

Rio Olympic Golf Course Grassing Complete, On Track to Open On Schedule

Marcelo Matte, CEO of Green Grass Brazil, the company that grew and installed the grass, announced that the Olympic Golf Course now has turf on every surface. With legal battles now settled, and the grassing complete, growing in the golf course is on schedule to open on time for the Games.

December 10, 2014, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: Grassing is complete on the golf course built especially for the [2016 Olympics](#) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, when golf returns as an Olympic sport after more than 100 years. The last planter made its way down the 10th hole on November 27, 2014. Marcelo Matte, CEO of [Green Grass Brazil](#), the company that grew and installed the grass, announced that the Olympic Golf Course now has grass on every playing surface. With legal battles now settled, and the grassing complete, growing in the golf course is on schedule to open in time for the 2016 Summer Olympic Games.

“The last fairways to receive the Zeon Zoysia sprigs were the #10 and the #14 holes,” Matte said. “The southern hemisphere summer will start in late December, so there is enough time to grow in and have the golf course ready in six to 10 months, way ahead of the opening of the 2016 Summer Olympics.”

Planting of the golf course began in May 2014. While legal wrangling by Brazilian officials and others overshadowed the construction of the course for several months this year, grassing of the project never stopped. Fairways, tees and roughs of the golf course were planted with [Zeon Zoysia](#), a highly drought tolerant, environmentally friendly grass with low fertilizer requirements that was developed by [Bladerunner Farms](#) in Poteet, Texas. Greens were sprigged with SeaDwarf Seashore Paspalum, known for its salt tolerance. Green Grass Brazil is a licensed sod producer of both grass varieties.

“We all are proud to very successfully complete the job,” Matte said. “Thanks to everyone who helped to get it done: Gil Hanse Golf Design, Bladerunner Farms, the PGA, Superintendent Neil Cleverly, Pro Golf, Tanedo and many others.”

PHOTOS IN DROPBOX: All photo names describe photos with the exception of the big roll photo where the man giving the thumbs up is David Doguet, president of Bladerunner Farms who developed Zeon Zoysia.

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/qg51p9mjir22n8s/AAB08NPy1_8k0x2FG93-ebtZa?dl=0

About Zeon Zoysia

Zeon Zoysia is a fine-bladed zoysiagrass variety suitable for use on golf courses, sports fields and lawns. It has low water requirements and low fertilizer requirements, drought tolerance, salt tolerance, shade tolerance and adapts to a variety of soils. <http://www.bladerunnerfarms.com/bladerunner-farms-grass-varieties/zeon-zoysia/>

About Green Grass Brazil

Green Grass is Brazil's premier producer of high-quality turfgrass for golf courses, sports fields and lawns. The company produced turf for soccer stadiums in the 2014 World Cup held in Brazil and is currently grassing the Olympic Golf Course under construction for the 2016 Olympics in Rio. www.greengrass.com/br

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, Cutlass Zoysia and Habiturf. 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](#) and outside of the US by Team Zoysia International. 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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