TURF GRASSES
Recommended for Pender County Landscapes

All of the grasses listed below are warm season growers. Warm season grasses are well adapted to areas with hot summers and mild winters. They actively grow during spring, summer and fall and are dormant during winter. The best time to sow seed for these grasses is from spring to early summer (March/April – July). Plugs, springs and sod of these grasses establish best when planted in spring or summer (March – July).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Botanical Name</th>
<th>Water Use Zone</th>
<th>Recommended Varieties</th>
<th>Shade Tolerance</th>
<th>Propagation</th>
<th>Rate of Establishment</th>
<th>Fertilizer (lbs of Nitrogen/1,000 sq. ft./yr)</th>
<th>Mowing Frequency</th>
<th>Mowing Height</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centipede</td>
<td>Eremochloa ophiuroides</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
<td>Common ‘TifBlair’</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Seed for common, Plugs, Sod for both</td>
<td>Slow</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>1”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Augustine</td>
<td>Stenotaphrum secundatum</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>‘Raleigh’ ‘Mercedes’ ‘Palmetto’</td>
<td>Very Good</td>
<td>Plugs, Sod</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>2 to 3</td>
<td>Medium-High</td>
<td>2” to 3”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoysia</td>
<td>Zoysia hybrids</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
<td>‘Emerald’ ‘Meyer’ ‘El Toro’ ‘Zenith’ ‘Crowne’ ‘Empire’ ‘GN-Z’</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Only ‘Zenith’ can be grown from seed. All other varieties must be established by sprigs, plugs, or sod.</td>
<td>Very Slow to Moderate depending on variety</td>
<td>2 to 4</td>
<td>Low-Medium</td>
<td>0.75” to 1.5” depending on variety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Bermuda</td>
<td>Cynodon dactylon</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
<td>‘Princess’ ‘Jack Pot’</td>
<td>Very Poor</td>
<td>Seed, Springs, Plugs, Sod</td>
<td>Fast</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>Medium-High</td>
<td>1.0” to 1.5”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid Bermuda</td>
<td>Cynodon dactylon hybrids</td>
<td>1,2,3</td>
<td>‘Tifway’ ‘Tifsport’ ‘Vamont’ ‘GN-1’ ‘Celebration’ ‘Tifton-10’</td>
<td>Very Poor</td>
<td>Springs, Plugs, Sod</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>5 to 6</td>
<td>Very High</td>
<td>0.75” to 1.5”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Water Use Zones
Water Use Zones indicate the water needs of various plants and correspond to the following NCCE publications:

Water Wise Use in Landscaping [URL]

How to Plan and Design a Water Wise Use Landscape [URL]

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . . .

For complete information on turf selection and maintenance, refer to the following NC Cooperative Extension publications, available from the Pender County Cooperative Extension office and online:

- **NCSU Turf Files website**—Extensive information on all aspects of lawn establishment and maintenance
  - [URL]
- **Carolina Lawns** [URL]
- **Organic Lawn Care** [URL]
- **Turf Maintenance Calendars**—season by season guide to caring for each type of turfgrass
  - Bermudagrass [URL]
  - Centipede grass [URL]
  - St. Augustine grass [URL]
  - Zoysiagrass [URL]

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