



The Water Cronicles

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Experiment: Drought Tolerant Bluegrass

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Being in the business of Irrigation, takes more than just digging holes and installing Sprinklers. We need to have knowledge of what it is that we are watering and what the expectations are for the customer. In the pursuit of perfect turf and plants we are also chasing to provide the results in an efficient manner. As an irrigation technician we have the tools to improve any irrigation system. The plant world is also providing tools. One of those tools is some of the new Grass Varieties that have come on the scene in the past five years. Many of these hybrids are dense in growth and require less water than their recent ancestors. These hybrids can reduce our water usage by 15%-30%.

Experiment: Successful overseed of an existing lawn.

OK so I could not get any of my neighbors to participate in this experiment, so my lawn will have to do. Being a former Golf Course Superintendant and having experience in a Las Vegas Golf Course overseed, I used my knowledge to properly prepare my yard for an overseed.

The picture on the left shows the result of the turf after 7 mowings and 3 verticuttings. The second picture is a golf course in Palm Desert preparing for overseed. The picture on the right is a before and after. The next two pictures are the Drop Seeder and the verticutter which I used.



The yard is now overseeded and the irrigation system is operating 6 times a day every 1 ½ hour for 3 minutes per station. This will keep the seed moist and allow for quick germination. Since the overseed was done in late August, the new grass will not have to compete with weeds such as crabgrass and dandelions. Next month I will provide the pictures of the results of the new seeding. If you have any questions about the process, give me a call at 320-310-4241.

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