

RPR Sport

Football & rugby, stadium environments



RPR SPORT is a highly researched blend of four 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, 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). 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. Figure 1 summarises the process.

BSPB/STRI Turfgrass Seed 2021 data supports the Cropvale Research. *Barcristalla* and *Barorlando* are ranked #12 and #19, respectively, for mean performance under wear and #2 and #1 for autumn colour (in the top-50 varieties). Figure 2 illustrates this point. The two yellow dots are *Barcristalla* and *Barorlando*; both exhibit an excellent combination of colour

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Usage:	Renovation and / or construction of winter sports pitches		
Species Formulation:	100% Perennial ryegrass		
Mixture Formulation:	30%	BARLIBRO	RPR Perennial ryegrass
	50%	BARCRISTALLA	Perennial Ryegrass
	10%	BARORLANDO	Perennial Ryegrass
	10%	BAROMARIO	Perennial Ryegrass

How to use it

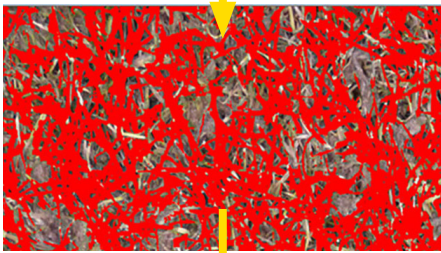
Sowing rate:	30-50g per m ²
Oversowing rate:	15-30g per m ²
Sowing depth:	10-15mm below thatch
Mowing height:	Down to 18mm

and performance.

Barlibro is a Regenerating Perennial Ryegrass (RPR) that produces stolons as it establishes and grows. Figure 3 shows a *Barlibro* plant grown for 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.

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

TREATMENT	Wear Tolerance
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	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".

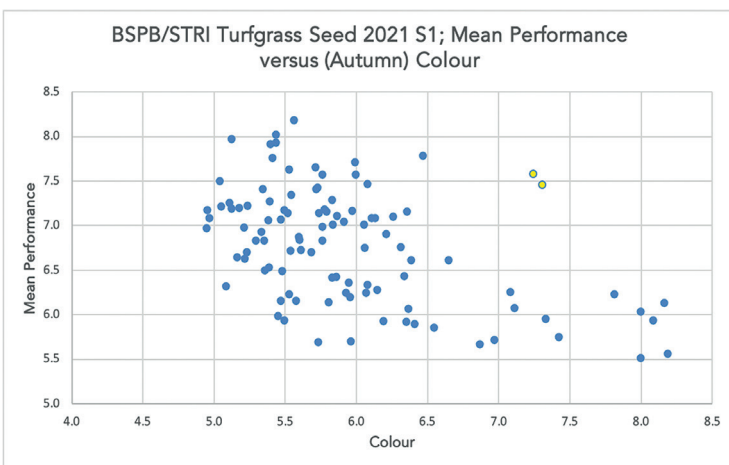


Figure 2. Graph of performance versus colour of all perennial ryegrasses listed in Table S1, Turfgrass Seed 2021. *Barcristalla* and *Barorlando* (yellow) show the best compromise between these two traits.



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