

## Objective

- Evaluate mixes and monostands of native and adapted grasses for their potential for low input turf.



## Materials and Methods

- Twenty-one monostands and mixes (Table 1) planted in Logan, UT Spring 2004
- Evaluated for color, quality, cover at two different nitrogen levels (44 and 88 kg/ha/yr.) at 60% ET for 2005, 2006
- Color evaluated using a chlorophyll meter and digital photo analysis
- Percent cover determined by digital photo analysis & the point-quadrat method

Table 1. List of species and mixtures.

Single Species	Mixtures
'Cody' buffalograss	Buffalograss+blue grama
'Foothills' Canada Bluegrass	Buffalograss+muttongrass
'Bad River' blue grama	Buffalograss+sheep fescue
'Road Crest' Crested wheatgrass	Buffalograss+blue grama+muttongrass
'Sodar' streambank wheatgrass	Buffalograss+western wheatgrass
'Rosana' western wheatgrass	Blue grama+western wheatgrass
'Critana' thickspike wheatgrass	Western+streambank wheatgrass+sheep fescue
Poa fendleriana (muttongrass)	Western wheatgrass+streambank wheatgrass
Sheep fescue	Canada bluegrass+western wheatgrass
Tall fescue	Canada bluegrass+crested wheatgrass
Kentucky bluegrass	

Figure 1. Photographs of continued establishment



## Results

- Buffalograss, blue grama, and streambank wheatgrass are some of the best performing natives in the Northern UT climate (Figures 2a and 2b).
- In general, warm-season grasses, Kentucky bluegrass, and the fescues were most benefited by N treatments.
- Muttongrass and Canada bluegrass were unacceptable
- Establishment continued through 2006 (figure 1).
- Blue grama/western wheatgrass mixture resulted in higher green cover percentage than blue grama in Sept and Oct 2006 (Figure 3b).
- Percent composition of blue grama/western wheatgrass mixture was approximately stable at 25% western 75% blue grama in 2005 and 2006 (Figure 3a).

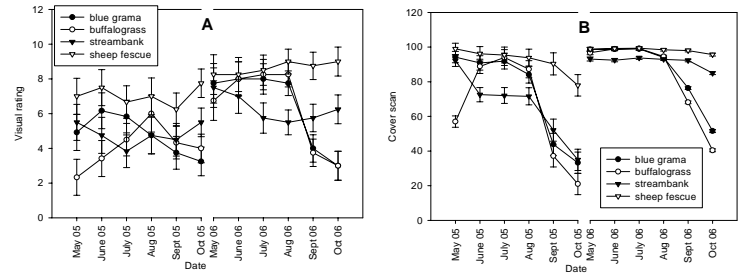


Figure 2 Quality of native grasses as measured by A) visual rating B) cover scan (percent green cover)

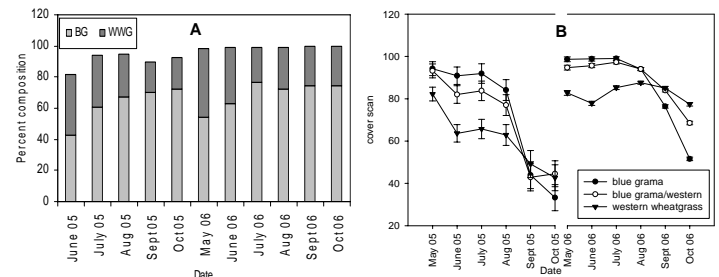


Figure 3 A) Percent composition of blue grama/western wheatgrass mixture B) Cover scan data for blue grama, western wheatgrass and mixture

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