

Vital Earth Resources

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2003 Crop Results

Vitazyme on St. Augustine Grass

Researcher: Dwayne Canup, Vital Earth Resources Location: L.D.S. Church, Longview, Texas
Variety: St. Augustine (sod) Soil type: laid on the previous sod Sodding date: October 10, 2002
Experimental design: While sod was being laid on a 15-foot-wide grass island between a street and a parking lot, the new sod for a 30-foot section was treated with Vitazyme on both the roots and tops.

- 1. Control
- 2. Vitazyme

Fertilization: none during the test period

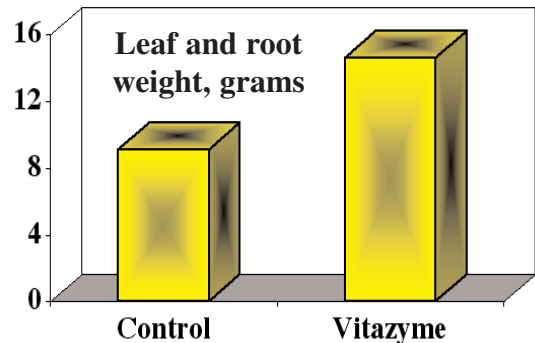
Vitazyme treatments : A 1% Vitazyme solution was sprayed on the roots before the sod was laid on a 15x30 foot section, and then the same solution was sprayed on the new sod surface of the same area. No further applications were made.

Irrigation: erratic and insufficient for good growth

Growth results: On October 1, 2003, nearly a year after the initial sod applications, three 3-inch square plugs (9 square inches total area for each plug) were cut from the grass randomly on each side of the treatment boundary. The plugs were then washed free of all soil, and the grass and roots were combined for the three plugs of each treatment and dried at 125° F in a drying oven for 24 hours. The grass was then weighed to the nearest hundredth of a gram.

Treatment	Leaf and root weight	Change
	----- grams -----	
Control	9.10	—
Vitazyme	14.56	5.46 (+60%)

Increase in leaf and root growth: 60%



Conclusions: This trial with St. Augustine sod laid in a grass island in Longview, Texas, proved that Vitazyme increased the grass growth considerably in spite of difficult growing conditions. The sod was laid on the previous grass with no tillage of the bed, erratic water scheduling, and no application of fertilizers. In spite of these obstacles, Vitazyme increased the growth of the grass by 60% above the control, showing that the activity of its active agents is powerful even under stressful conditions.