## Fairway Establishment and Maintenance – Species Cost Comparison A.J. Powell, Jr.

## Estimated Product Costs for 30 Acres of Fairways

\$5,000 - Perennial Ryegrass \$9,000 - Creeping Bentgrass \$30,000 - Sprigged Bermuda \$18,000 - Seeded Bermuda \$700,000 - Sodded Zoysia \$200,000 - Strip Sodded Zoysia

## **MAINTENANCE**

-----Without Purchased Water-----

Low Maintenance \$3,000 Zoysia \$3,000 Bermuda \$5,000 Perennial Rye \$30,000 Creeping Bent High Maintenance \$19,000 Zoysia \$24,000 Bermuda \$66,000 Creeping Bent \$71,000 Perennial Rye

------ With Purchased Water

Low Maintenance 21,000 Zoysia \$10,000 Bermuda \$20,000 Perennial Rye \$56,000 Creeping Bent High Maintenance \$39,000 Bermuda \$56,000 Zoysia \$92,000 Perennial Rye \$106,000 Creeping Bent

## Footnotes:

- (1) Low maintenance Fairways maintained with no or minimum fungicides, use of agriculture grade fertilizers, judicial irrigation, seeding to replace loss of stand and mowing at normal heights.
- (2) High maintenance Fairways maintained using a preventative fungicide program where necessary, using specialty grade turf fertilizers and combination materials, mowing at minimum heights, and possible use of turf growth regulators.
- (3) Purchased Water A cost estimate is included for courses that must use city/purchased water. The estimated cost is based upon the number of annual irrigations and a cost of \$54/acre inch.
- (4) Mowing is a major expense not included. Mowing costs would vary between high and low maintenance, but may differ little between species.