

INTERSEEDING SUCCESS

Superintendents have a variety of successful methods of interseeding. Some superintendents interseed each week, some once a month, and some only a couple times a year. Although each is effective, one thing they have found is the more frequent the seeding intervals, the quicker the conversion to new Penn bents. Here are some superintendents who have been working on fine-tuning their methods for the best results.

Patrick Donelan, CGCS
Barefoot Resort

"We want the Penn A-4 to blend naturally with the Penn A-1 so the players don't notice. We want a nice, smooth transition so we interseed with a little bit of seed each time we aerify. So far it is working very well for us."

Scott Ramsay, CGCS
Yale University Golf Course

"Last fall we used a Graden seeder and dormant seeded Penn A-4 in new, reclaimed areas of greens and the results have been dramatic. This is a positive expansion of my dormant seeding program with a spike seeder on the rest of my playing surfaces."

David Phipps
Stone Creek Golf Course

"Last fall I introduced Penn A-4 into my interseeding program and as the grass came out this spring, I started noticing the seedlings popping up in the aerification holes. I am confident the bentgrass will remain in our greens providing enhanced disease suppression and reduced water use."

Scott White
Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club
Rockford, IL

"It doesn't happen overnight, but I saw a huge difference in the ratios of poa in the interseeded areas compared to last spring. We will stay the course and hopefully after 3 or 4 years, those problems area will no longer be a problem."

Mark Kuhns, CGCS
Baltusrol Golf Club

"Every time we aerify, we interseed. Plus anytime we want to lightly spike the greens with the triad and put some sand on, we will interseed. We've been successful to this point."



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The **BLUEPRINT** *for* **INTERSEEDING**





INTERSEEDING BLUEPRINT

Interseeding lets you incorporate new and improved varieties into your existing stand of turfgrass while keeping your course open to play. Developing and maintaining an effective interseeding program is the key to long-term success. To start, follow these simple, cost-effective guidelines and start converting your course to top quality bentgrass.

1. **Aerify:** Continue with your regular aerification program to open up the turf, allowing air to exchange in the soil, while relieving soil compaction.
2. **Topdress:** Fill open voids with a proper topdressing material to create an excellent seedbed for the new seed.
3. **Seed:** Broadcast, drop, or spike a Penn bent seed variety at a rate of 0.1 – 0.25 lbs per 1,000 sq ft to build up your bentgrass seed bank and eventually outcompete *Poa annua*.
4. **Roll:** On greens, roll the surface after interseeding to smooth out the surface, improve soil-to-seed contact and increase germination rates.
5. **Water:** Water lightly but frequently to stimulate germination and increase the population of new and improved Penn bentgrass varieties.

KEY POINTS

- **Interseeding is easy:** It's merely one additional step of applying seed to an existing aerification process.
- **Build your seed bank:** In addition to aerification, you can also introduce new and improved seed varieties after spiking, verticutting or topdressing.
- **Manage for bentgrass:** Favor the bentgrass by using growth regulators. Some have even let anthracnose kill the *Poa annua* to create favorable conditions for bentgrass growth.
- **It takes time:** Be patient and methodical; incorporating improved varieties into your turf without interrupting play takes time and perseverance.
- **Better turf:** Since the Penn bents are more disease resistant and tolerant of extreme conditions, you will improve turf quality, reduce inputs and enhance overall course conditions on your course.

