



For “true excellence” in your turfgrass, go Platinum. Here’s why *Platinum TE* offers golf courses and other sports venues unparalleled playability and cosmetic appearance:

*Platinum TE* has no “swirling grain” (genetically governed off color, irregular shaped swirling patterns in the surface that interfere with putting quality) in the greens canopy surface that is indicative of several hybrid bermuda grasses. In fact, *Platinum TE* has no genetic based “grain” at all.

*Platinum TE* does not exhibit loss of the shiny dark green color from chlorophyll loss during exposure to low light intensity (prolonged cloudy conditions or smog/fog related conditions) nor during colder air temperatures approaching 32° F (0° C). If frost is kept off the grass during near freezing temperatures, the cultivar will not lose its chlorophyll and green color.

*Platinum TE* generally is not a true genetic dwarf warm season grass cultivar in the context of the super- or ultra-dwarf hybrid bermudagrass cultivars. *Platinum TE* exhibits dwarf-like transformation characteristics as height-of-cut is reduced below 0.125-inches (3.1 mm), forming shorter internodes and smaller plus narrower leaves as the grass is groomed. However, the cultivar exhibits continuous growth that provides excellent wear tolerance plus divot and ball mark recovery (i.e., *Platinum TE* has dwarf-like growth habit, but not dwarf-like growth rates that would reduce establishment rate, grow-in, and maintenance of a mature turfgrass canopy density). The growth rate of *Platinum TE* under proper irrigation schedules and air temperatures above 60° F (16° C) is controlled strictly by judicious and timely nitrogen applications, with nitrogen rates being substantially reduced (<3.0 lbs actual N/1000 sq.ft./year after the grass is established and assuming adequate CEC, proper cultural practices, effective soil and water management, and proper site-specific salt management both in the soil profile and in the grass nutritionally) compared to the significantly higher nitrogen requirements of the hybrid bermudagrasses. Genetically, the super-dwarf hybrid bermudagrass cultivars have lower growth rates than *Platinum TE* and thus need extra nitrogen to enhance growth and development, especially under saline environmental conditions. While *Platinum TE* has a low nitrogen requirement due to high N-uptake and utilization efficiency (i.e., *this rapid and efficient response is why nitrogen fertilizer products should only be applied when needed based on growth rate*); when a growth enhancement is needed, the cultivar rapidly responds to additional nitrogen applications.

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*Platinum TE* is totally suited to no-till or reduced tillage renovation/conventional reconstruction planting of sprigs, either through minimum slit-tillage planting or plugging or the "no-dig" process, reducing "down time" during the establishment and grow-in program while also conserving water and reducing problems with wind and water erosion. Suitability for using this reduced tillage renovation program on greens and all recreational turfgrass venues needs to be predicated on irrigation water quality (salinity in the water), the *physical+chemical+biological* soil profile effectiveness in managing salts and ultimate drainage performance, and distribution efficiency plus uniformity of the irrigation system. Factors to consider before adoption of this reduced tillage program include: organic matter load (both excessive and inadequate amounts) in the original soil profile, salt accumulation in the original soil profile, contouring challenges, excessive shade issues, poor air movement problems, water-logged or localized dry spot areas, and persistent pest (especially nematodes) problems. The "bottom-line" decision on whether to use the no-till strategy is whether any of the above problems pre-exist on the specific site at the time of establishment and thus should be remedied prior to planting to ensure good performance of the grass. If growth limiting problems pre-exist, they should be alleviated even if more site disturbance is required.



*Platinum TE* does not hold dew droplets on leaves primarily because of the heavy wax load on the leaf surface (in contrast to bermudagrass leaves that are heavily pubescent and sequester dew droplets during early morning hours).

*Platinum TE* consistently maintains an extensive 4-8+ inch (100-200+ mm) root system on greens with height-of-cut <0.125 inch (<3.1 mm) even when irrigated with 3000-6000 ppm TDS saline irrigation water.

*Platinum TE* tolerates salinity, thereby allowing for management flexibility and time to activate salinity control measures without turfgrass injury. The grass very strictly and genetically regulates excess total dissolved salt ions internally, such as sodium, chlorides and sulfates. The grass does not remediate or adjust salinity levels in soil profiles or irrigation water, and excess salt accumulation in soil profiles must be remedied prior to planting this grass. Proper site infrastructure components that promote salt management are essential to provide flexibility in managing the grass and achieving acceptable grass performance plus long term environmental sustainability.