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Color as the Most Important Indicator of the Ornamentalness of a Lawn Covering against the Background of the Application of New Complex Fertilizers

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Abstract. *The results of studies assessing the ornamentalness of a rolled lawn made of bluegrass (Poa pratensis L.) using various complex fertilizers of the modern generation in the Moscow conditions. We used complex granular mineral fertilizers (Bona Forte – with microelements, Ceolong Blue Bona Forte Professional – prolonged action with bioavailable silicon, Bona Forte – in a prolonged action coating, Osmocote Exact Standard – prolonged action in a polymer coating, FertiPro Ruscote – prolonged action in a polymer coating), which were applied at a rate of 40 g/m² by spreading over the surface of the grass stand. The assessment of the overall ornamentalness of the grass stand was carried out taking according to A.A. Laptev's method, assessment of grass color – visually according to the international NTEP method. Granular mineral fertilizers of prolonged action in a polymer shell – Osmocote Exact Standart and FertiPro Ruscote provided a more saturated color of the grass stand and increased the overall ornamentalness of the lawn (7.25–9 points on the scale NTEP) during the growing season in all years of research.*

Key words: *lawn, grass stand, meadow bluegrass, ornamental qualities, color, complex fertilizers.*

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