

First Tiger Woods Course Built in the United States Grassed with Zoysiagrass

The first Tiger Woods-designed golf course scheduled to open in the United States is under construction. Grassing begins this month using environmentally friendly grasses—Zeon Zoysia and L1F Zoysia.

Houston, Texas, December 1, 2014: Grassing gets underway this month at Bluejack National, located in Montgomery, just outside of Houston, Texas, on the very first Tiger Woods-designed golf course scheduled to open in the United States. All surfaces of the 18-hole golf course will be planted with two varieties of zoysiagrass—Zeon Zoysia and L1F Zoysia—developed by Bladerunner Farms in Poteet, Texas. The only exception is the greens surfaces, which will be grassed with TifEagle bermudagrass.

Eric Bauer, director of agronomy, says the fairways at Bluejack National are being sodded with Zeon Zoysia. The course will have no rough, Bauer says, because “the designer and the developer want golf to be more enjoyable and to increase the pace of play. We’re blanketing the entire fairway playing area with Zeon Zoysia. Tee tops and green surrounds are L1F Zoysia, a new variety that can tolerate lower mowing heights. It will allow us to take the height down shorter. This is based on the desires of the Tiger Woods design team to create a lot of different shot options.”

Bauer says “we are sodding a total of 97 acres” with the intention of having the 18-hole golf course grown-in and ready for play by the fall of 2015. The developer, Beacon Land Development, decided to sod the zoysiagrass, Bauer says, rather than sprig it because “we were tied to a residential component. It was more important to open next year, which sodding allows, rather than sprig and wait another year to open.”

Zoysiagrass varieties, such as Zeon Zoysia and L1F Zoysia, are known to require less water and less fertilizer than bermudagrass, a family of warm-season grasses widely used on golf courses. Along with zoysiagrasses’ lower input demands, another deciding factor in the selection of Zeon Zoysia and L1F Zoysia at Bluejack National, Bauer says, was their “shade tolerance. We kept a lot of significant trees. The course is severely wooded.”

Medalist Golf is constructing the golf course. The turf used to grass the golf course was grown by All Seasons Turf Grass in Brookshire, Texas. Scott Sipes, sales manager for All Seasons Turf Grass, says sodding the golf course will require 520 truckloads of grass equaling 4.2 million square feet of sod in the form of big rolls and slabs.

All Seasons Turf Grass has been in business for more than 35 years. A family-owned company, the sod producer is one of the largest in the state of Texas. All Seasons

Turf Grass produces certified sod on a sand-based profile, the preferred growing medium for the golf course industry.

Even though the company has such a long history, Sipes says he recognizes the significance of growing the grass for the first Tiger Woods course in the United States.

“Anytime you work with someone in the industry and they are the number one name in golf—everyone in golf knows who they are—it’s a challenge, it’s prestigious, it’s quite an honor,” Sipes says.

About All Seasons Turf

All Seasons Turf Grass is a family owned sod business established just west of Katy, Texas. The Gavranovic family has been farming in southeast Texas for 4-plus generations and has been in the sod business for over 35 years. The Brookshire farm location is one of a few select sand-based sod farms in the state and the closest to the vibrant Houston market. At this farm, Tifway 419 Bermuda, Celebration Bermuda and the very popular Zoysia grass varieties are grown, and a retail outlet exists for customer pickups. Nearly every acre of All Seasons Turf Grass is TDA certified which guarantees the sod to be 95% free of weeds, diseases and pests. This certification and the sandy loam base make All Seasons Turf Grass the preferred sod supplier of Houston's finest golf courses and sports fields. The nearby Monaville farm is located along the Brazos River where St. Augustine grasses are grown on a clay-based soil for residential and commercial customers. All Seasons Turf Grass, in partnership with its sister company, Horizon Turf, has 11 farms, 12 varieties, and over 3,000 acres in production. Visit <http://www.allseasonsturf.com> or call 281-375-7505.

About Bladerunner Farms

Bladerunner Farms is the world’s largest privately held zoysiagrass and buffalograss research and development facility. Current releases include: Zeon Zoysia, L1F Zoysia, Lowrider Zoysia, Y2 Zoysia, JaMur Zoysia, Density Buffalograss and Eco Buffalograss. Bladerunner works in conjunction with the University of Georgia to conduct research. Grasses are licensed west of the Mississippi by [Doguet Ventures](#), east of the Mississippi by [The Turfgrass Group](#). Bladerunner Farms is headquartered in Poteet, Texas, just south of San Antonio. 830-276-4455, info@bladerunnerfarms.com , www.bladerunnerfarms.com

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