

**Earth Carpet**  
THE SCIENCE IS IN THE SEED®

# THE BLADE



## RUST CONTROL IN TURFGRASS – CULTIVARS AND MANAGEMENT

### THE CURSE OF THE ORANGE SHOE

DR. LEAH A. BRILMAN

DLF PICKSEED US/

SEED RESEARCH OF OREGON

**Rust diseases in turfgrass, while usually more cosmetic than lethal, cause considerable concern for turf managers and homeowners** (spread from red to orange spores on shoes and other things). The two main species where rust diseases are a problem are Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass. The rust tends to occur when the grass is growing slowly due to time of year, low nitrogen, soil compaction, low light or other stresses.

**Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*)** is infected by crown rust, stem rust and leaf rust.



**Perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*)** is primarily infected by stem and crown rust.



**Genetic resistance to a pathogen is one of the best ways to combat it.** Many new perennial ryegrass cultivars show improved resistance to crown rust, stem rust or both compared to older cultivars. These improvements are in addition to improved turf quality and resistance to gray leaf spot. Cultivars with excellent resistance to both crown and stem rust include **SR 4650**, **Sideways**, **Banfield**, and **SR 4600**. **SR 4660ST** has high resistance to both diseases. **Aspire** and **Bandalore** have excellent crown rust resistance.

Want an Earth Carpet mix that includes these improved varieties? **Contact us at [lacrosseseed.com/contact](http://lacrosseseed.com/contact)**





Cultivar resistance can be combined with management to improve your stand. Using mixes with cultivars that have resistance helps avoid plant to plant movement of the disease. **Interseed with improved cultivars for long term improvement of an existing turf stand.** Additional measures to fight these diseases include increasing your fertility, relieving compaction and reducing hours of leaf wetness by irrigating early in the morning.

**Together we can combat the curse of the orange shoe. Let us help you get started today.**



**Rust-Susceptible vs Rust-Resistant Cultivars in Plots**

Many of our popular [Earth Carpet turf mixes](#) with perennial ryegrass contain improved traits like **Spreading Technology**, to improve wear tolerance, recovery & more.

Learn more at [bit.ly/2QSOF7X](https://bit.ly/2QSOF7X)



## About La Crosse Seed

Leading the Industry for 100 Years

La Crosse Seed is an independent company that has paired an unmatched portfolio of turf, cover crop, forage, wildlife and native seed with knowledgeable and experienced sales and support staff since 1919. No other specialty seed company matches our level of experience, product knowledge or product availability. To learn more visit [lacrosseseed.com](http://lacrosseseed.com).

