

SOD FIELD TRIAL SUMMARY



OBJECTIVE

This field trial assessed the effects of **TrueSolum™** when added to grower's standard treatment during the last weeks of growth to assess if it would affect growth, productivity and quality of a tall fescue (*festuca arundinacea*) blend turf, when compared with grower's standard nutrition program alone.

TRIAL SPECIFICS

- **Location:** Santa Maria, CA
- **Area:** 7 acres
 - **Control Area:** 2.33
 - **Treatment Area:** 4.67
- **Season:** October 2020 ~ March 2021
- **Application:** February 2021 ~ March 2021
 - Spray: 6 Weeks at 1 gallon/acre/week

RESULTS

TrueSolum treatment began 4 months into the growth cycle of the turf. The treated lanes (Figure 2) filled in faster and more completely than the control lanes (Figure 1). There were no bare patches in the treated lanes and the sod was scheduled for harvest one month after the end of the trial. The grass blades were thicker, taller and closer together (Figure 3) in the treated plug. In addition, the roots were longer, thicker and more numerous than the control (Figure 4).



Figure 1



Figure 2

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Figure 3



Figure 4

CONCLUSION

Adding **TrueSolum** produced a higher quality sod as based on thickness of the grass blade and improvement in the root structure. This will lead to a more successful installation. The grower has been experiencing nutrient uptake issues and delayed harvest of the sod for a few years. Future **TrueSolum** trials will focus on shortening the grow time, allowing for increased annual production on the same acreage.

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