

Centipedegrass

[*Eremochloa ophiuroides* (Munro) Hack.]

Centipedegrass is a slow-growing, coarse-textured, warm-season turf that is adapted for use in low maintenance situations. It is often referred to as "lazy man's grass" due to its infrequent mowing and fertilization requirements. It also has a light-green color and spreads by stolons. It does not tolerate traffic, compaction, high pH, excessive thatch, drought, or heavy shade. Centipedegrass can often be confused with St. Augustinegrass. However, centipedegrass has alternating leaves at the nodes whereas St. Augustinegrass has opposite leaves at the nodes. Centipedegrass also has a more pointed, slenderer leaf blade than St. Augustinegrass. Both leaf blades are V-shaped in cross section, but that of St. Augustinegrass has a more obviously boat-shaped tip.



Characteristic	Description
Seedhead / Flower	seedhead a slender spike
Vernation Type	leaves folded in the bud
Ligule Type	short, membranous with fine hairs, hairs longer than purplish membrane, 0.02 inches (0.5 mm) long
Growth Season / Life Cycle	warm season turf
Auricle Type	absent
Leaf Blade Tip Shape	boat shaped or sharp-pointed; flattened, short, sharply creased, hairs along edge at base
Leaf Blade Width	medium, 0.1 - 0.2 in
Stolon Presence	present
Rhizome Presence	absent
Collar Type	continuous; constricted by fused crease, hairs tufted at lower edge
Sheath Margin	split with overlapping margins; sheath has grayish tufts of hairs at throat
Sheath Type	very flattened



centipede leaf arrangement



centipede ligule, auricle

Note: Still not sure this is the right turfgrass? [The Turf & Weed Identification Decision Aid](#) may help. Check the TurfFiles [glossary](#) for definitions of unfamiliar terms.

Need help in selecting the best turfgrass for your particular situation? The [Turf/Cultivar Selection Decision Aid](#) will help you sort through the options which are available. For more information on turfgrass/cultivar selection, establishing a new lawn, caring for a new lawn, or renovating a lawn, see [AG-69, Carolina Lawns](#). For management information, check the [maintenance calendar](#).

Diseases Which May Affect This Turfgrass

[dollar spot](#)

[fairy ring](#)

[large patch](#)

[Pythium root rot](#)

[slime mold](#)

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