Forage Research in Texas

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Department of Soil and Crop Sciences

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Project: H-6370

Workers: G.W. Evers

Location: Angleton

COMPARISON OF BERMUDAGRASS AND DALLISGRASS PRODUCTION IN SOUTHEAST TEXAS

OBJECTIVE:

To evaluate the performance and persistance of hybrid bermudagrasses in comparison to dallisgrass on the poorly drain rice soils in southeast Texas.

PROCEDURE:

Coastal, Callie, Alicia, Tifton 44 and SS-16 bermudagrasses and dallisgrass were established in the fall of 1979 on a Lake Charles clay at Angleton. Plots were 6' x 15' in a Randomized Block design with four replications. The study was sprayed with 2 lb Sencor on February 26, 1980 for weed control. Fertilization was 50-60-0 on April 4 with an additional 50 lb N/ac on May 28 and Aug. 4, 1980. Plots were harvested monthly except for September when no growth occurred because of drought.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

There were no significant differences between grasses for three harvest dates and total production for the season. Differences in production at the other three harvest dates were small. Callie bermudagrass production was significantly lower than the other grasses at the July and August harvest dates. Because the grasses had been established the previous fall, most plots did not have a solid stand as indicated by the large variation in production at the first harvest. No significant differences resulted because the coefficient of variability was 75%.

Table 1. Production of hybrid bermudagrasses and dallisgrass at Angleton, 1980.

	May 26	June 26	July 30	Aug. 25	Oct. 5	Nov. 3	Total
	lb/ac						
SS-16	2555 a*	2118 a	888 b	1056 ab	3081 a	205 b	9903 a
Dallisgrass	2842 a	1933 a	778 bc	1079 ab	2417 a	214 b	9263 a
Alicia	2398 a	1825 a	861 b	1274 a	2430 a	145 b	8933 a
Tifton 44	1522 a	1873 a	1158 a	1156 ab	2575 a	349 a	8633 a
Callie	1357 a	1470 a	576 c	671 c	3240 a	133 b	7447 a
Coastal	933 a	1598 a	815 b	972 b	2741 a	188 b	7247 a

*Values in a column followed by the same letter are not significantly different at the .05 level using Duncan's Multiple Range Test.