.

Good divot recovery.

**Lynkz divot recovery
is not good.**



Converting to Zoysia Greens.

Thana City Golf Club,
Bangkok.
Sodded each green
overnight. Played on the
sodded greens the next day.

8 months after sodding, The
Asian Tour Q School was
hosted at Thana City and *the
greens were rated as good as
greens can get by Andrew
Pitts.*

Thana City gets 7,500 rounds
a month with very few pitch
marks or stress anywhere.



Sodding Zoysia Greens - Thana City Golf Club, Bangkok.



Primo Zoysia

Thana City Golf Club, Bangkok.

Owners happy with the results, feedback they get is very positive. Cost savings.

Higher density in wet season. Easier for team to manage, team are less stressed.

Reputation of the club has improved, which has increased rounds, revenues, and profit. Increased hotel room nights, as groups use the club as a base.

Feedback from JAMES SHIPPEY – AGS.



Sodding Zoysia Greens. WHY?

- No Grain. Can Lay sod in any direction.
- No need to close the course for 6 months for sprigging.
- Less loss of revenue.



Thana City Golf Club

Zoysia Greens;

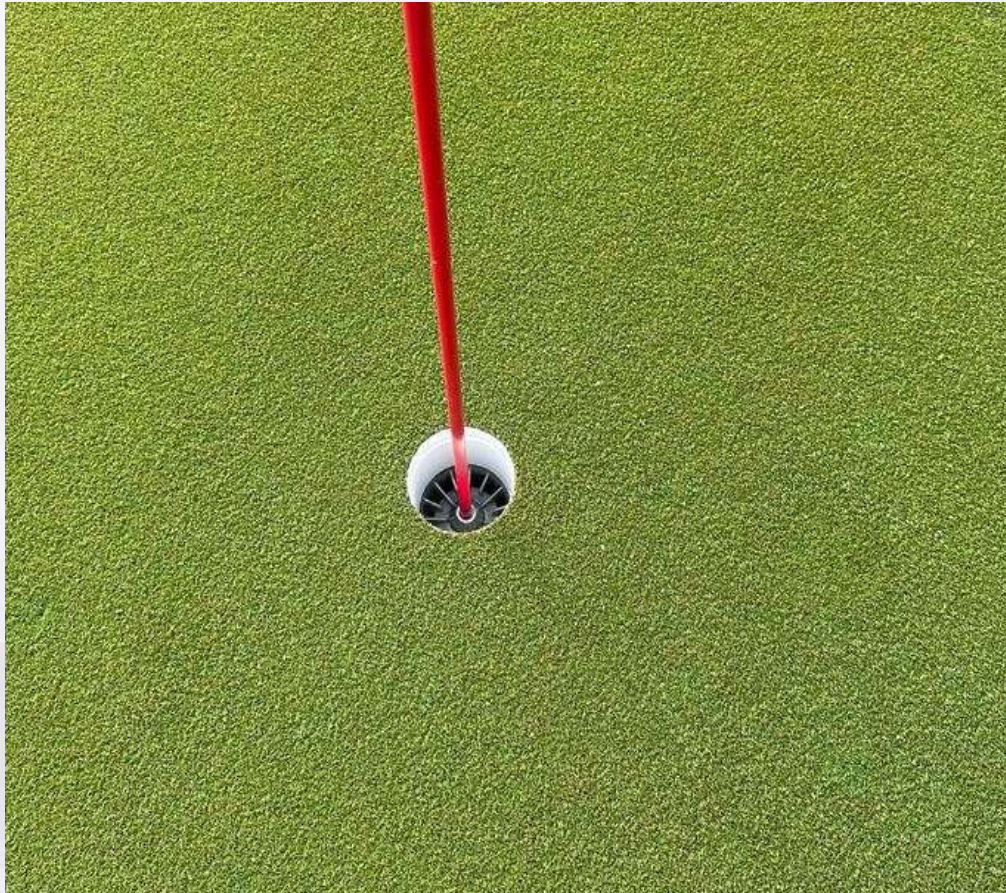
Never Lose Turf on a
Large Scale from
Disease!!!!

We have never sprayed
an Insecticide.....



Stonehill Golf Club, Thailand.

Zoysia Greens – Pristine Holes



No Flaking Hole Edges
on Zoysia Greens. Bermuda Green below.



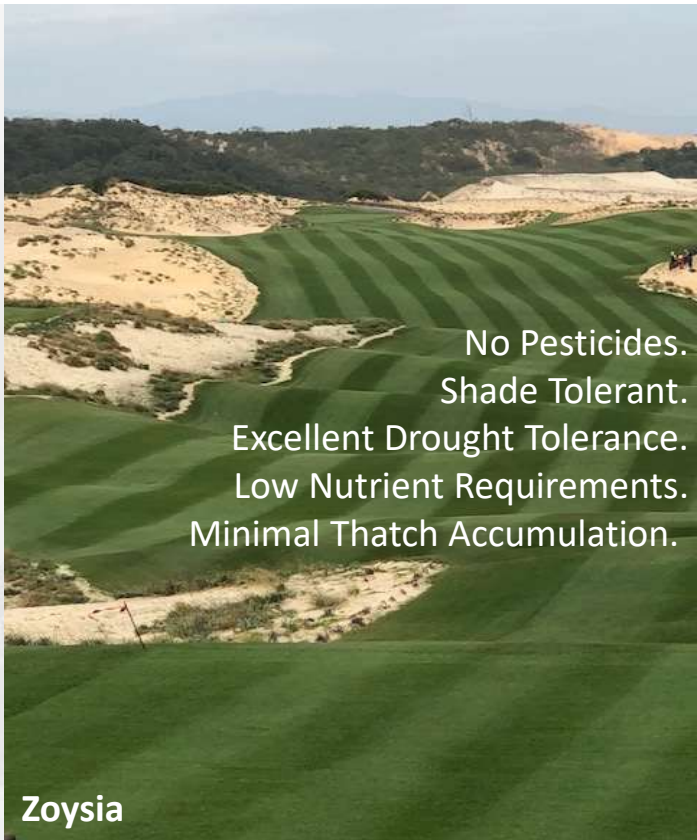
Zoysia – The Future





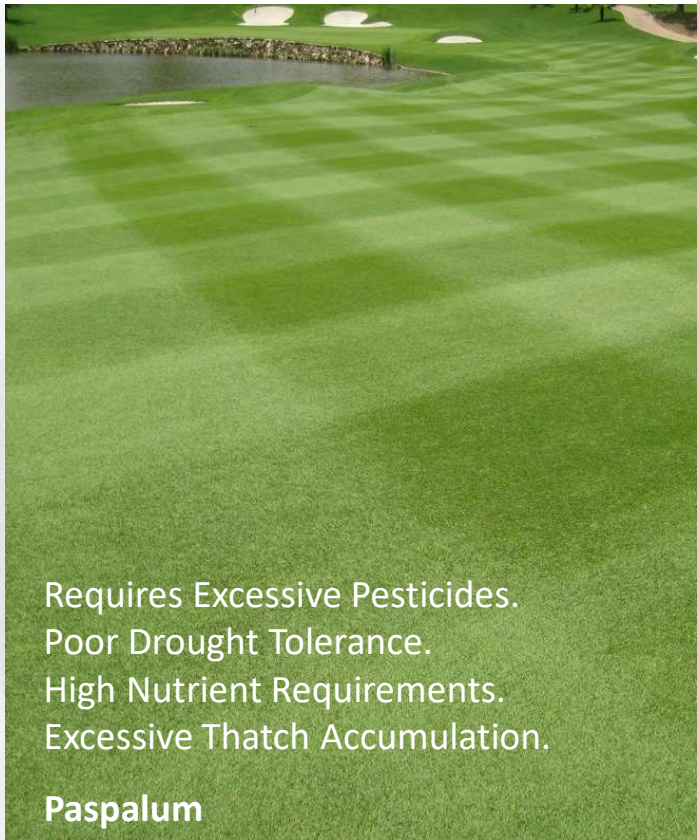
Requires Pesticides.
Good Drought Tolerance
High Nutrient Requirements.
Excessive Thatch Accumulation.
Thins out with low Nutrients.

Bermuda



No Pesticides.
Shade Tolerant.
Excellent Drought Tolerance.
Low Nutrient Requirements.
Minimal Thatch Accumulation.

Zoysia



Requires Excessive Pesticides.
Poor Drought Tolerance.
High Nutrient Requirements.
Excessive Thatch Accumulation.

Paspalum

**Bermuda – Zoysia – Paspalum, all have the WOW Factor.
Zoysia has the less inputs!!! 95% less Chemicals, 50%+ less water, 50%+ less fertilizer, 100% less Mowing & more than 100% less cultural practices.**

Primo Zoysia - Current Primo Projects;

- Thanh Lanh Resort, Hanoi, Vietnam (Faldo Design)
- Chhun On Golf Resort (Lakes Course), Cambodia. (Curley Wagner Design)
- Bukit Dhoho, Kediri, Indonesia (Curley Wagner Design)
- Royal Golf Club, Ninh Binh, Vietnam (Nicklaus Design)
- Sonedezi Golf Club (Greg Norman Design)
- Thana City Golf & Sports Club, Bangkok, Thailand.
- Singapore Island Country Club, Singapore (Graham Marsh Design)
- Sembawang Country Club, Singapore (GolfPlan Design)
- Currently grassing 4 projects in Japan.



Lynkz Zoysia

Current Lynkz Projects;

- Hann Reserve, Philippines. (Nicklaus, Faldo & Choi Designers)
- Mount Malarayat Golf & Country Club, Philippines.
- Chhun On Golf Resort (Palm Course), Cambodia. (Brian Curley Design)
- Ciputra Bogor, Indonesia. (Nicklaus Design)
- Royal Selangor Golf Club (committee approved).

Summary;

- Primo is consistently 9 + feet, Lynkz is 10 + feet.
- Can sod greens.
- No Stress or pitch marks.
- No Dying off.
- Dark Green color.
- Less Cultural Practices.
- More Consistency.
- 75% Less Inputs.
- Better wear tolerance.
- Keep mowers sharp (need good Mechanics, good grinders & hard blades).



Zoysia – The Downside.

Tough grass. Need a good set of grinders and hard blades.



Establishment Rates

- Lynkz Zoysia at 85 Days.



DURABILITY/STRENGTH



Recovery is not a big deal due to the wear tolerance.

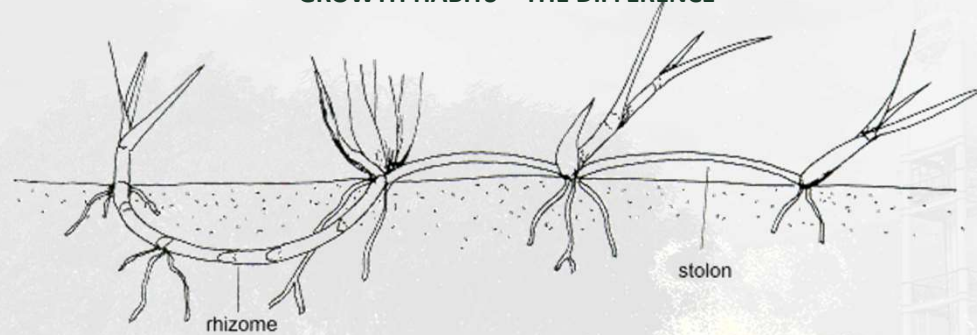


WHY DO PEOPLE STRUGGLE TO ESTABLISH ZOYSIA?

BLADERUNNER FARMS (BRF) ZOYSIA HAS STRONG RHIZOMES



GROWTH HABITS – THE DIFFERENCE



BRF Zoysia Grasses

Bermuda, Common Zoysia (Zemet)
& Paspalum Grasses



Stadium Zoysia; Rapid Lateral Growth.



39 Days after planting.





SUSTAINABLE TURF FARMS



SPORTS TURF SOLUTIONS

THANK YOU