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[54] **KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS DESIGNATED 'BA79-260'**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **Plt./393**

[58] **Field of Search** Plt./393

[56] **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

P.P. 3,150	5/1972	Pepin et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 3,156	5/1972	Fuchigami et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 3,186	5/1972	Barenbrug et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 4,336	11/1978	Mayer et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 6,280	9/1988	Meier et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 6,537	1/1989	Meier et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 6,538	1/1989	Meier et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 6,585	2/1989	Meier et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 7,831	3/1992	Meier et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 8,490	12/1993	Meier et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 9,036	1/1995	Meier et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 9,209	7/1995	Mayer	Plt./393
P.P. 9,611	7/1996	Meier	Plt./393
P.P. 9,848	4/1997	Meier et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 9,977	7/1997	Meier et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 10,080	10/1997	Meier et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 10,081	10/1997	Meier et al.	Plt./393
P.P. 10,384	5/1998	Meier et al.	Plt./393

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A variety of Kentucky bluegrass plant having a high level of resistance to powdery mildew and a medium to high level of resistance to leaf spot, summer patch, melting out and brown patch; a deep green color throughout the growing season; the ability to form a medium to high quality turf under a wide variety of environmental conditions; a moderately narrow leaf blade; excellent winter color under mild winter conditions; and a high level of seed yielding capacity.

2 Drawing Sheets

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a new and distinct variety of *Poa pratensis* that has been designated 'Ba79-260' Kentucky bluegrass.

2. Description of Related Art

Kentucky Bluegrasses have been disclosed in U.S. Plant Pat. No. 3,150, issued May 2, 1972; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 3,156, issued May 9, 1972; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 3,186, issued May 23, 1972; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 4,336, issued Nov. 28, 1978; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,280, issued Sep. 6, 1988; U.S. Plant Pat. Nos. 6,537 and 6,538, issued Jan. 17, 1989; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,585, issued Feb. 7, 1989; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 7,831, issued Mar. 17, 1992; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 8,490, issued Dec. 7, 1993; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,036, issued Jan. 3, 1995; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,209, issued Jul. 18, 1995; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,611, issued Jul. 23, 1996; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,848, issued Apr. 1, 1997: U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,977, issued Jul. 22, 1997; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 10,080, issued Oct. 21, 1997; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 10,081, issued Oct. 21, 1997; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 10,384, issued May 5, 1998; U.S. Plant Pat. No. 10,925, issued May 25, 1999 and pending U.S. plant patent application Ser. No. 09/032,057, filed Feb. 27, 1998, as well as U.S. plant patent application Ser. No. 09/120,718, filed Jul. 22, 1998.

SUMMARY OF THE VARIETY

'Ba79-260' plant material originated from a single plant that was a progeny resulting from crossing 'Adelphi' Kentucky bluegrass (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 3,150), as the seed parent, with 'Ba75-129', an unreleased, unpatented Kentucky bluegrass plant grown and maintained in a plant nursery at the Scotts Company in Marysville, Ohio, as the pollen parent. As a result of this breeding, a distinct variety was produced and asexually propagated by rhizomes, tillers

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and disseminules. The highly apomictic seed of 'Ba79-260' Kentucky bluegrass was produced first at Marysville, Ohio, and later at Gervais, Oreg. This seed was used to plant turf performance evaluation trials and later, seed production fields.

Asexual reproduction of 'Ba79-260' initially was performed at Marysville, Ohio, by propagules (tillers and rhizomes) and by disseminules (modified caryopses produced by apomixis) and has consistently produced progeny plants indistinguishable from the first generation asexual reproductions of the instant plant. The apomixis level of 'Ba79-260' is approximately 95% (plus or minus about 2.1%) based upon examining seedling characteristics of approximately 100 to 150 seedlings from different crop years in a growth chamber and any seedling with one or more characteristics different from other 'Ba79-260' seedlings was classified as not being of apomictic origin.

'Ba79-260' has a number of highly desirable characteristics, including a medium to high level of resistance to Drechslera spp. that causes leaf spot and melting out; a high level of resistance to *Erysiphe graminis* that causes powdery mildew; a medium to high level of resistance to *Magnaporthe poae* that causes summer patch; and a high level of resistance to *Rhizoctonia solani* that causes brown patch. 'Ba79-260' has an attractive, leafy dense turf; moderately narrow leaf blades; a deep green color which can be maintained throughout the entire growing season; and excellant winter color under mild winter conditions.

'Ba79-260' is an overall good turfgrass performer as evidenced by medium to high scores for quality and dark green color. 'Ba79-260' has a high seed yield potential in the bluegrass seed production region of the northwestern United States.

In comparison with a number of other Kentucky blugrass varieties, 'Ba79-260' has a significantly shorter seed and a higher number of seeds per pound than many other Ken-

tucky bluegrasses. The culm and the uppermost internode of the culm are significantly longer than most other Kentucky bluegrass varieties observed. The flag leaf ligule has fewer hairs and the vegetative leaf has significantly fewer hairs on the collar margin than other Kentucky bluegrasses.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIG. **1** is a 'Ba79-260' Kentucky bluegrass seed; and

FIG. **2** is a 'Ba79-260' Kentucky bluegrass plant shortly after completing anthesis.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIETY

'Ba79-260' Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis* L.) is perennial with creeping rhizomes forming a dense turf. When plants overwinter in the field under 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 54.1 cm in length. The uppermost internode averages 11.1 cm length. The peduncle averages 26.4 cm in length and 0.91 mm in width. The vegetative leaf averages 25.8 cm in length, 4.7 mm in width, 0.19 mm in thickness and the ligule 0.36 mm in length. The flag leaf averages 6.9 cm in length, 3.6 mm in width, 0.10 mm in thickness and a ligule of 1.11 mm with the ligule having significantly fewer hairs than other varieties.

The panicle averages 8.9 cm in length, 7.5 cm in width, and has 5.3 whorls. The lowest whorl and the third whorl from the bottom of the panicle average 4.0 and 3.6 branches, respectively. A spikelet in the lowest whorl averages 5.0 mm in length, 2.0 mm in width, and 3.9 florets and the outer glume and inner glume average 2.8 mm and 3.1 mm in length and 0.6 mm and 0.7 mm in width, respectively. A spikelet from the third whorl from the bottom of the panicle averages 5.2 mm in length, 2.3 mm in width, 4.3 florets, and the outer glume and inner glume averages 3.1 mm and 3.3 mm in length and 0.5 mm and 0.7 mm in width, respectively. The level of hairs of the vegetative leaf on the sheath margin are less than average, on the leaf sheath dorsal side are less than average, on the upper ligule margin are less than average, and on the collar margin are significantly less than average for most varieties observed.

Since environmental conditions such as soil and climate may influence morphological characteristics to some extent, comparisons of 'Ba79-260' were made with other Kentucky blugrass varities under like conditions and the comparisons are set forth in Tables 1–7, as follows:

TABLE 1

Morphological Comparisons of Peduncles, Culms, and Top Internodes of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.

Variety	Peduncle Length (cm)	Peduncle Width (mm)	Culm Length (cm)	Top Internode Length (cm)
'Ba79-260'	26.39	0.91	54.11	11.10
'Ba76-372'	26.54	1.27	38.52	9.00
'Abbey'	26.83	0.99	33.30	7.40
'Ascot'	18.76	0.67	38.25	5.79
'Famous'	20.99	1.04	48.88	8.85
'Goldrush'	19.26	0.89	43.05	7.44
'Nottingham'	26.70	1.19	39.20	9.42
'Raven'	26.12	0.78	55.32	11.64
'Sidekick'	27.22	0.91	55.88	10.36

TABLE 1-continued

Morphological Comparisons of Peduncles, Culms, and Top Internodes of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.

Variety	Peduncle Length (cm)	Peduncle Width (mm)	Culm Length (cm)	Top Internode Length (cm)
LSD (.05)	2.76	0.11	3.64	1.56

TABLE 2

Morphological Comparisons of Vegetative Leaves of 'Ba-79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.

Variety	Length (cm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Ligule Length (mm)
'Ba79-260'	25.81	4.65	0.19	0.36
'Ba76-372'	27.39	4.33	0.19	0.34
'Abbey'	23.42	4.02	0.20	0.40
'Ascot'	28.41	3.84	0.19	0.31
'Famous'	27.46	4.58	0.21	0.41
'Goldrush'	20.80	3.89	0.19	0.40
'Nottingham'	26.46	4.78	0.20	0.40
'Raven'	24.44	4.62	0.21	0.37
'Sidekick'	29.03	4.94	0.21	0.48
LSD (.05)	3.54	0.45	0.01	0.05

TABLE 3

Morphological Comparisons of Flag Leaves of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.

Variety	Length (cm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Ligule Length (mm)	Ligule Hair*
'Ba79-260'	6.90	3.55	0.104	1.11	0.90
'Ba76-372'	5.66	4.21	0.122	1.33	2.20
'Abbey'	3.57	2.99	0.109	0.91	1.60
'Ascot'	6.03	2.49	0.102	1.15	1.60
'Famous'	7.65	3.83	0.102	1.19	1.38
'Goldrush'	7.11	3.21	0.089	1.00	2.00
'Nottingham'	4.77	3.71	0.124	1.08	2.30
'Raven'	5.87	3.38	0.104	1.08	1.20
'Sidekick'	6.65	3.61	0.104	1.07	1.10
LSD (.05)	1.13	0.47	0.013	0.163	0.49

*Rating 0–9; 0 = None; 9 = Many Hairs.

TABLE 4

Morphological Comparisons for Panicle Length and Width, Whorl Number and Whorl Branches of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties Grown on in the Greenhouse in Marysville, Ohio.

	Panicle			Number of Branches	
Variety	Length (cm)	Width (cm)	Whorl No.	Lowest Whorl	Third Whorl
'Ba79-260'	8.88	7.53	5.30	4.0	3.60
'Ba76-372'	8.51	7.44	6.90	4.3	4.10
'Abbey'	6.04	4.99	5.80	3.7	3.30
'Ascot'	10.03	7.01	4.20	2.2	2.00
'Famous'	12.11	8.11	6.22	4.2	3.78
'Goldrush'	10.25	6.63	5.70	3.6	3.50
'Nottingham'	8.08	7.15	7.00	4.4	4.40
'Raven'	8.15	6.36	5.30	4.0	3.20
'Sidekick'	11.22	3.52	5.50	2.8	2.60
LSD (.05)	0.92	1.21	0.61	0.6	0.53

TABLE 5

Morphological Comparisons of Spikelets and Florets of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.

	Spikelet				No. of Florets per Spikelet	
	Lowest Whorl		Third Whorl			
Variety	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Lowest Whorl	Third Whorl
'Ba79-260'	5.03	2.01	5.16	2.31	3.9	4.3
'Ba76-372'	4.45	1.92	4.96	2.09	3.2	3.8
'Abbey'	4.67	1.85	4.54	1.94	3.1	3.1
'Ascot'	5.34	2.03	5.10	2.06	3.2	2.9
'Famous'	5.19	2.14	5.18	2.09	4.0	3.9
'Goldrush'	4.71	1.69	4.96	1.89	3.0	3.6
'Nottingham'	5.69	2.33	5.22	2.47	4.4	3.7
'Raven'	4.63	2.11	4.75	2.04	3.9	3.8
'Sidekick'	5.08	2.67	5.23	2.71	4.1	4.6
LSD (.05)	0.491	0.301	0.432	0.36	0.6	0.6

TABLE 6

Morphological Comparisons of Glume Size of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.

	Outer Glume				Inner Glume			
	Lowest Whorl		Third Whorl		Lowest Whorl		Third Whorl	
Variety	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Length (mm)	Width (mm)
'Ba79-260'	2.79	0.55	3.05	0.53	3.07	0.74	3.33	0.73
'Ba76-372'	2.51	0.54	2.79	0.59	3.10	0.74	3.35	0.82
'Abbey'	2.51	0.53	2.52	0.46	2.96	0.69	3.00	0.69
'Ascot'	3.92	0.50	3.74	0.56	4.13	0.71	4.03	0.68
'Famous'	2.99	0.56	2.91	0.64	3.38	0.74	3.36	0.73
'Goldrush'	2.65	0.51	3.07	0.62	3.41	0.76	3.70	0.81
'Nottingham'	2.99	0.61	2.91	0.57	3.31	0.81	3.33	0.67
'Raven'	2.85	0.53	2.87	0.47	3.11	0.74	3.09	0.68
'Sidekick'	3.27	0.52	3.41	0.63	3.51	0.65	3.69	0.73
LSD (.05)	0.31	0.10	0.30	0.11	0.29	0.14	0.28	0.12

TABLE 7

Morphological Comparisons of the Level of Hairs on the Vegetative Leaves of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties in the Greenhouse at Marysville, Ohio.

Variety	Leaf Sheath Margin	Leaf Sheath Dorsal	Ligule Upper Margin	Collar Margin	Leaf Dorsal
'Ba79-260'	1.80	1.0	3.1	2.2	1.0
'Ba76-372'	2.30	2.3	5.3	3.3	1.0
'Abbey'	3.10	2.7	6.3	3.6	1.0
'Ascot'	2.10	1.0	2.0	4.4	0.0
'Famous'	2.80	1.4	4.3	3.3	1.0
'Goldrush'	3.40	1.0	4.6	2.2	1.0
'Nottingham'	3.30	3.6	7.1	4.4	1.0
'Raven'	1.80	1.1	3.1	2.1	1.0
'Sidekick'	2.10	1.2	2.3	3.6	0.0
LSD (.05)	0.55	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.1

*Rating Scale: 0–9; 0 = None; 9 = Many Hairs.

The seed of 'Ba79-260' was conditioned by removing most of the extraneous materials which may have been harvested with the seed, such as small pieces of plant stems and leaves, soil particles, seed of other plants, hair attached to the seed and the like. This conditioned seed of 'Ba79-260' averages 2.77 mm in length, 0.79 mm in width, and a rachilla length of 0.82 mm. It has an average level of hairs at the base of the lemma. 'Ba79-260' has approximately 1,038,300 seeds per pound.

Comparisons of 'Ba79-260' with other Kentucky bluegrass varieties in terms of seed numbers per pound and other seed characteristics are shown in Tables 8–9 as follows:

TABLE 8

Comparison of Seeds Per Pound of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties After Conditioning

Variety	Seeds per Pound
'Ba79-260'	1,038,300
'Ba76-372'	1,127,400
'Abbey'	1,003,000
'Ascot'	1,039,400
'Coventry'	1,374,700
'Famous'	1,128,600

TABLE 8-continued

Comparison of Seeds Per Pound of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties After Conditioning

Variety	Seeds per Pound
'Goldrush'	942,700
'Nottingham'	1,066,000
'Raven'	1,127,100
'Sidekick'	928,000
LSD (.05)	38,080

TABLE 9

Morphological Comparisons of Seed Length, Width, Rachilla Length, and Lemma Hairs of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties After Conditioning

Variety	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Rachilla (mm)	Lemma Hairs[1/]
'Ba79-260'	2.77	0.79	0.82	2.33
'Ba76-372'	3.19	0.87	0.56	2.11

TABLE 9-continued

Morphological Comparisons of Seed Length, Width, Rachilla Length, and Lemma Hairs of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties After Conditioning

Variety	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Rachilla (mm)	Lemma Hairs[1/]
'Abbey'	3.02	0.85	0.56	1.80
'Ascot'	3.00	0.81	0.68	6.30
'Famous'	3.02	0.86	0.65	1.56
'Goldrush'	2.80	0.75	0.81	1.22
'Nottingham'	3.02	0.84	0.69	1.10
'Raven'	2.88	0.80	0.67	2.50
'Sidekick'	2.84	0.84	0.88	2.11
LSD (.05)	0.20	0.11	0.21	0.70

[1/]Rating Scale 0–9; 0 = None; 9 = Most Hairs.

'Ba79-260' has performed well throughout the U.S. as exhibited by medium turf quality ratings in comparison with other Kentucky bluegrass varities. In addition, it has a dark green color which can be maintained throughout the growing season.

With regard to a comparative analysis conducted for purposes of determining color of 'Ba79-260' plants relative to other Kentucky bluegrass varieties, readings were taken of the vegetative color of 'Ba79-260' during late May while the turf was actively growing with adequate nutrient and water availability. The readings were taken in full sun with several actively growing leaves being compared, one at a time, utilizing color chips from the Munsell Book of Color as a reference. On this basis, the color of 'Ba79-260' was determined to be 7.5 GY 4/4. During the same time period, the color of similar leaves of other Kentucky bluegrass varieties were determined by the same procedure to be as follows: 'Ascot' - 7.5 GY 4/4; 'Goldrush' - 7.5 GY 4/4; 'Nottingham' - 7.5 GY 4/6; 'Midnight' - 7.5 GY 4/4; 'Abbey' - 7.5 GY 4/6; and 'Sidekick' - 7.5 GY 4/6. However, it should be noted that the general apparent color of turf does not always correlate directly with the color of the individual actively growing leaves within the turf and that turf color varies with nutrient level and time of year with some varieties being darker or lighter green, depending on such factors.

Comparisons of 'Ba79-260' with other Kentucky bluegrass varieties for quality, genetic color, spring greenup, winter color, turf density, living ground cover, leaf texture and seed yield are set forth hereinafter in Tables 10–17, as follows:

TABLE 10

A Comparison of Quality of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties as Affected by Climatic Regions in the U.S.

Variety	Transition Zone[1/]	Cool-Arid[2/]	Cool-Humid[3/]
'Ba79-260'	5.5	5.3	6.1
'Ba76-372'	5.0	5.7	5.6
'Abbey'	5.2	5.7	5.7
'Ascot'	5.2	5.6	5.8
'Baron'	5.5	5.7	5.5
'Chateau'	5.7	6.0	6.1
'Classic'	5.3	6.0	6.1
'Coventry'	5.7	5.5	6.2
'Eclipse'	5.5	5.5	6.0
'Glade'	5.8	6.1	6.1
'Goldrush'	5.5	5.6	5.7
'Kenblue'	4.8	6.1	4.9

TABLE 10-continued

A Comparison of Quality of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties as Affected by Climatic Regions in the U.S.

Variety	Transition Zone[1/]	Cool-Arid[2/]	Cool-Humid[3/]
'Limousine'	5.7	5.3	6.3
'Midnight'	6.1	6.3	6.5
'Raven'	5.6	5.6	5.8
'Sidekick'	5.0	5.4	5.1
LSD (.05)	0.3	0.5	0.2

Rating Scale: 0–9; 9 = Excellent.
[1/]From 10 different locations in the U.S.
[2/]From 16 different locations in the U.S.
[3/]From 3 different locations in the U.S.

TABLE 11

A Comparison of Quality of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties as Affected by Mowing Height.

	Mowing Height		
Variety	1.1"–1.5"[1/]	1.6"–2.0"[2/]	2.1"–3.0"[3/]
'Ba79-260'	5.5	6.1	6.3
'Ba76-372'	4.9	5.9	5.8
'Abbey'	5.1	5.7	6.1
'Ascot'	5.3	5.8	5.8
'Baron'	5.0	5.7	6.2
'Chateau'	5.5	6.5	6.4
'Classic'	5.1	6.2	6.5
'Coventry'	5.5	6.2	6.5
'Eclipse'	5.4	6.2	6.2
'Glade'	5.7	6.5	6.0
'Goldrush'	5.2	5.5	6.2
'Kenblue'	4.2	4.9	6.0
'Limousine'	5.4	5.9	6.7
'Midnight'	6.2	6.4	6.3
'Raven'	5.3	5.9	6.4
'Sidekick'	4.4	5.3	5.6
LSD (.05)	0.3	0.4	0.4

Rating Scale: 0–9; 9 = Excellent.
[1/]From 10 different locations in the U.S.
[2/]From 4 different locations in the U.S.
[3/]From 7 different locations in the U.S.

TABLE 12

A Comparison of Quality of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties As Affected By Nitrogen Rate.

	Pounds of Nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft.		
Variety	2.1–3.0[1/]	3.1–4.0[2/]	4.1 +[3/]
'Ba79-260'	6.1	5.8	5.6
'Ba76-372'	5.8	5.3	5.2
'Abbey'	6.1	5.4	5.2
'Ascot'	5.8	5.5	5.7
'Baron'	6.2	5.4	5.0
'Chateau'	6.4	5.9	5.6
'Classic'	6.5	5.9	4.9
'Coventry'	6.3	5.8	5.7
'Eclipse'	6.1	5.8	5.4
'Glade'	6.2	6.1	5.7
'Goldrush'	6.2	5.5	5.3
'Kenblue'	5.8	4.7	4.3
'Limousine'	6.5	5.9	5.8
'Midnight'	6.2	6.3	6.5
'Raven'	6.3	5.6	5.3
'Sidekick'	5.6	5.1	4.6
LSD (.05)	0.4	0.2	0.4

TABLE 12-continued

A Comparison of Quality of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties As Affected By Nitrogen Rate.

	Pounds of Nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft.		
Variety	2.1–3.0[1/]	3.1–4.0[2/]	4.1 +[3/]

Rating Scale: 0–9; 9 = Excellent.
[1/]From 8 different locations in the U.S.
[2/]From 14 different locations in the U.S.
[3/]From 7 different locations in the U.S.

TABLE 13

A Comparison of Genetic Color, Spring Greenup and Winter Color of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties.

Variety	Genetic Color[1/]	Spring Greenup[2/]	Winter Color[3/]
'Ba79-260'	7.6	5.4	5.8
'Abbey'	6.4	5.6	5.0
'Ascot'	7.1	5.1	4.5
'Baron'	6.4	5.5	5.2
'Chateau'	6.2	5.6	5.0
'Classic'	5.8	6.4	6.0
'Coventry'	6.4	5.6	4.7
'Eclipse'	6.5	5.6	5.3
'Glade'	6.8	5.7	5.3
'Goldrush'	6.4	5.5	4.8
'Kenblue'	5.4	6.2	5.3
'Limousine'	6.3	5.5	4.3
'Midnight'	7.7	5.6	5.7
'Raven'	6.2	5.6	4.5
'Sidekick'	6.3	5.5	5.2
LSD (.05)	0.2	0.3	0.8

Ratings 1–9; 9 = Dark Green, Faster Greening.
[1/]From 27 different locations in the U.S.
[2/]From 14 different locations in the U.S.
[3/]From 2 different locations in the U.S.

TABLE 14

A Comparison of Turf Density of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties

	Turf Density		
Variety	Spring[1/]	Summer[2/]	Fall[3/]
'Ba79-260'	5.9	6.6	6.7
'Ba76-372'	5.5	6.2	6.6
'Abbey'	6.0	6.4	6.4
'Ascot'	5.7	6.5	6.6
'Baron'	5.8	6.3	6.4
'Chateau'	6.1	6.8	6.8
'Classic'	6.2	7.0	6.9
'Coventry'	6.1	6.5	7.0
'Eclipse'	5.8	6.5	6.7
'Glade'	6.4	6.8	7.0
'Goldrush'	5.9	6.5	6.5
'Kenblue'	5.8	6.5	6.5
'Limousine'	6.7	7.0	7.3
'Midnight'	6.3	6.7	7.0
'Raven'	6.1	6.7	6.3
'Sidekick'	5.3	6.1	6.2
LSD (.05)	0.4	0.5	0.3

Density Rating: 1–9; 9 = Maximum Density.
[1/]From 8 different locations in the U.S.
[2/]From 9 different locations in the U.S.
[3/]From 12 different locations in the U.S.

TABLE 15

A Comparison of Living Ground Cover of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties.

	Living Ground Cover		
Variety	Spring[1/]	Summer[2/]	Fall[3/]
'Ba79-260'	71.8	80.8	92.3
'Ba76-372'	62.2	76.1	90.0
'Abbey'	70.0	84.1	92.8
'Ascot'	65.9	77.1	83.2
'Baron'	72.1	85.6	93.1
'Chateau'	77.8	92.5	95.6
'Classic'	84.1	95.0	96.3
'Coventry'	69.4	84.2	93.0
'Eclipse'	67.4	82.7	94.5
'Glade'	69.3	83.7	93.6
'Goldrush'	69.8	79.8	92.4
'Kenblue'	75.4	84.8	93.0
'Limousine'	76.0	87.3	91.3
'Midnight'	62.5	80.3	92.2
'Raven'	77.5	88.8	93.2
'Sidekick'	61.6	77.3	89.5
LSD (.05)	7.2	7.5	5.5

Rating = Percent Living Ground Cover.
[1/]From 8 different locations in the U.S.
[2/]From 6 different locations in the U.S.
[3/]From 6 different locations in the U.S.

TABLE 16

A Comparison of Leaf Texture of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties.

Variety	Leaf Texture[1/]
'Ba79-260'	6.1
'Ba76-372'	5.3
'Abbey'	5.7
'Ascot'	6.1
'Baron'	5.7
'Chateau'	5.5
'Classic'	6.2
'Coventry'	5.6
'Eclipse'	6.1
'Glade'	6.6
'Goldrush'	6.0
'Kenblue'	7.0
'Limousine'	7.3
'Midnight'	6.4
'Raven'	5.6
'Sidekick'	5.0
LSD (.05)	0.2

Texture Rating: 1–9; 9 = Fine Texture.
[1/]From 23 different locations in the U.S.

TABLE 17

A Comparison of Seed Yield (Pounds per Acre) of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties in Three (3) Tests Conducted at Gervais, Oregon.

	Seed Yield (Lb/Acres)		
Variety	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3
'Ba79-260'	966	217	877
'Abbey'	755	166	806
'Coventry'	569	96	204
LSD (.05)	153	44	123

Turf diseases are one of the major causes of inconsistent and poor turf performance. 'Ba79-260' has been found to have a medium to high level of resistance to leaf spot and melting out caused by *Drechslera poae* (formerly called

Helminthosporium vagans); summer patch caused by *Magnaporthe poae;* brown patch caused by *Rhizoctonia solani*; and powdery mildew caused by *Erysiphe graminis*.

Comparisons of disease incidence of 'Ba79-260' as compared with other Kentucky bluegrass varieties in regard to leaf spot, summer patch, powdery mildew, melting out and brown patch are presented in Table 18 as follows:

TABLE 18

A Comparison of Diseases of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties.

Variety	Leaf Spot[1/]	Summer Patch[2/]	Powdery Mildew[3/]	Melting Out[4/]	Brown Patch[5/]
'Ba79-260'	6.0	7.3	8.3	7.0	6.7
'Ba76-372'	5.7	2.3	8.7	6.0	6.2
'Abbey'	3.4	6.7	6.7	6.0	3.8
'Ascot'	6.9	5.7	8.7	8.0	6.7
'Baron'	4.1	6.3	6.0	4.8	4.0
'Chateau'	5.6	5.0	8.7	7.0	4.7
'Classic'	6.3	7.3	8.3	6.3	5.3
'Coventry'	5.3	6.7	8.7	7.0	6.8
'Eclipse'	5.7	8.7	8.7	7.0	6.5
'Glade'	4.8	6.7	6.7	7.2	4.8

TABLE 18-continued

A Comparison of Diseases of 'Ba79-260' and Other Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties.

Variety	Leaf Spot[1/]	Summer Patch[2/]	Powdery Mildew[3/]	Melting Out[4/]	Brown Patch[5/]
'Goldrush'	3.8	6.0	7.0	5.3	5.0
'Kenblue'	3.2	4.0	8.3	1.3	2.8
'Limousine'	6.3	7.0	8.7	7.7	5.7
'Midnight'	6.9	6.7	5.3	7.8	7.2
'Raven'	3.5	6.3	6.7	6.5	4.8
'Sidekick'	4.4	8.0	8.0	4.5	3.3
LSD (.05)	1.7	1.8	1.4	1.1	2.3

Rating Scale: 1–9; 9 = No Disease.
[1/]From Maine
[2/]From New Jersey
[3/]From Maryland
[4/]From Maryland and Pennsylvania
[5/]From Maine

What is claimed is:

1. A new and distinct variety of Kentucky bluegrass plant, substantially as herein shown and described.

* * * * *

FIG. 1

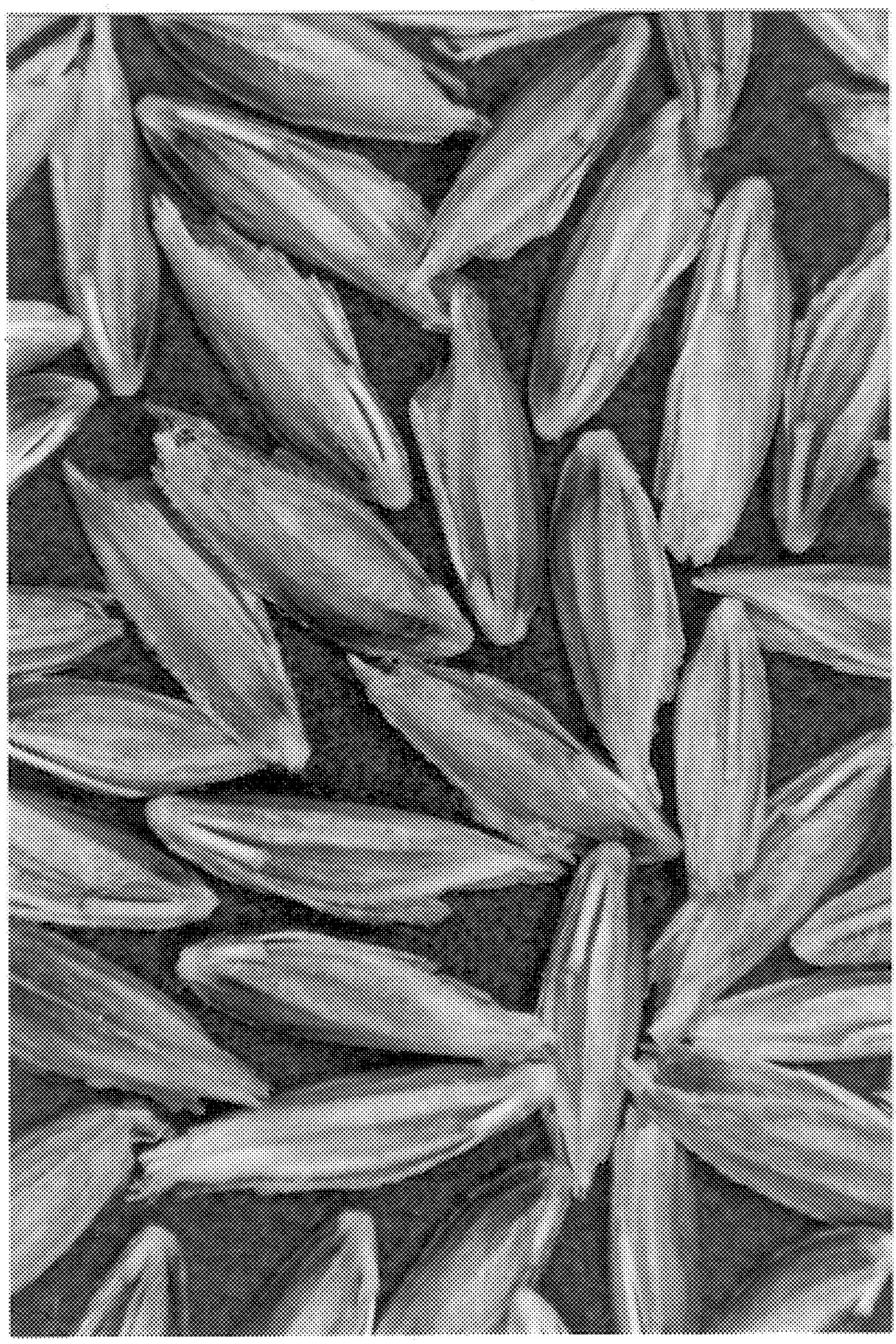

FIG. 2