香港的草地用草 Turfgrass in Hong Kong



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草地用草(Turfgrass)在植物分類學上屬於禾本科。在香港原生及引進的草地用草共 有13 屬,約20種。草地用草耐低剪及踐踏、多具蔓生性(透過匍匐莖、根莖或兩者兼具), 易形成平面覆蓋,加上葉子短小,扁平,節間緊密,故可以在短時間內生長成緊密的 草皮(Sod),保護表土,故常用於高爾夫球場、足球場、賽馬場等體育場地,與及公園 及其他康樂休歇場所,亦廣泛應用於園林造景及斜坡護土等防止水土流失的工程上。

All turfgrasses belong to the grass family (Poaceae or Gramineae). There are about 20 native and introduced turfgrass species (in 13 genera) in Hong Kong. Turfgrasses can tolerate low and frequent mowing as well as trampling. They are mostly stolon- and/or rhizome-producing for speedy horizontal coverage. Their leaves are fine and flat, internodes are short and can form sod quickly for soil protection. For the above properties, turfgrasses are commonly applied in golf courses, athletic fields, race courses, amenity lawns, landscaping and even erosion control works.



草地用草可因其對氣溫的適應性,分為暖季型及冷季型二大類。在香港,原生及已歸化的品種都是屬於暖季型的。只有在最近的二、三十年間,基於實際需求才由外國引入一些冷季型的品種。但其 生活期亦只局限於較寒冷的幾個月份。

人們一般認為草地用草可以天生天養而不用特別的保養。因此 大多數的草地康體場地和草坪往往會過度使用或缺乏良好保養。有見 及此,我們需要對草地用草及其護理作進一步的了解及認識,否則天 然草的場地很快會被決策者用人造草取代。然而,草地用草因形態相 似而難於辨認。本單張透過描述它們的形態、花葉特徵及花期,並輔

以照片(包括花序的特寫),希望你們能在享受草坪之餘,亦可以辨認及了解多些草地用草,從而引起對它們的興趣。

Turfgrasses can be classified into the Warm-Season and the Cool-Season ones based on their adaptation to temperature ranges. Due to geographic and climatic conditions, all native and naturalized species in Hong Kong belong to warm-season types. For practical needs, several cool-season species have been introduced to Hong Kong in the last two to three decades. However, the growth of these grasses is restricted only to the cooler months.





People are usually misled by the

concept that turfgrass can take care by itself and no special maintenance is required for their well being. Consequently, most turfed sport fields tend to be excessively used and proper maintenance is often lacking. Indeed, better understanding of turfgrass maintenance is badly needed or we will lose touch with natural turf, as the decision maker may soon replace them with artificial materials. However, Turfgrasses species are difficult to identify as they are similar in morphology. This leaflet provides descriptions on the morphologies of leaf and floral features and flowering periods of some turfgrasses in Hong Kong, supplemented with

colour photographs (including close-ups of the inflorescences). It is hoped that you could begin recognizing these species and cultivate your interests in turfgrasses while enjoying the lawns and fields.

A. 暖季型的草地用草 Warm - Season Turfgrasses

1. 地毯草 Axonopus compressus (Sw.) Beauv. (Carpet Grass)

又稱大葉草,原產於熱帶美洲,但早已成為本地最重要的歸化 草地用草之一,廣泛用於康體、文娛及家居等草地上,例如旺 角及小西灣足球場,紀利華木球會的草地滾球場。

本種為多年生,半簇生性,具匍匐莖;葉深綠色,在芽期時褶 生;葉片扁潤,邊沿略呈波浪形,除中脈外,具2至4條明顯 的平行脈;花序為總狀,穗形,2至5枚,下方常仍為扁筒狀的 葉鞘所包圍;雄蕊(花葯)及柱頭均為淺黃色。花期為8至11月。 地毯草往住和從澳洲引入之類地毯草(Axonopus affinis A. Chase) 互相混淆。但後者多由種子繁殖,葉片窄長條狀,先端稍作船 形,花序全部外展而遠離葉鞘之外,花葯及柱頭均呈深紫色。

Also called "Big-Leaf Grass" locally. The grass is native in Tropical America, but has long been naturalized and become one of the most important naturalized turfgrass in Hong Kong. Growing in the Football Pitches at Mongkok Stadium and Siu Sai Wan Sports Ground, as well as Lawn Bowling Pitches in Craigengower Cricket Club.



A semi-tufted perennial with strong creeping stolons; leaf dark

green, folded in bud; leaf blade broad, smooth, margins wavy; besides the mid-rib, 2 to 4 conspicuous parallel veins; inflorescence of 2 to 5 racemes, the lower portion usually enclosed by the sheath; anthers and styles light yellowish. Flowers from August to November. Local Carpet Grass has been confused with a close kin, *A. affinis* from Australia. The latter is characterized by narrow leaves with boat-shaped tips; racemes on a slender stalk protruding out from sheath; and purplish anthers and styles.

2. 普通百暮達草(狗牙根) Cynodon dactylon (L.) Pers. (Common Bermudagrass, Couch Grass)



在香港又稱為狗牙根,原產於熱帶美洲,分佈於全世 界之熱帶,亞熱帶及一些溫帶地方。在香港,本種常 見於荒廢田野、路邊、濱海淺灘等地方,亦雜生於各 種康體、文娛及家居的草地上。

本種為多年生,具強壯的匍匐莖及根莖;葉灰綠色至 深綠色,在芽期時褶生;葉片扁平,平滑,披針形至 長條形或線形,先端尖,長至8厘米,寬可達5毫 米,邊沿及基部間有短毛;穗狀花序頂生,3至6枚, 指狀排列,花葯淡黃色,柱頭多為淡紫色。花期為5 至11月。

Native to Tropical America but distributes widely in the tropical, sub-tropical and some temperate areas worldwide. In Hong Kong, this grass is commonly found in deserted fields, roadside, and beaches. It is also commonly mixed in home lawns, various athletic and amenity fields.

Perennial with strong creeping stolons and rhizomes; leaf grayish to dark green, folded in bud; leaf blade flat, smooth, lanceolate to linear, apex pointed, up to 8 cm long, 5 mm wide, with short hair along the margins and at the base; inflorescence of 3 to 6 spikes, digitally arranged at the top; anthers yellowish and styles light purplish. Flowers from May to November.

3. 雜交百暮達草 Cynodon dactylon (L.) Pers. x C. transvaalensis B. Davy (Hybrid Bermudagrass, Tiftongrass)

俗稱為天堂草,在1970年代初由香港高爾夫球會首 次引入。天堂草系草(419號及328號)是由細葉的普 通百暮達草 (C. dactylon, 2n=36)和非洲百暮達草 (C. transvaalensis, 2n=18)雜交的子一代(F1)中挑選 而繁殖出來。因它是一雜交種(2n=27),故僅可以無 性繁殖。該系的草及由此衍生或改良的品系如 Tifdwarf和Tifeagle等,已成為本港高爾夫球場及一 些體育場地的主流用草,例如本地各個高爾夫球 場、跑馬地及沙田馬場、聯校體育場、香港大學何 鴻桑博士體育場、銀禧體育中心、晒草灣棒球場等。

本種的外形及生態皆和其父母系相似,但其植株較為矮小,葉片亦較細小,顏色較綠,節間亦較短, 在低前下很快可形成優質的首批。可說是最佳及最適



在低剪下很快可形成優質的草地。可說是最佳及最適宜在香港生長及使用的暖季型草地用草。

Commonly known as Hybrid Bermudagrass. The Hong Kong Golf Club introduced Tifton 419 and 328 in the early 1970s. Tiftongrasses were selected from the F1 generation by crossing of a fine-leaf common bermudagrass (*C. dactylon*, 2n=36) and the African Bermudagrass (*C. transvaalarrensis*, 2n=18). Due to its hybrid nature (2n=27), the grasses are sterile and propagate only vegetatively. The early Tiftongrasses, and their improved derivatives, e.g. Tifdwarf and Tifeagle, have since become the predominant turfgrasses used in local golf courses and some athletic fields. The species can be found in all local golf courses, Hong Kong Stadium, Happy Valley and Sha Tin Racecourse, Joint University Sports Grounds, Dr. Stanley Ho Sports Centre of HKU, Jubilee Sports Centre, Sai Tso Wan Baseball Pitch, etc.

The morphology and habitat of Hybrid Bermudagrasses are very similar to their parents, but differ in its shorter internode, finer leaf, greener colour, faster growth and recovery, tolerating lower mowing height and quicker sod forming. Hybrid Bermudagrass is hence considered as the best and most suitable warm-season turfgrass in Hong Kong for home lawns, various athletic and amenity fields.

4. 兩耳草 Paspalum conjugatum P. J. Bergius (Hilo Grass)



本港常用之原生的草地用草,易和地毯草混淆,因兩者不但外 形相似,而其生長環境亦差不多,又經常混雜生長在一些康體 及文娛的場地(例如旺角足球場)及野外草地上。但兩耳草可以 由其花序及葉片的外形與地毯草分別出來。

兩耳草為多年生,具柔弱匍匐莖;葉多淡綠色,在芽期褶生; 葉片扁平,半革質,長披針形,先端尖,基部圓;總狀花序二 枚,頂生於纖細的花序軸上,黃至淺綠色,完全伸展時,兩端 略向內彎;花葯黃白色,柱頭近乎白色。穎果圓卵形,邊沿具 毛,種子圓卵形,細小,長約1毫米。花期7至11月。

A commonly used native turfgrass, which is easily confused with Carpet Grass, as the two are very similar in their morphology and habitat and found intermixed with each other in athletic/amenity fields (such as Football Pitch at Mongkok Stadium) and also in the wild. Hilo Grass, however, can be distinguished from Carpet Grass by the shape of its inflorescence, and the morphology of the leaf.

Perennial with soft stolons; leaf pale green, folded in bud; leaf blade long-lanceolate, apex acute; inflorescence a pair of racemes, typically conjugate at the top, light green to yellowish, slightly bent downwards when fully open; anthers light yellowish, styles hairs small ca 1 mm long Flowers from July to November

almost whitish; fruit ovate, surrounded by short hairs, small, ca. 1 mm. long. Flowers from July to November.

5. 百喜草 Paspalum notatum Flugge (Bahia Grass)

原產於南美洲。在1970年代初已引入香港而用作 為水力噴草綠化斜坡工程上所採用的草種成份之 ·。百喜草現已成功著生於許多斜坡及種植在-些低度護養的草坪上,例如馬鞍山新市鎮路邊草 地及沿新界公路一些斜坡上。

本種為多年生,具短根莖及粗短緊密,及半木質 的的匍匐莖。葉多旱淡綠色,在芽期時褶生。葉 片扁平,長條形,頂端尖,長度可達 20 厘米, 稍 内卷。總狀花序多為二,少為三枚,頂生者對生 開展作叉狀,常彎曲而下垂,長4至10厘米,寬 4毫米,小穗圓形或卵圓形,長2.5至3.5毫米。 花葯及柱頭均呈深紫色。種子圓形或卵圓形,先



端鈍,淡黄褐白色及具光澤,長約2.5毫米。花期6至11月。

Native to tropical America and was introduced to Hong Kong in the early 1970s. It is widely used as one of the three component grass species in hydro-seeding slopes for erosion control. The grass has since successfully colonized many cut and fill slopes and grew in some low maintenance turf areas along roadsides, for example, in Ma On Shan New Town and on slopes along some highways in the New Territories.

Perennial with short rhizome and strong semi-woody stolons; leaf light green, folded in bud; leaf blade flat and linear, apex pointed, up to 20 cm long, slightly involute; inflorescence of 2-racemes (rarely 3), the upper two typically conjugate at the top, slightly bent downwards, 4 to 10 cm long, ca. 4 mm wide, light green to yellowish; anthers and styles dark purple. Seeds rounded to ovate, ca. 2.5 mm. long, light brown and shining. Flowers from June to November.



6. 海雀稗 (濱海雀稗) Paspalum vaginatum Sw. (Beach Paspalum)

分布於全世界熱帶及亞熱帶的濱海地帶,其抗鹽性 極強,亦很適應經處理過的污水及品質較差的水, 故又稱"環保草"。這草及其改良的品系用作草地 用草的歷史始於 1990 年代,應用於香港及鄰近區域 亦僅是這數年間的事。本種可見於沙田馬場及深圳 的沙河高爾夫球場。

海雀稗為多年生,具根莖及匍匐莖,稈扁平,幾近 實心;葉淡綠至綠色,在芽期時捲生;葉片長條狀, 狹窄, 稍內捲, 長 2.5 至 10 厘米, 寬約 3-5 毫米, 先端慚尖,中脈明顯,邊緣粗糙,上,下方俱被有 細毛;總狀花序二枚成 V 形,頂生於纖細的花序軸 上,長2至5厘米,呈黄緑色。花葯黄白色,柱頭 紫色。 花期6至9月。

This grass is widely distributed along the seashores in the tropics and subtropics. It is best known for its high salinity tolerance and its adaptation to treated effluent and other inferior waters, hence considered as an environment-friendly grass. The use of this grass and its improved strands as a turfgrass dates back only to the 1990s, and has only been applied in Hong Kong and neighbouring areas in the last few years. Examples include Sha Tin Racecourse and Sand River Golf Course in Shenzhen.

Semi-tufted perennial with rhizomes and stolons; the culms nearly solid; leaf light green, folded in bud; leaf blade linear, rather short, slightly involute, 2.5 to 10 cm long, ca. 3 to 5 mm wide, apex acute, mid-rid prominent, margins rough and covered with short hairs; inflorescence of 2 racemes, conjugate or close approximate, 2 to 5 cm long, light yellowish; anthers whitish, styles purplish. Flowers in June to September.

7. 光鈍葉草 (聖古斯丁草) *Stenotaphrum dimidiatum* (L.) Brongn. (Glabrous Stenotaphrums) (= *Stenotaphrum secundatum* Kuntze)

原產於美洲西印度群島及墨西哥灣區, 引人 香港的歷史不詳。聖古斯丁草耐陰性極高,可 生長於樹蔭下。該草在香港又稱光鈍葉草,並 不普遍,稱為大片者僅見於九龍塘窩打老道和 聯福道間,昔日英軍軍營宿舍範圍內。

本種為多年生,具強壯沿貼地面生長的匍匐 莖;葉藍綠色至綠色,在芽期摺生;葉片扁平, 長條形,先端略鈍,稍內褶成船狀,多在與葉 鞘接攘處折生而成一直角;花序為一頂生或腋 生的穗狀花序,略向內彎;互生小穗半藏於膨 大,略扁及肥厚的穗軸的一側。花期 6 至 9 月。該草有一花葉栽培種 (cv. variegatum), 常用於園藝工程上。



A species native to the West Indies and Gulf of Mexico, the history of its introduction is not known. The grass is very shade tolerant and can grow well under trees. Called Shining-Leaf Stenotaphrum locally, it is quite rare and with the biggest colony found inside a former British Regiment Quarters between Waterloo Road and Renfrew Road only.

Perennial with strong creeping stolons; leaf bluish green to green, folded in bud; leaf blade flat, linear, slightly involute and boat-shaped near the obtuse tip, bent more or less at a 90- degree angle at the joint with the sheath; inflorescence of a terminal or axially raceme, slightly bent inwards; spikelets embedded in one side of an enlarged and flattened rachis. Flowers from June to September. This grass has a variegated cultivar (cv. *variegatum*) which is common used for landscaping works.

8. 溝葉結縷草 Zoysia matrella (L.) Merr. (Manila Grass)

又稱為馬尼拉草,被視作外來品種。這草在近二、 三十年間在中國有大量草皮生產,因而廣泛地應 用於一些球場(例如中文大學的足球場)及家居庭 園草地上。

本種為多年生,具強壯匍匐莖及根莖;葉深綠色, 在芽期時捲生;葉片長條披針形,稍內捲而作縱 溝狀。總狀花序頂生,細小,紫色或黃褐色;花 葯黃白色,間帶紫色,柱頭白色。花期為10至12 月。在香港同屬的品種尚有三種,分別為結縷草 (Z. japonica Steud.)、中華結縷草(Z. sinica Hance) 及細葉結縷草(Z. tenuifolia Willd.)。這四個品種外 形均十分相似,通常只可藉葉片,花序,小穗,



種子大小等以作區別,而其間又有許多重疊及混淆,所以精確的分類仍然存在一定的困難。

Locally called Manila Grass, it is considered as an introduced species. In the last two to three decades, sods of this grass have become readily available from China, and used widely in athletic and amenity fields (e.g. football pitch in the Chinese University) and home lawns.

Perennial with strong rhizome and stolons; leaf dark green, rolled in bud; blade lanceolate, usually slightly involute; inflorescence of a single spike-like raceme, purple to brown; anthers yellow rarely light purple, styles whitish. Flowering from October to December. Three other *Zoysia* species, the Korean grass (*Z. japonica*), Chinese Lawn Grass (*Z. sinica*, a native species) and Mascarene Grass (*Z. tenuifolia*) are known in Hong Kong. The four species are very similar in morphology, and can be separated only by the size of leaf blade, inflorescence, spikelet, seed, etc. However, as these measurements overlap with each other, classification of them remains quite difficult.

B. 冷季型的草地用草 Cool – Season Turfgrasses

在香港由於天然氣候條件的限制,並無任何原生的冷季型草地用草。在1970年代中期,基於實際上的需求,以下所列的四種草地用草開始引入香港,而用於寒冷季節的斜坡護土工程上,又或加種於高使用率的康體場例如賽馬場、足球場、高爾夫球場等,以保持草地冬季的顏色。

Due to the climatic conditions, there is no native cool-season turfgrasses in Hong Kong. Owing to practical needs since mid-1970s, they have been introduced and used on slope protection works, or over-seeding on high maintenance turf areas such as the turf of horse racing tracks, football pitches and golf courses for maintaining winter colour.

9. 匍匐翦股頴 Agrostis palustris Huds. (Creeping Bent Grass)

匍匐翦股頴可由種子或匍匐莖繁殖,耐低剪,在加護 情況下可全年生長,但在夏季生長惡劣。

本種為多年生,矮生性,具匍匐莖;葉淡綠色,在芽 期時捲生;葉片條狀,先端尖;花序為一短小,開展 而稍扁壓的圓錐花序。花期為7至8月。

This grass tolerates low and frequent mowing; with intensive care, it can grow throughout the year but performs very poorly in the summer. It can be propagated by seeds or by stolons/sprigs.

Low growing perennial with creeping stolons; leaf light green, rolled in bud; leaf blade long-lanceolate to linear, apex acute, inflorescence a short, open panicle, somewhat contracted. Flowering from July to August.





10. 高羊茅 Festuca arundinacea Schreb. (Tall Fescue)

本種種子萌發較慢,生長亦較黑麥草慢,故不能與之競爭,亦不能越夏。但其抗病及抗旱性均高。

本種為簇生性,具分蘖*及短根莖;葉在芽期時捲生;葉片帶藍 綠色,長條狀,半革質,先端尖;花序為鬆散的圓錐花序;種子 無芒。花期為4至5月。

This grass germinates and grows slower than ryegrass, hence can hardly compete with them, and cannot grow through the summer, but its drought and diseases resistance are high.

Tufted, with tillers and short rhizomes; leaf bluish green, rolled in bud; leaf blade, linear, subcoriaceous, apex acute; inflorescence a loose panicle; seeds awnless. Flowering in April and May.



11. 多年生黑麥草 Lolium perenne L. (Perennial Ryegrass) 及一年生黑麥草 L. multiflora Lam. (Annual Ryegrass)

黑麥草種子很快萌發,生長極速,為良好之冬日護土用草, 但多病害又不越夏。

本種為簇生性,具分蘖*;葉在芽期時摺生或捲生;葉片深綠 色,長條狀,先端尖;花序為穗狀,開放及半月形,具或不 具芒。種子具或不具芒。花期3至5月。

Ryegrass is considered as a good turfgrasses in the winter months for quick coverage but prone to diseases and they cannot grow through the summer.

Tufted with tillers; leaf folded or rolled in bud, leaf blade dark green, linear, apex acute; inflorescence of a spike, open and subfalcate, awnless or not. Seeds awnless or not. Flowers from March to May. Seeds of the two ryegrasses germinate very quickly and grow very fast.



12. 草地早熟禾 Poa pratensis L. (Blue Grass) 及一年生早熟禾 Poa annua L. (Annual Blue Grass)



草地早熟禾為一引入種,不能越夏;可由其 生態及花序之大小和原生品種區分出來。一 年生早熟禾雖是原生品種,但被視為高級草 地中的惡性雜草。

本種為簇生性,具分蘖*,亦具短的根莖及匍 匐莖;葉在芽期時摺生;葉片藍綠色,長條 狀,前端成船狀;花序為開放圓錐花序;種 子無芒;花期4至6月。

Blue Grass is an introduced species and cannot grow through the summer. It can be separated from the native species by the growing habit and the size of the inflorescence. Annual Blue Grass, though a native species, is considered as a noxious weed in quality sods.

Tufted with tillers, short rhizomes and stolons; leaf folded in bud; leaf blade bluish green, linear with boat-shape tip; inflorescence an open panicle; seeds awnless. Flowers from April to June.

註:*分蘖(tillers): 即從老植物基部長出一個單株新植樹,特別見於禾本科。藥粤音頁(jip⁹),漢語拼音(niè) Note: Tillers refer to new plants growing from the base of an old plant, especially in grasses.

C. 具草地用草特性的本土草種 Some Native Grass Species With Turfgrass properties

由於一般人對原生草地用草缺乏一定的興趣和認識,而未能發掘其優點及潛質。例如假儉草(蜈 蚣草)是中國南方沿海省份的原生品種,在二十世紀初被引進美國南部,經推廣後逐漸廣泛地應用在 一些文娛及家居草地上,成為當地重要草地用草之一。竹節草及長花馬唐是本港另外兩種原生品種, 二者具備了一切草地用草的性狀,但其應用尚待開發及探討。

Owing to the lack of knowledge and interests in native grasses in general, their merits and potential for application as turfgrass have yet to be fully explored. For example, the Centipede Grass (a native grass in Southern China and Hong Kong) has been introduced to the Southern US in early 20th century as amenity and home lawn turfgrass and widely accepted subsequently. Two other native species, Wild Oat Grass and Long-Flower Digitaria, both possess nearly all the characters as a turfgrass. However, their applications are still pending our exploration.

13. 假儉草 Eremochloa ophiuroides (Munro) Hack. (Centipede Grass, Smooth Lawn Grass)



假儉草是具草地用草特性的本港原生草種之一。常見於田野、路邊、山坡邊,及荒廢的空曠地方,亦往往 混生在一般的康體及文娛的草地中。假儉草在二十世紀初被引入美國南部,因其植株低矮,不需常剪草, 病蟲害少,及對各種土壤適應力強,對肥料需求亦低,故名之為"懶人草",而廣為文娛場所及家居庭園所 採用。在香港假儉草亦應多加推廣於低維修度的草地上。

本種為多年生,簇生性,具強壯匐匍莖;葉綠至黃綠色,在芽期摺生,葉片多平滑,披針至長條形,先端 略鈍,與葉鞘成一角度折生;花序為單一頂生總狀花序,光滑無毛,平扁,稍向內彎。花期5至11月。

Native to Hong Kong and commonly found in open pastures, roadside, and hill slopes. It also colonizes athletic/amenity fields naturally. This grass was introduced to the southern United States in early 20th century. Because of its low growing habit which requires less mowing, high resistance on insect pests and diseases, wide adaptation to various soil types, and low fertility requirement, the grass is nicknamed "Lazy Man's Grass" and commonly used in amenity areas and home lawns. Centipede Grass hence should be promoted more in Hong Kong for future uses.

Tufted perennial with strong creeping stolons; leaf yellowish green to green, folded in bud; leaf blade smooth, lanceolate, slightly bent at the joint with the sheath; inflorescence of a terminal single raceme, spike-like, smooth, sub-cylindrical and slightly bent inwards. Flowers from May to November.

14. 竹節草 Chrysopogon aciculatus (Retz.) Trin. (Wild Oat Grass)

又稱粘人草,具草地用草特性的本港原生草種之一。 竹節草亦如假儉草一樣,混生於一般的康體及文娛的 草地中,亦常見於田野,路邊,山坡邊及荒廢的空曠 地方。

本種為多年生,具根狀莖及的匍匐莖;葉淡綠色,在 芽期摺生;葉片光滑,稍扭折,先端鈍;圓錐花序多 分枝,直立,半卵圓形,上端尖長,長5-10厘米,寬 3-5毫米,下方分枝成輪排列,紫紅至淡紫色,小穗綫 形,有芒長約6毫米,花葯黃色;種子紫褐色至褐色, 長線形,具刺狀被毛,基盤約2-3毫米長,可粘著人 及動物而得以散播繁殖。花期5至11月。

Native to Hong Kong. Similar to the Centipede Grass, it is always mixed with other grass in the athletic/amenity fields, native pastures, hill slopes and open wastelands.

Perennial with rhizomes and strong creeping stolons; leaf light green, smooth and shining, slightly twisted, apex obtuse; inflorescence a branched panicle, sub-ovate, 5 to 10 cm long, 3 to 5 cm wide, lower branches whorled, purplish; spikelets with awns of ca. 6 mm long; anthers yellowish. Seeds linear, with spine-like base ca. 2 to 3 mm long, which can easily attach to animal and human to facilitate dispersal. Flowers from May to November.



15. 長花馬唐 Digitaria longiflora (Retz.) Pers. (Long-flowered Crabgrass)

長花馬唐原生於香港,常見於低濕之地及 山坡草地。該草具備一切草地用草特點, 可以形成良好的草地以供康體及文娛場 所使用。在星馬,印度及巴基斯坦,台灣 及澳洲,同屬的其地物種亦廣為採用於高 爾夫球場的果嶺或其他草地上(例如 D. didactyla Willd.等)。

本種為多年生,具纖細的匍匐莖;葉呈獨特的帶藍灰綠色,在芽期時捲生;葉片扁平,長狹針形至綫形,先端尖,基部圓;總狀花序二枚,通常於軸頂對生,長約3至4厘米,常向外彎,花葯和柱頭均呈淡黃色。花期為5至10月。



A native in Hong Kong, and commonly found in wet lowland and hillsides pastures. This grass possesses nearly all characters typical to a turfgrass. In fact, in Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, India, Pakistan, and in Taiwan, other species belong to the same genus, for instance, the Saragoon Grass (*D. didactyla*), haves been used in golf courses, lawns, etc.

Perennial, with slender stolons; leaf with bluish green, rolled in bud; leaf blade long lanceolate to linear, apex acute, base rounded; inflorescence of 2 racemes, conjugate or close approximate, 3 to 4 cm long, slightly bent downwards. Flowers from May to October.

D. 其他曾使用過的草地用草 Other Turfgrasses previously employed

在 1970 年代以前,因為對草地的要求不高,一般的草地工程,都是由所謂的"草皮佬"承接。使用的 草類雖然多以地毯草及雙耳草為主,但往往會因利成便混雜了許多其他的"雜草",況且那時收貨的標準往 往只求一時的青綠而已。草的名稱往往為"三七草"、"四六草",以表示草類的規格及純度,而各種各樣的 草,例如千金子 Leptochloa chinensis (L.) Nees.、雙穗雀稗 Paspalum distichum L.、鋪地黍 Panicum repens L.等,往往成為草地用草的一份子。隨著水準日高,這些草現在已經被淘汰了。

鋪地狼尾草 Pennisetum clandestinum (L.) Spreng.在 1970年代末期起直至現在曾數度引進香港,但由 於氣候環境不同,例如晝夜溫差及日照期的差異,在本地生長的鋪地狼尾草生態完全改變,其葉片顏色變 淡,又延續不斷生長,節間亦長,不能形成緊密的草皮,亦無任何實用價值。野牛草 Buchloe dactyloides (Nutt.) Engelm.在 1980年代亦曾一度引進香港,亦不成功。



Before the 1970s, the demand for quality amenity areas was not high at all. Turfing were usually carried out by the so-called turfman. Turfgrasses used were predominantly Carpet Grass and Hilo Grass, but always mixed with many other sub-standard grasses, as the main goal for this kind of work was to keep the ground green only. In those days, sods were classified as "3-7 Grass" or "4-6 Grass", an indication of the purity or percentage of certain turfgrasses in the sod. Inferior grasses such as *Leptochloa chinensis*, *Paspalum distichum*, *Panicum repens*, etc. were found quite commonly in the material used. With the rising standard, all these so-called turfgrasses are no longer in use now.

On the other hand, Kikuyugrass (*Pennisetum clandestinum*) was introduced to Hong Kong several times since the late 1970s and up to now but was never got established. The local climatic conditions, such as diurnal temperature and day/dark length differences, change the growing habit of the grass completely: the leaf turns pale green, and the ever-elongating leaf blade and internodes made sod forming just impossible. Buffalo Grass (*Buchloe dactyloides*) was introduced once in the 1980s but was failed to establish locally.

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