Registration of ‘Odyssey’ Kentucky Bluegrass

‘Odyssey’ Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis* L.) (Reg. no. CV-64, PI 599226) is a turf-type cultivar released in August 1996 by Simplot/Jaclyn Seed, Post Falls, ID. The experimental designations for Odyssey were 91-1561 and J-1561.

Odyssey originated as a highly apomictic, single-plant selection from hybrid cross number 89-1037, made in the field at Post Falls in July 1989. Pollen from ‘Midnight’ (Meyer et al., 1984) was used to pollinate plants of ‘Limousine’ (Alderson and Sharp, 1994). Seed harvested from the Limousine mother plants were individually sown into cells of greenhouse flats during the spring of 1990 and later transplanted to a spaced-plant field nursery of 33,500 plants. Offspring with characteristics dissimilar to Limousine were flagged during maturation in the spring of 1991. Plant number 91-1561 was identified as being different from Limousine by its panicle shape and color. It produced 30 g of seed from a single spaced plant, which is twice the seed typical for a bluegrass spaced plant in North Idaho. Seed harvested from this plant was used to establish a turf trial in September 1991, a replicated seed yield trial in August 1992, and a U.S. Plant Variety Protection (PVP) trial in June 1994, near Post Falls.

Odyssey is most similar to ‘Impact’ (PI 599225), which was developed from the same cross. However, it can be differentiated from Impact on the basis of eight botanical traits, as recorded in Odyssey’s PVP application. These traits include a greater culm length, greater length of the lowest internode in the panicle, and more branches at the lowest panicle node.

Progeny evaluated in a 1994-1995 spaced-plant nursery had a level of apomixis sufficient for commercial seed production. A survey of 1928 plants of Odyssey showed that 1.74% of plants were variants in the vegetative (pre-flowering) stage, 0.39% were heading maturity variants, 0.95% seedhead variants, 0.21% miniature plants, and 0% were headless plants. Some variants exhibit high susceptibility to powdery mildew (caused by *Erysiphe graminis* DC. ex Merat); these plants tend to have wider leaves and dissimilar seedheads, but culm lengths comparable to the majority plant form. Approximately 1 to 2% of plants are variants with a very short culm and very late maturity. Approximately 1 in 1000 plants are a taller-growing, “common-type” variant with light-colored seedheads extending approximately 10 cm above the major culm length. Aberrant progeny are rogued from seedstock fields to ensure continued uniformity and stability, but they will continue to occur in every generation. The mean spaced-plant apomixis rate of Odyssey is 95%, but varies ±5% depending upon year, location, and weather.

Odyssey ranked eleventh out of 103 entries for turf quality in the 1995 National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) and the 1996 Regional Turfgrass Evaluation Program (RTEP). It showed promise under mowing conditions of 13-25 mm and is also adapted to the Connecticut River Valley of Connecticut.

Odyssey is a turf-type bluegrass with no adverse reactions to labeled Kentucky bluegrass pesticides. Registration by CSSA. Accepted 30 Sept. 2001. Corresponding author (dbrede@simplot.com).

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**Registration of ‘Scantic’ Broadleaf Tobacco**

‘Scantic’, a Connecticut broadleaf cigar wrapper tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum* L.) (Reg no. CV-122, PI 619163), was developed with resistance to Fusarium wilt [caused by *Fusarium oxysporum* Schlechtend.:Fr. f. sp. nicotianae (J. John- \( \text{Erysiphe graminis} \) \( \text{F. oxysporum} \) \( \text{Leptosphaeria korrae} \) \( \text{Drechslera poae} \) \( \text{Claviceps purpurea} \)] and no adverse reaction to labeled Kentucky bluegrass pesticides.

‘Scantic’, a Connecticut broadleaf cigar wrapper tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum* L.) (Reg no. CV-122, PI 619163), was developed with resistance to Fusarium wilt [caused by *Claviceps purpurea* (Fr.) Tul.], and no adverse reaction to labeled Kentucky bluegrass pesticides.

‘Scantic’ is recommended for golf course tees, roughs, and for lawns, parks, and sports turf in areas where Kentucky bluegrass is not well adapted. It is compatible in blends and mixtures with cool-season turfgrasses.

Breeder seed, first harvested in 1995, is marketed by Simplot/Jaclyn Seed. Seed propagation is limited to ensure continued uniformity and stability. Registration by CSSA. Accepted 30 Sept. 2001. Corresponding author (dbrede@simplot.com).

**Acknowledgments**

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**References**


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