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Meier et al.

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[54] BA 73-626 KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS

[75] Inventors: Virgil D. Meier; Eugene W. Mayer,  
both of Marysville, Ohio[73] Assignee: The O.M. Scott & Sons Company,  
Inc., Marysville, Ohio

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Primary Examiner—James R. Feyrer

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Jones, Day, Reavis &amp; Pogue

## [57] ABSTRACT

A variety of Kentucky Bluegrass having a high level of disease resistance, good turf performance, and a very high level of seed yield potential.

1 Drawing Sheet

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## BACKGROUND

Kentucky Bluegrasses having been disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 3,156 which issued on May 9, 1972; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 3,186 which issued on May 23, 1972; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 4,336 which issued on Nov. 28, 1978; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,280 which issued on Sept. 6, 1988; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,537 which issued on Jan. 17, 1989; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,538 which issued on Jan. 17, 1989; and U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,585 which issued Feb. 7, 1989.

## SUMMARY OF THE VARIETY

The present invention relates to a new and improved variety of Kentucky Bluegrass, *Poa pratensis*, that has been designated Ba 73-626.

Ba 73-626 plant material originated by crossing a Kentucky Bluegrass plant developed and maintained in the plant nursery as the seed parent with a Kentucky Bluegrass plant selected from PI-198075, a plant introduction from Sweden available from Germplasm Services Laboratory, Beltsville, Md., as the pollen parent. As a result of this breeding, a distinct variety was produced and asexually propagated by rhizomes, tillers and disseminules. Seed of Ba 73-626 was produced first at Marysville, Ohio and later at Gervais, Oreg. This seed was used for purposes of plant turf performance evaluation trials, including those conducted under the auspices of the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service and the Maryland State Turfgrass Council.

Asexual reproduction of Ba 73-626 by propagules (tillers and rhizomes) and by disseminules (modified caryopses produced by apomixis) has consistently produced progeny plants indistinguishable from the mother plant. The apomixis level of Ba 73-626 ranged from 100% to 98.8% (mean of 99.4%) based upon examining seedlings from four different crop years under constant growth chamber conditions.

Ba 73-626 has a number of highly desirable characteristics including a good level of resistance to *Drechslera* spp. (formerly called *Helminthosporium* spp.) that causes leaf spot, melting out and crown rot; *Laetisaria fuciformis* that causes red thread; *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa* that causes dollar spot; *Puccinia* spp. that causes rust and *Phialophora gramincola* that causes summer patch (formerly called *Fusarium* blight). Ba 73-626 has an attractive leafy turf type growth habit; moderately wide leaf blades; attractive green color which can be maintained throughout the entire growing season; good

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seedling vigor and heat tolerance; good turf performance as evidenced by consistently high scores in National Turfgrass Evaluation Tests sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture and conducted throughout the U.S.A. and Canada and a very high seed yield potential in the bluegrass seed production region of the U.S.A.

In comparison with most commercially available varieties, the new Ba 73-626 variety has a thicker peduncle, a wider and thicker flag leaf, higher seed yield, wider leaf blades and better winter color. In comparison to the pollen parent, the new variety has fewer seeds per pound, a much higher seed yield and more erect culms of mature unmowed plants.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. 1 shows a Ba 73-626 Kentucky Bluegrass plant in the vegetative stage including the extensive root and rhizome system;

FIG. 2 shows a Ba 73-626 Kentucky Bluegrass panicle; and

FIG. 3 shows Ba 73-626 Bluegrass seed.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIETY

Ba 73-626 Kentucky Bluegrass (*Poa pratensis* L.) is perennial with creeping rhizomes forming a moderately dense turf. When plants overwinter in the field with freezing temperatures and are then brought into the greenhouse during late winter to continue growth undisturbed by clipping under moderate temperatures (60°–80° F.), culms are erect averaging 514 mm in length with an average of 2.3 nodes per culm. The uppermost internode averages 12.4 cm, and the peduncle averages 12.3 cm in length, and 0.772 mm in thickness. The flag leaf averages 5.8 cm in length, 4.2 mm in width and 0.119 mm in thickness. The panicle has an average length of 9.7 cm, width of 6.0 cm, and 5.5 whorls. The lowest whorl has an average of 4.5 branches and the third whorl from the bottom of the panicle has an average of 3.4 branches. The average spikelet at the tip of a branch in the lowest whorl is 5.8 mm in length and has 4.4 florets with an outer glume of 3.2 mm and an inner glume of 3.7 mm in length. A similar spikelet from the third whorl from the bottom of the panicle is 5.6 mm in length and has 4.1 florets with an outer glume of 3.3 mm and an inner glume of 3.6 mm in length. After the seed has been conditioned, the lemma has a generally smooth keel with occasional short hairs and a few long fine hairs at the base. The seed of Ba 73-626 is 2.98 mm in



length and 0.80 mm in width with approximately 921,166 seeds per pound. Comparisons of Ba 73-626 with other varieties in terms of seed dimensions and seed numbers per pound are shown in Tables 1 and 2 as follows:

TABLE 1

Seed Measurements of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties After Conditioning.		
Variety	Length (mm)	Width (mm)
Ba 73-626	2.98	0.80
Abbey	3.18	0.88
Coventry	2.86	0.78
Estate	2.53	0.76
Chateau	2.77	0.80
Baron	3.07	0.86
Bristol	2.73	0.80
Nassau	2.96	0.78
Newport	2.76	0.71
Park	3.04	0.72
Ram I	3.51	0.84
Victa	3.20	0.86
LSD (.05)	0.19	0.06

TABLE 2

Comparison of Seed Numbers Per Pound of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties After Conditioning.	
Variety	Number of Seeds Per Pound
Ba 73-626	921,166
Abbey	1,003,037
Coventry	1,246,200
Estate	1,275,740
Chateau	1,300,105
Adelphi	1,383,976
America	1,659,824
Gnome	1,017,641
Baron	1,051,693
Birka	1,223,530
Bonnieblue	1,135,303
Bristol	1,270,821
Eclipse	1,335,668
Fylking	1,130,000
Glade	1,108,441
Kenblue	1,463,923
Merit	1,109,728
Nassau	1,127,130
Newport	1,226,481
Park	1,248,349
Sydsport	1,355,644
Vantage	1,555,303
Victa	1,038,298
Windsor	1,520,885

Since environmental conditions such as soil and climate may influence morphological characteristics to some extent, comparisons of morphological characteristics of Ba 73-626 are made with other Kentucky Bluegrass varieties in the following Tables 3-10:

TABLE 3

Morphological Comparison of Panicles of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.						
Variety	Panicle Nodding*	Panicle		No. of		
		Length (cm)	Width (cm)	Whorls	No. of Branches	
				Per Panicle	Lower Whorl	Third Whorl
Ba 73-626	1.3	9.7	6.0	5.5	4.5	3.4
Abbey	1.4	7.6	4.2	5.2	4.0	2.7
Baron	1.0	7.8	4.1	5.2	3.8	2.5
Bristol	2.0	9.7	5.0	5.0	3.3	2.7
Chateau	2.0	6.8	3.8	5.0	4.0	2.4
Coventry	2.0	6.7	3.7	4.8	3.8	2.7
Estate	1.2	7.5	4.2	5.5	4.0	3.0

TABLE 3-continued

Morphological Comparison of Panicles of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.						
Variety	Panicle Nodding*	Panicle Length (cm)	Panicle Width (cm)	No. of		
				Per Panicle	Lower Whorl	Third Whorl
Nassau	2.0	10.0	6.0	5.0	3.0	2.0
Newport	2.0	10.3	4.4	4.5	2.3	2.3
Park	1.6	9.0	3.7	4.0	4.3	3.7
Ram I	2.0	9.0	4.7	4.0	2.5	2.0
Victa	1.2	7.5	4.1	5.4	4.4	3.4
LSD (.05)	0.5	1.6	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.8

\*Panicle nodding rated: 1 = erect, 2 = nodding

TABLE 4

Morphological Comparison of Spikelets of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.				
Variety	Spikelet Length (mm)		No. of Florets per Spikelet	
	Lowest Whorl	Third Whorl	Lowest Whorl	Third Whorl
Ba 73-626	5.8	5.6	4.4	4.1
Abbey	5.1	5.0	3.9	3.8
Baron	5.0	5.0	3.7	3.8
Bristol	6.2	6.0	5.7	5.3
Chateau	5.1	5.0	4.2	3.9
Coventry	5.2	5.2	4.2	4.0
Estate	5.2	5.0	4.2	4.2
Nassau	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5
Newport	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2
Park	6.5	6.7	5.2	4.7
Ram I	4.7	5.2	5.2	5.5
Victa	5.2	5.0	3.8	3.8
LSD (.05)	0.9	0.8	1.1	1.0

TABLE 5

Morphological Comparison of Glumes of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.				
Variety	Glume Length (mm)			
	Outer		Inner	
	Lowest Whorl	Third Whorl	Lowest Whorl	Third Whorl
Ba 73-626	3.2	3.3	3.7	3.6
Abbey	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.3
Baron	2.9	2.8	3.4	3.3
Bristol	3.4	3.3	3.7	3.9
Chateau	3.1	3.1	3.4	3.4
Coventry	3.2	3.1	3.5	3.5
Estate	2.9	3.0	3.3	3.3
Nassau	2.3	2.4	2.7	2.7
Newport	2.6	2.5	2.9	2.9
Park	3.0	3.2	3.5	3.7
Ram I	2.6	2.4	2.9	2.7
Victa	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.3
LSD (.05)	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4

TABLE 6

Morphological Comparison of Flag Leaves of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.			
Variety	Flag Leaf Length (cm)	Flag Leaf Width (mm)	Flag Leaf Thickness (mm)
Ba 73-626	5.8	4.2	0.119
Abbey	4.3	3.3	0.107
Baron	4.5	3.2	0.119
Bristol	5.5	3.4	0.127
Chateau	4.1	3.2	0.111
Coventry	4.7	3.2	0.112

TABLE 6-continued

Morphological Comparison of Flag Leaves of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.			
Variety	Flag Leaf Length (cm)	Flag Leaf Width (mm)	Flag Leaf Thickness (mm)
Estate	5.2	3.6	0.117
Nassau	6.2	3.1	0.127
Newport	6.1	3.5	0.135
Park	4.2	2.6	0.110
Ram I	4.7	3.1	0.127
Victa	5.9	4.0	0.124
LSD (.05)	1.8	0.6	0.013

TABLE 7

Morphological Comparison of Peduncles, Culms, and Internodes of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.					
Variety	Peduncle Length (cm)	Peduncle Width (mm)	Culm Length (mm)	No. of Nodes Per Culm	Top Internode Length (cm)
Ba 73-626	12.3	0.772	514	2.3	12.4
Abbey	10.6	0.564	421	2.7	9.3
Baron	12.7	0.555	482	2.5	10.1
Bristol	15.0	0.677	522	2.7	11.3
Chateau	12.9	0.654	439	2.7	9.8
Coventry	13.2	0.607	435	2.7	10.2
Estate	12.6	0.552	486	2.2	10.5
Nassau	8.0	0.546	450	2.5	11.2
Newport	18.0	0.567	547	2.3	11.2
Park	14.3	0.779	578	3.0	13.0
Ram I	18.5	0.622	527	3.0	10.2
Victa	12.2	0.716	474	2.4	10.6
LSD (.05)	3.7	0.018	79	0.6	2.1

TABLE 8

Morphological Comparison of Leaves of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.				
Variety	Ligule Length (mm)	Leaf Length (mm)	Leaf Width (mm)	Leaf Angle (Degrees From Horizontal)
Ba 73-626	0.29	215	4.4	46
Abbey	0.23	218	3.9	56
Baron	0.30	313	4.4	63
Bristol	0.30	253	4.3	37
Chateau	0.25	204	4.1	50
Coventry	0.26	218	4.1	55
Estate	0.28	239	4.4	52
Nassau	0.22	226	3.5	39
Newport	0.22	251	4.1	50
Park	0.33	329	4.2	44
Ram I	0.18	188	3.7	40
Victa	0.28	235	4.3	52
LSD (.05)	0.11	49	0.6	10

TABLE 9

Morphological Comparison of Leaf Hairs of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.			
Variety	Hairs Around Ligule on Upper Surface of the Leaf <sup>(a)</sup>	Hairs on Collar <sup>(a)</sup>	Hairs on Ligule <sup>(b)</sup>
Ba 73-626	1.2	4.2	3.6

TABLE 9-continued

Morphological Comparison of Leaf Hairs of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.			
Variety	Hairs Around Ligule on Upper Surface of the Leaf <sup>(a)</sup>	Hairs on Collar <sup>(a)</sup>	Hairs on Ligule <sup>(b)</sup>
Abbey	1.0	3.4	2.2
Baron	1.0	5.0	4.0
Bristol	1.3	4.7	4.3
Chateau	1.0	3.5	2.7
Coventry	1.0	3.5	1.5
Estate	1.0	3.2	1.3
Nassau	2.7	5.0	1.0
Newport	1.0	4.0	0.8
Park	1.0	1.7	0.0
Ram I	1.0	3.7	0.3
Victa	1.0	3.3	2.2
LSD (.05)	0.3	1.4	1.8

<sup>(a)</sup>Hairs around ligule and on collar rated 1-5: 1 = none, 5 = many  
<sup>(b)</sup>Hairs on ligule rated 0-5: 0 = none, 5 = many

TABLE 10

Morphological Comparisons of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties Grown as Unmowed Spaced Plants in the Field at Marysville, Ohio.			
	Mature Plant Height <sup>(a)</sup>	Panicle Density <sup>(b)</sup>	Maturity <sup>(c)</sup>
Ba 73-626	50	5	8
Abbey	49	5	7
Baron	44	5	9
Coventry	48	5	7
Nassau	46	6	9
Bristol	54	3	8
Merit	61	5	9
Glade	49	2	9
Ram I	49	3	7
Victa	54	6	8

Ratings:  
<sup>(a)</sup>Mature Plant Height (cm) includes panicle  
<sup>(b)</sup>Panicle Density - 1-10, 10 = high panicle density  
<sup>(c)</sup>Maturity - 1-9, 9 = most mature

No discernible differences were noted in flower parts and seed coloration other than those characteristics listed in the above tables.

Ba 73-626 has performed well in regions throughout the United States, as exhibited by high turf quality ratings in many different locations in comparison with other varieties. In addition, Ba 73-626 has a pleasant medium green color which can be maintained throughout the growing season, good winter color, and early spring greening. Comparisons of Ba 73-626 with other varieties for quality and color are set forth in Tables 11-13 hereinafter. According to comparisons with the Munsell Book for Color during mid-June, the color of Ba 73-626 leaf blades is in the range of 5 GY 4/4 to 5 GY 4/8 to 7.5 GY 4/4. During the same time period the color of similar leaf blades of several other Kentucky Bluegrass varieties—Gnome, Midnight, Bristol and Victa—fell in the same range and as a result were indistinguishable based upon use of this color dictionary. Plant age, time of year, management practices of fertilization, irrigation and mowing also influence this color range. Additional comparisons for seedling vigor, drought tolerance, leaf texture, density, seed yield and sod strength are shown in Tables 14-19.



TABLE 11

A Comparison of Turf Quality <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties at Various Testing Locations in the United States									
Variety	Testing Locations								Mean
	NC	KS	OH	OK	VA	IN	NE	NJ	
Ba 73-626	5.0	7.5	6.7	5.8	4.9	6.9	6.1	5.8	6.1
Abbey	3.8	7.1	5.8	5.2	5.2	6.8	5.7	6.3	5.7
Able I	4.2	6.6	5.9	4.8	4.4	6.8	5.3	6.0	5.5
Amazon	3.5	6.9	6.4	6.2	4.4	5.0	4.8	4.9	5.3
America	4.3	7.3	6.8	4.9	4.8	6.8	5.0	5.8	5.7
Aquila	3.5	5.9	5.7	5.3	4.1	6.7	6.3	6.1	5.5
A-34	3.5	7.4	6.7	6.3	4.4	6.8	5.5	4.3	5.6
Baron	5.2	7.5	6.0	4.8	4.6	6.8	5.6	5.3	5.7
Barzan	4.2	7.1	4.9	3.5	4.4	7.0	5.2	5.5	5.2
Bristol	3.7	7.5	6.7	5.3	4.4	6.6	4.7	6.0	5.6
Chateau	4.8	7.4	6.8	4.4	5.0	6.1	6.2	5.5	5.8
Classic	3.5	7.2	6.0	5.5	4.2	6.6	5.8	5.2	5.5
Coventry	3.8	7.2	6.6	5.1	5.0	6.5	5.5	5.2	5.6
Estate	4.7	7.0	6.6	5.3	4.7	6.5	5.8	5.8	5.8
Georgetown	3.8	7.0	5.9	4.5	4.5	6.4	5.4	4.7	5.3
Glade	3.8	7.7	6.6	3.8	4.8	7.0	5.7	5.3	5.6
Gnome	4.3	6.9	5.4	5.1	4.7	6.5	5.4	5.4	5.5
Haga	3.8	7.1	6.2	5.6	5.0	6.6	5.2	4.5	5.5
Julia	3.7	6.7	6.4	5.4	4.7	5.5	6.0	5.5	5.5
Kenblue	4.2	4.8	4.8	3.6	3.7	6.0	4.9	3.7	5.5
Liberty	3.8	7.1	5.9	4.8	4.5	6.4	5.2	5.1	5.4
Merion	4.0	7.0	5.9	3.7	4.3	6.6	5.9	4.8	5.3
Merit	5.2	7.4	6.2	4.2	4.6	7.0	5.6	5.7	5.7
Midnight	3.7	8.1	6.8	4.7	4.7	7.1	6.3	6.9	6.0
Monopoly	4.7	6.5	5.1	5.2	4.9	6.9	5.3	4.7	5.4
Mystic	4.2	6.2	6.4	3.8	3.4	7.2	5.7	5.4	5.3
Nassau	3.5	7.7	6.4	4.7	4.7	6.1	5.3	5.3	5.5
Parade	3.7	7.3	5.6	4.8	3.8	6.2	6.0	4.6	5.3
Ram I	4.2	6.5	6.6	4.9	4.8	5.8	5.3	6.0	5.5
Rugby	3.8	7.0	6.0	4.7	4.4	6.4	5.6	4.8	5.3
Sydsport	3.8	7.5	6.6	4.4	5.3	6.2	5.1	5.0	5.5
Victa	5.0	7.5	6.3	4.1	5.2	6.8	6.0	6.0	5.9
Wabash	4.5	6.7	5.9	5.1	4.1	6.8	6.0	4.0	5.4
Welcome	3.7	6.7	6.3	3.7	4.5	6.9	5.4	5.5	5.3
LSD 0.05	1.1	0.7	1.0	1.7	0.8	0.7	1.0	1.1	

<sup>(a)</sup>Rating Scale 1-9: 9 = best quality

TABLE 12

A Comparison of Turf Color <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties at Various Testing Locations in the United States.			
Variety	Wichita Kansas	Post Falls Idaho	Silver Springs Maryland
Ba 73-626	7.3	8.0	8.0
Abbey	8.0	7.7	6.7
Able I	8.3	7.3	7.3
Adelphi			7.7
Amazon	6.0	7.3	7.7
America	8.3	7.7	
Aquila	8.0	6.0	6.7
A-34	6.7	6.3	5.7
Baron	7.7	7.7	8.3
Barzan	7.0	6.7	8.0
Bristol	8.3	8.0	7.3
Chateau	7.3	7.0	7.0
Classic	6.0	7.0	6.3
Coventry	7.3	7.0	7.3
Estate	7.3	7.0	6.7
Georgetown	6.7	7.0	6.3
Glade	7.7	7.7	8.0
Gnome	7.3	8.0	7.0
Haga	6.3	7.0	5.7
Julia	7.3	7.7	7.7
Kenblue	6.0	6.7	6.0
Liberty	7.7	6.7	6.7
Merion	7.7	5.3	7.0
Merit	7.0	8.0	7.0
Midnight	8.7	8.0	8.3
Monopoly	5.3	6.0	6.0
Mystic	7.3	6.7	7.3
Nassau	7.7	7.3	7.7
Parade	7.3	7.3	6.3
Ram I	8.0	8.0	8.3
Rugby	7.0	6.0	6.0

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TABLE 12-continued

A Comparison of Turf Color <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties at Various Testing Locations in the United States.			
Variety	Wichita Kansas	Post Falls Idaho	Silver Springs Maryland
Sydsport	8.0	7.3	7.0
Victa	8.0	8.0	8.0
Wabash	6.3	6.0	6.0
Welcome	7.0	6.7	7.3
LSD (.05)	1.0	1.5	0.9

<sup>(a)</sup>Rating Scale 1-9: 9 = best color

TABLE 13

Winter Color <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties		
Variety	Testing Locations	
	Puyallup Washington	Agassiz British Columbia
Ba 73-626	6.0	4.7
Abbey	5.7	4.7
Able I	7.0	4.0
Amazon	2.7	4.0
America	6.3	4.0
Aquila	4.0	4.0
A-34	6.0	
Baron	4.7	4.7
Barzan	2.0	5.0
Bristol	8.0	5.0
Chateau	4.3	5.0
Classic	6.3	4.0
Coventry	4.7	5.0
Estate	4.0	5.0
Georgetown	5.7	4.0

TABLE 13-continued

Winter Color <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties		
Variety	Testing Locations	
	Puyallup Washington	Agassiz British Columbia
Glade	6.0	4.3
Gnome	5.7	4.3
Haga	6.0	4.0
Julia	6.0	5.0
Kenblue	1.3	3.0
Liberty	6.7	
Merion	6.3	4.0
Merit	5.7	5.0
Midnight	6.3	4.7
Monopoly	6.0	4.7
Mystic	1.3	2.7
Nassau	7.3	5.0
Parade	6.0	4.0
Ram I	3.7	4.7
Rugby	5.7	4.3
Sydsport	4.3	5.0
Victa	6.7	5.0
Wabash	3.3	3.3
Welcome	1.3	5.0
LSD 0.05	1.6	0.6

<sup>(a)</sup>Rating Scale: 1-9 Larger number indicates greener color

TABLE 14

Comparison of Seedling Vigor <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrasses	
Variety	Testing Location Ritzville, Washington
Ba 73-626	3.0
Abbey	1.3
Able I	1.7
Amazon	1.7
America	1.7
Aquila	1.3
A-34	2.3
Baron	2.0
Barzan	2.7
Bristol	2.7
Chateau	1.7
Classic	2.3
Coventry	2.3
Estate	1.3
Georgetown	2.0
Glade	2.0
Gnome	2.3
Haga	2.3
Julia	1.7
Kenblue	1.3
Liberty	1.7
Merion	1.3
Merit	1.3
Midnight	1.0
Monopoly	2.0
Mystic	2.7
Nassau	2.0
Parade	1.0
Ram I	2.0
Rugby	1.7
Sydsport	1.7
Victa	3.0
Wabash	1.0
Welcome	1.7
LSD 0.05	1.3

<sup>(a)</sup>Rating Scale: 1-9 9 = most vigor

TABLE 15

Comparison of Drought and Heat Tolerance <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrasses		
Variety	Testing Locations	
	Post Falls Idaho	Marysville Ohio
Ba 73-626	7.7	6.3

TABLE 15-continued

Comparison of Drought and Heat Tolerance <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrasses		
Variety	Testing Locations	
	Post Falls Idaho	Marysville Ohio
Abbey	7.7	6.3
Able I	7.7	
Adelphi		5.7
Amazon	7.0	
America	8.0	
Aquila	7.3	
A-34	6.0	
Baron	7.0	6.0
Barzan	6.0	
Bonnieblue		6.0
Bristol	6.7	6.0
Chateau	7.0	6.0
Classic	7.3	5.3
Coventry	7.3	6.0
Estate	7.0	6.0
Georgetown	6.7	4.7
Glade	6.7	6.3
Gnome	8.0	6.3
Haga	6.7	
Julia	7.3	
Kenblue	6.3	
Liberty	7.7	
Merion	7.3	5.0
Merit	8.0	6.0
Midnight	6.0	
Monopoly	6.7	
Mystic	7.7	
Nassau	8.0	6.0
Newport		6.0
Parade	5.7	
Park		5.0
Ram I	8.7	6.0
Rugby	7.0	
Sydsport	7.0	
Vantage		6.0
Victa	7.7	
Wabash	6.7	4.0
Welcome	7.3	
LSD 0.05	1.7	0.9

<sup>(a)</sup>1-9 Scale 9 = most tolerant

TABLE 16

Comparison of Leaf Texture <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrasses Under Mowed Conditions		
Variety	Testing Locations	
	Puyallup Washington	Agassiz British Columbia
Ba 73-626	3.7	5.3
Abbey	5.3	5.7
Able I	7.7	6.0
Amazon	6.0	6.3
America	7.7	6.0
Aquila	7.0	6.0
A-34	6.7	5.7
Baron	4.3	6.0
Barzan	5.7	6.0
Bristol	6.0	5.0
Chateau	4.3	5.7
Classic	7.3	6.0
Coventry	4.3	5.3
Estate	4.7	5.7
Georgetown	8.0	5.3
Glade	6.7	6.0
Gnome	5.3	5.3
Haga	7.7	6.0
Julia	6.0	6.0
Kenblue	5.3	6.7
Liberty	6.0	
Merion	8.0	6.0
Merit	4.0	6.0
Midnight	6.0	6.0
Monopoly	7.0	6.0
Mystic	6.0	7.3



TABLE 16-continued

Comparison of Leaf Texture <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrasses Under Mowed Conditions		
Variety	Testing Locations	
	Puyallup Washington	Agassiz British Columbia
Nassau	7.0	5.0
Parade	7.0	6.0
Ram I	6.3	6.3
Rugby	6.3	6.0
Sydsport	5.0	6.0
Victa	3.3	5.7
Wabash	7.0	6.3
Welcome	6.3	6.0
LSD 0.05	1.4	0.6

<sup>(a)</sup>Rating Scale 1-9 9 = finest leaf

TABLE 17

A Comparison of the Average Spring and Summer Density <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrasses at Various Locations <sup>(b)</sup>		
Variety	Spring	Summer
Ba 73-626	6.1	7.2
Abbey	6.3	7.2
Baron	6.1	7.2
Chateau	6.6	7.3
Classic	6.9	7.3
Coventry	6.7	7.3
Estate	6.1	7.3
Glade	5.9	7.3
Gnone	5.8	6.9
Kenblue	5.9	6.8
Merion	6.3	6.9
Merit	6.0	6.9
Midnight	6.1	7.7
Nassau	5.7	6.8
Parade	6.2	7.3
Ram I	6.6	7.3
Victa	5.8	7.1
LSD 0.05	0.8	0.6

<sup>(a)</sup>Rating Scale 1-9: 9 = Maximum

<sup>(b)</sup>The testing locations were in Indiana, Ohio and Manitoba, Canada for both spring and summer testing.

TABLE 18

Seed Yield Comparisons <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrass Varieties in Gervais, Oregon				
Variety	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Ba 73-626	672	1136	760	1265
Abbey	691	1586		
Bristol	347	808	627	684
Chateau	559	757		
Coventry	643	930		
Estate	585	864		
Julia	296	1016		
Mosa	322	1060		
Newport	435	1256		
Victa	780	1394	855	1287
LSD 0.05	140	134	105	131

<sup>(a)</sup>Seed yields: Pounds per acre

TABLE 19

Comparison of Sod Strength <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrasses under Mowed Conditions	
Variety	Testing Location Remington, Virginia
Ba 73-626	14.3
A-34	9.7
Able I	8.7
Amazon	8.7
America	18.7
Aquila	16.3
Baron	14.7
Barzan	8.3
Bristol	8.3

TABLE 19-continued

Comparison of Sod Strength <sup>(a)</sup> of Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrasses under Mowed Conditions	
Variety	Testing Location Remington, Virginia
Chateau	15.0
Classic	15.3
Coventry	11.0
Estate	16.0
Georgetown	14.3
Glade	18.0
Gnome	14.3
Haga	13.0
Julia	11.0
Kenblue	16.3
Liberty	11.0
Merion	11.3
Merit	13.3
Midnight	14.3
Monopoly	8.3
Mystic	14.3
Nassau	8.3
Parade	12.7
Ram I	11.0
Rugby	11.7
Sydsport	20.7
Victa	16.3
Wabash	10.3
Welcome	18.0
LSD (0.05)	6.1

<sup>(a)</sup>Sod strength measured in kilograms of tension needed to tear sod.

Turf diseases are one of the major causes of inconsistent and poor turf performance. Ba 73-626 has been found to have a high level of resistance to leaf spot (also known as melting out and crown rot) caused by *Drechslera poae* (formerly called *Helminthosporium vagans*), a medium to high level of resistance to rust caused by *Puccinia* spp., to dollarspot caused by *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa*, to red thread caused by *Laetisaria fuciformis* formerly called *Corticium*, to summer patch caused by *Phialophora graminicola* formerly called a *Fusarium* spp and to necrotic ring spot caused by *Lep-tosphaeria korrae*.

Comparisons of Ba 73-626 with other varieties regarding resistance to leaf spot, rust, dollarspot, red thread and summer patch are presented in Tables 20-23.

TABLE 20

Comparison of Leafspot Disease Incidence on Ba 73-626 And Other Bluegrasses			
Variety	Testing Locations		
	Marysville Ohio <sup>(a)</sup>	Blacksburg Virginia <sup>(b)</sup>	Puyallup Washington <sup>(b)</sup>
Ba 73-626	8.3	6.0	8.3
Abbey		6.0	8.0
Able I		4.7	9.0
Adelphi	20.0		
Amazon		5.3	7.0
America		5.3	8.7
Aquila		4.3	7.3
A-34		5.3	8.7
Baron	10.0	5.7	8.3
Barzan		5.3	3.3
Bonnieblue	13.3		
Bristol		5.7	9.0
Chateau		5.7	9.0
Classic		5.3	8.7
Coventry	11.7	5.7	9.0
Estate		5.3	9.0
Georgetown		5.7	9.0
Glade	11.7	5.5	8.0
Gnome		5.7	8.7
Haga		5.7	9.0
Julia		6.0	9.0
Kenblue		2.3	1.0

TABLE 20-continued

Comparison of Leafspot Disease Incidence on Ba 73-626 And Other Bluegrasses			
Variety	Testing Locations		
	Marysville Ohio <sup>(a)</sup>	Blacksburg Virginia <sup>(b)</sup>	Puyallup Washington <sup>(b)</sup>
Liberty		5.7	8.7
Merion	18.3	6.0	9.0
Merit	20.3	6.0	8.3
Midnight		5.3	9.0
Monopoly		4.7	8.0
Mystic		4.7	1.0
Nassau		6.0	9.0
Newport	46.7		
Parade		4.3	9.0
Park	60.0		
Ram I	16.7	5.0	5.3
Rugby		4.7	9.0
Sydsport	11.7	6.3	9.0
Vantage	45.0		
Victa	15.0	6.0	8.0
Wabash		2.3	6.3
Welcome		4.3	1.3
LSD 0.05	17.6	1.1	1.6

<sup>(a)</sup>Results expressed in % of turf affected by disease  
<sup>(b)</sup>Results rated on scale of 1-9: 9 = least disease

TABLE 21

Comparison of Stem and Leaf Rust <sup>(a)</sup> (Puccinia spp.) Disease Incidence on Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrasses			
Variety	Testing Locations		
	Adelphia New Jersey Stem Rust	Riverside California Leaf Rust	Post Falls Idaho Leaf Rust
Ba 73-626	7.3	5.7	8.7
Abbey	6.3	5.3	8.3
Able I	7.0	6.3	8.3
Amazon	6.0	5.3	7.7
America	8.3	6.0	8.7
Aquila	8.0	5.7	7.7
A-34	8.0	6.3	7.7
Baron	7.3	5.0	8.0
Barzan	8.0	5.7	7.7
Bristol	8.7	6.0	8.7
Chateau	8.3	5.3	8.0
Classic	8.7	6.0	9.0
Coventry	8.3	5.0	7.3
Estate	7.3	5.7	8.0
Georgetown	9.0	6.0	8.3
Glade	7.7	5.0	8.7
Gnome	7.7	5.3	8.3
Haga	9.0	6.3	8.3
Julia	8.0	5.7	8.0
Kenblue	8.3	5.7	7.7
Liberty	8.3	6.7	8.0
Merion	2.7	4.0	6.7
Merit	8.0	5.7	9.0
Midnight	8.3	5.7	7.7
Monopoly	8.0	5.3	8.3
Mystic	5.3	5.7	7.3
Nassau	7.7	5.7	8.0
Parade	9.0	7.0	7.7
Ram I	8.7	6.0	8.7
Rugby	8.7	6.7	8.3

TABLE 21-continued

Comparison of Stem and Leaf Rust <sup>(a)</sup> (Puccinia spp.) Disease Incidence on Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrasses			
Variety	Testing Locations		
	Adelphia New Jersey Stem Rust	Riverside California Leaf Rust	Post Falls Idaho Leaf Rust
Sydsport	8.0	5.3	8.3
Victa	7.7	4.7	7.3
Wabash	8.0	5.3	8.0
Welcome	7.3	6.0	8.3
LSD 0.05	1.0	1.5	1.4

<sup>(a)</sup>Results rated on a scale of 1-9: 9 = least disease

TABLE 22

A Comparison of Red Thread, Summer Patch, Necrotic Ring Spot and Dollar Spot <sup>(a)</sup> Incidence Level on Ba 73-626 and Other Bluegrasses at Various Locations in the United States.				
Variety	Testing Locations			
	Blacksburg, Virginia Red Thread	West Lafayette, Indiana Summer Patch	Hubbard, Oregon Necrotic Ring Spot	Columbia, Missouri Dollarspot
Ba 73-626	5.7	9.0	6.3	7.7
Abbey	6.0	8.0	6.0	6.7
Able I	3.7	8.7	7.3	6.3
Amazon	3.0	4.3	5.0	5.7
America	5.3	9.0	7.0	7.0
Aquila	3.7	9.0	6.0	7.7
A-34	4.3	8.3	5.0	7.3
Baron	4.7	8.7	5.3	7.7
Barzan	4.0	8.0	6.0	6.0
Bristol	5.7	9.0	6.0	7.3
Chateau	4.7	6.7	5.0	6.0
Classic	5.0	8.7	4.7	6.7
Coventry	5.0	7.3	6.3	7.7
Estate	4.3	7.3	6.7	7.3
Georgetown	4.7	8.7	5.7	6.7
Glade	3.3	9.0	7.0	6.7
Gnome	4.0	7.0	6.7	7.7
Haga	4.0	9.0	5.3	7.7
Julia	3.0	5.3	7.3	6.7
Kenblue	2.7	8.3	6.7	7.0
Liberty	4.3	8.7	6.0	7.0
Merion	3.3	8.0	7.7	7.3
Merit	4.0	9.0	6.0	5.0
Midnight	5.0	9.0	7.3	5.7
Monopoly	5.7	9.0	5.0	7.0
Mystic	1.7	9.0	6.7	7.3
Nassau	4.3	7.3	6.0	6.0
Parade	5.0	7.3	5.0	6.3
Ram I	4.3	4.3	7.0	4.3
Rugby	4.7	8.7	5.3	7.3
Sydsport	4.3	7.3	6.7	6.7
Victa	5.7	8.0	6.3	7.0
Wabash	3.3	9.0	4.7	5.7
Welcome	4.0	8.3	6.0	8.3
LSD 0.05	1.4	2.6	1.0	1.9

<sup>(a)</sup>Results rated on scale of 1-9: 9 = least disease

55 What is claimed is:  
1. A variety of Kentucky Bluegrass plant, substan-  
tially as shown and described, characterized by a me-  
dium to high level of resistance to several serious dis-  
eases, including leaf spot disease, a desirable green color  
60 throughout the growing season, a strong sodformer, a  
high quality dense persistent turf under a wide variety  
of environmental conditions and a high level of seed  
yielding capacity.

\* \* \* \* \*





FIG. 3



FIG. 2

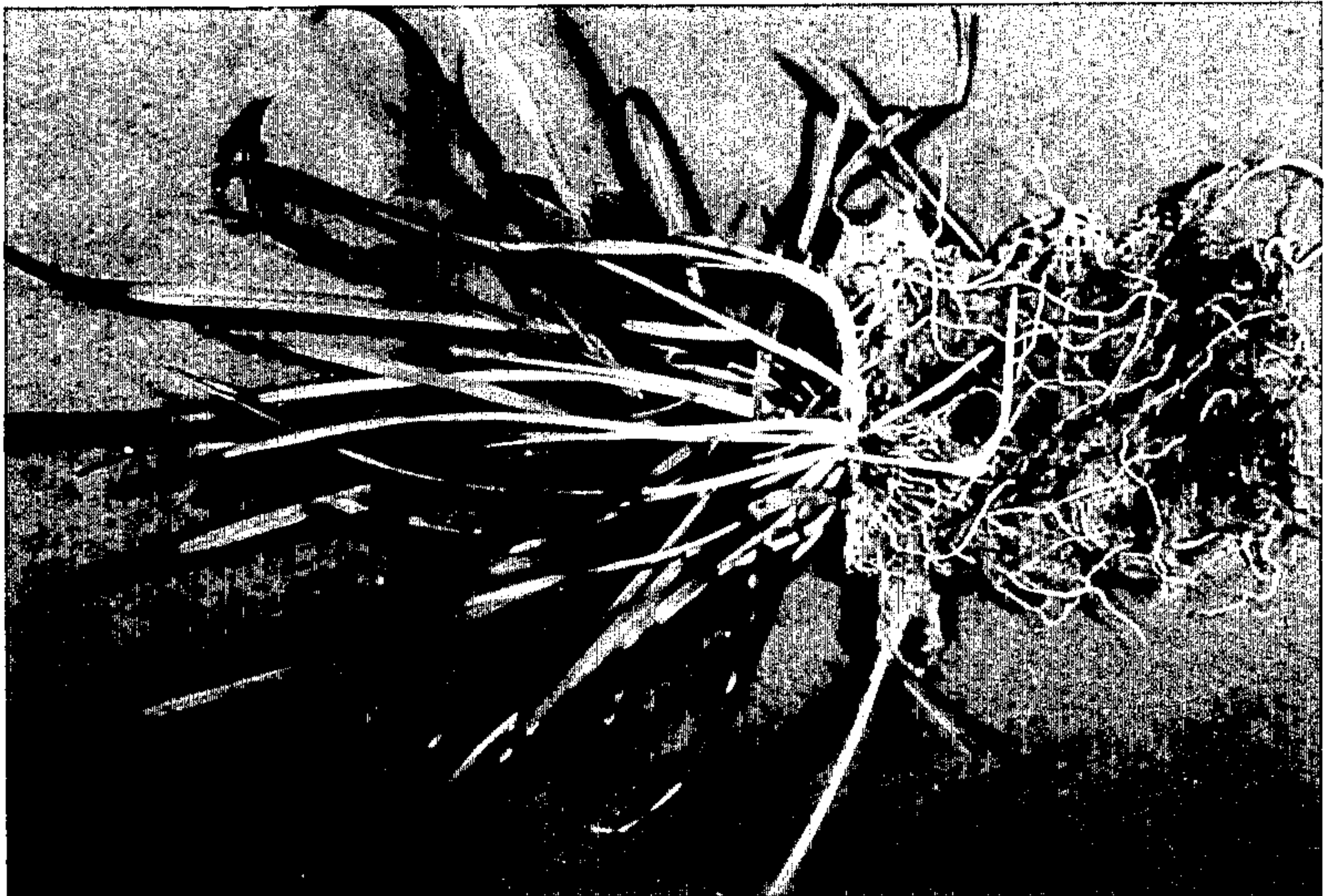


FIG. 1