

RPR Sport

Football & Rugby, Stadium environments

Usage

Renovation and/or construction of winter sports pitches

Key points

- Mixture formulated from dedicated UK Cropvale wear trials with objective DIA scoring; wear tolerance with other benefits
- *Barlibro* RPR delivers fast establishment and unparalleled capacity for recovery from wear due to stoloniferous growth habit
- *Barcristalla* and *Barorlando* give superior colour and *Drechslera* leaf spot tolerance

Species Formulation

100% perennial ryegrass



RPR SPORT is a highly researched blend of three hard-wearing perennial ryegrasses for the renovation and construction of elite winter sports pitches.

Four years of dedicated wear trials at our research station Cropvale in Worcestershire, together with close analysis of BSPB Turfgrass Seed and the official French list as well as data from our breeding stations across the globe has delivered a blend focussed on four key traits for high performance pitches – **wear tolerance**, **dark genetic colour**, (*Drechslera*) **disease tolerance** and **recovery**.

The wear trials at Cropvale are run annually in line with the football season and are assessed via an objective method called Digital Image Analysis (DIA) (Figure 1). A camera box takes images of trial plots on a monthly basis and DIA enables the production of extremely accurate data on both wear tolerance and genetic colour for both cultivars and critically, mixture formulations.

BSPB/STRI Turfgrass Seed 2020 data supports the Cropvale Research. *Barcristalla* and *Barorlando* are ranked #11 and #16, respectively, for mean performance under wear and #2 and #1 for autumn colour (in the top-80 varieties). Figure 2 illustrates this point. The two yellow dots are *Barcristalla* and *Barorlando*; both exhibit an excellent combination of colour and performance.

Baribro is a Regenerating Perennial Ryegrass (RPR) that produces stolons as it establishes and grows. Figure 3 shows a *Barlibro* plant grown from a single seed at 15 months old. The stolons and new secondary branches of growth can be seen clearly. The lateral growth habit results in fast establishment between seeding lines and unparalleled capacity for recovery after and during wear.

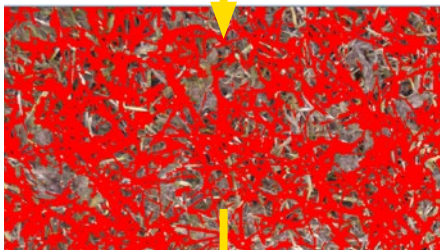
IN THE BAG

| | |
|-----|---|
| 40% | BARCRISTALLA Perennial ryegrass |
| 30% | BARLIBRO RPR perennial ryegrass |
| 30% | BARORLANDO Perennial ryegrass |

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sowing rate: | 30-50g per m ² |
| Overseeding rate: | 15-30g per m ² |
| Sowing depth: | 10-15mm below thatch |
| Mowing height: | Down to 18mm |
| Pack size: | 20kg |

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| A | B | C | D |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|---------|
| IMAGE | TOTAL PIXELS | SELECTED PIXELS | %COVER |
| U:\Trials & | 15925248 | 10027905 | 62.9686 |

| TREATMENT | Wear Performance |
|----------------|------------------|
| Barorlando | 7.60 |
| RPRn2 | 7.52 |
| Barlibro | 7.49 |
| RPRn1 | 7.48 |
| Barcristalla | 7.39 |
| Barolympic | 7.39 |
| BAR 7 RPR 2013 | 7.24 |
| Bartrace | 7.24 |
| BAR 7 | 7.18 |
| Barlicum | 7.03 |
| Barclay II | 6.98 |
| Bareuro | 6.85 |
| Bardorado | 6.75 |
| Barbeta | 6.67 |
| Barlennium | 6.56 |
| Bartwingo | 6.49 |
| Baralpha | 6.17 |
| Barrage | 5.97 |
| LSD 0.05 | 0.26 |

| TREATMENT | Dark Green Colour Index (October 2013) | Significance |
|----------------|--|--------------|
| Barlennium | 0.4953 | a |
| Barorlando | 0.4787 | b |
| Barcristalla | 0.4777 | b |
| RPRn2 | 0.4733 | c |
| 11RACR5 | 0.4720 | cd |
| Barbeta | 0.4693 | de |
| BAR 7 | 0.4671 | e |
| Barrage | 0.4669 | e |
| RPRn1 | 0.4666 | e |
| Barlibro | 0.4661 | e |
| Barclay II | 0.4618 | f |
| BAR 7 RPR 2013 | 0.4612 | f |
| Bardorado | 0.4588 | f |
| Baralpha | 0.4488 | g |
| Bartwingo | 0.4488 | g |
| Bareuro | 0.4366 | h |
| Barlicum | 0.4365 | h |
| Barolympic | 0.4362 | h |
| LSD 0.05 | 0.0035 | |

Figure 1 DIA "Digital Image Analysis" process. A digital image is scanned using software to determine "% live ground cover".

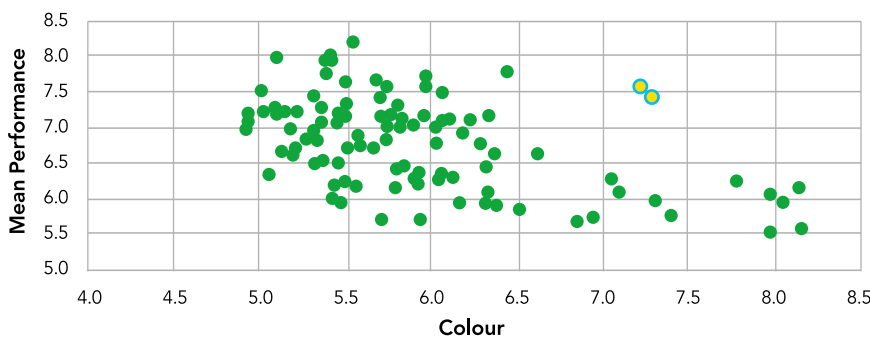


Figure 2 Graph of performance versus colour of all perennial ryegrasses listed in Table S1, Turfgrass Seed 2020. *Barcristalla* and *Barorlando* (yellow) show the best compromise between these two traits.



Figure 3 Photographs of a 15-month old *Barlibro* plant grown from a single seed.