



**TURF MAINTENANCE CHARACTERISTICS**

Growth Habit	Estab. Rate Days	LHC Tol. 1/2"	Mowing Freq.	Traffic Tol. (Brinkman)	Thatch Prod.	Comp. Mix	N Req.	Shade Tol.	Cold Tol.	Drought Tol.	ET Rate mm/day	Endophyte	Salinity Tol. mmhos
Bunch	Fast 7-10	Very Good	2x Week	Very Good	None	Fair-Good	Med-high	Fair-Good	Fair-Good	Fair	High 9-10	Yes>90%	11 Good

LHC= low height of cut ET=evaporation N=nitrogen\*per 1,000 sq. ft.; rates may increase or decrease based on location, soil type, irrigation practices, desired turf quality, humidity & other abiotic and biotic factors.

**BREEDER**

Cebeco International Seeds, Inc. / NJAES

**DESCRIPTION**

Gator 3 is an elite, new and improved, heat and disease tolerant, very dark green, fine bladed variety. Gator 3 is an endophyte enhanced perennial ryegrass with >94% *Neotyphodium lolii* endophyte which provides resistance to a number of leaf and crown feeding insects and nematodes. It is highly recommended for permanent turf utilization in areas where heat and humidity may limit the adaptation of perennial ryegrass turf. In addition Gator 3 is recommended for winter overseeding of dormant warm season turfgrass species. Plant growth of perennial ryegrass is dominated by aggressive basal tillering in contrast to vegetative stolons (above ground) and rhizomes (below ground). Gator 3 has a high seed count of 275,000 seeds per pound.

**APPLICATION**

Developed for permanent polyspecies turfgrass blends and mixtures containing improved perennial ryegrass; Kentucky bluegrass; chewings, slender creeping and strong creeping red fescue; colonial bentgrass and turf type tall fescue. Gator 3 is also used extensively in winter overseeding programs on greens, tees and fairways either alone or in species mixtures.



**PERFORMANCE**

Gator 3 was entered into the 1999 National Perennial Ryegrass Test along with 134 other improved perennial

ryegrass varieties. Gator 3 tied for the 2nd best overall turf quality in the most recent 1999 NTEP perennial ryegrass progress report 01-1 across twenty-eight (28) U.S. and Canadian locations. These results illustrate the broad adaptation of Gator 3 in multiple environments and under various turf management conditions.

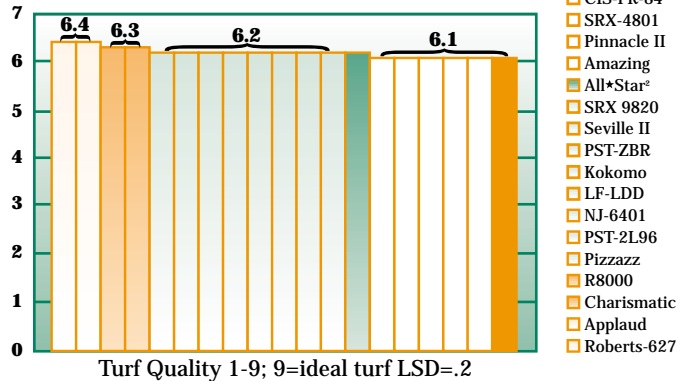
**SEEDING**

**Dates:** Spring and fall when soil temperatures are 60°F or higher. Perennial ryegrass is the fastest establishing cool-season turfgrass species available to the lawn care professional and homeowner. Late autumn and winter turf quality ratings of newer varieties like Gator 3 demonstrate that they can rapidly develop and maintain an attractive turf cover into late autumn and winter.

**Rates:** 6.0-8.0 lbs./1,000 sq. ft. or 29.3-39.0 g/meter sq. Seed count of Gator 3 is approximately 275,000 seeds per pound and dependent on year of harvest, location of production and seed production practices.

**Depth:** Sow at 1/4 to 1/2 inch or 6.25 to 12.5 mm.

**Mean Turfgrass Quality Ratings of Perennial Ryegrass Cultivars Grown at Twenty-Eight (28) Locations in the US and Canada**



## CULTURAL PRACTICES:

**Soil preparation:** Prepare firm seedbed free of clods, sticks and vegetative debris. Seed should be in contact with soil. Improved elite perennial ryegrass such as Gator 3 prefers well-drained loamy soils.

**pH:** Should be slightly acidic (5.5 - 6.5) for favorable growth. High pH soils (alkaline) often contribute to yellow chlorotic leaf color and are a direct result of iron chlorosis. Foliar applications of iron, chelated iron or soil amelioration to decrease soil pH are used to reduce or eliminate iron chlorosis in perennial ryegrass turf.

**NPK requirement:** Of the cool-season grasses used for turf, improved perennial ryegrass requires moderately high to high levels of available soil nitrogen to maintain proper basal tillering and growth. When soil nitrogen levels are low or absent, perennial ryegrass turf will gradually thin and be replaced by low nitrogen adapted grass, broadleaf and unsightly weeds species. In northern regions 5-7 lbs. N/year; transitional climates 7-9 lbs. N/year; overseeding 2-4 lbs. N/growing month.

**Water use:** Gator 3 and other improved perennial ryegrasses are recognized as high water users with ET rate of 9-10 mm per day. Lower mowing heights, managed soil nitrogen levels and infrequent but deep soil profile irrigation practices will help reduce perennial ryegrass water requirements. Gator 3 will enter summer induced dormancy and premature senescence or die if not properly hydrated (irrigated) during persistent low moisture soil conditions.

**Mowing height:** Gator 3's recommended mowing height for permanent turf in blends and mixtures is 1.0-1.5 inch or 25-37.5 mm. On permanent turf or winter overseeded golf course fairways recommended mowing height is 0.75 inch or 18.75 mm. On overseeded greens and tightly mowed tees Gator 3 can be mowed at 9/64-3/16 inch or 3.5-4.7 mm.

**Growth regulators:** New growth regulators such as Primo<sup>®</sup> (Trinexapac-ethyl) can be used to inhibit growth of warm season grasses such as bermudagrass and zoysia during early season overseeding. This provides an excellent option for superintendents, landscapers and turfgrass managers that must overseed early when soil temperatures and day lengths are still conducive to bermudagrass growth and tillering. See product label for details.

**Weed control:** From NCSU Pest Control Recommendations for Turfgrass Managers 2000 and Pacific Northwest Weed Control Handbook 2000. In established turf for general broadleaf control: 2,4-D+dicamba, 2,4-D +MCP, 2,4-D+MCP+dicamba, 2,4-D+2,4-DP and others. Pre-emergent herbicides to control annual grassy weeds in established turf: benefin (Balan), bensulide (Pre-Far), dithiopyr+trifluralin, pendimethalin (Pre-M), prodiamine (Barricade). Annual bluegrass *Poa annua* can be controlled pre- and post-emergent on golf course fairways, tees and roughs with ethofesate (Prograss).

Any and all reference to pesticides, herbicides and fungicides, whether generic or named products, is for general informational purposes only. Text reference is not intended as an endorsement, nor does omission imply criticism. Always read and follow labeled instructions

**Bailey**  
**Seed**

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