

# SLOW RELEASE FERTILISERS

## CRF COSTS PER SQ YD COMPARABLE WITH CONVENTIONAL FERTILISER

**C**ONTROLLED release fertiliser may seem expensive compared with ordinary granular products. However, recommended application rates are low and just one spring dressing of crf lasts a whole season. Comparing the costs, Mr Richard Flower, head greenkeeper at Mendip Golf Club near Bath calculates Osmocote N crf to be no more expensive than conventional fertiliser. It also gives steady turf growth without flushes and reduces labour input.

A half hundred weight bag of ordinary 17:0:9 fertiliser costs Mr Flower £7.00 and at 1oz/sq yd covers 800 sq yd. His total tee area is about 5,400 sq yds. To keep tee turf looking good, it often requires repeated dressings during the summer. "I dress tees and surrounds three times, at 6 week intervals with 1oz/sq yd 12:0:9 fertiliser" said Mr Flower. He therefore covers 16,200 sq yds, at a cost of 2.4p/sq yd, plus 4 hours labour per application.

Osmocote N crf was applied on trial tees at 3/4 oz/sq yd last March using a cyclone spreader. The tees were not irrigated. "It gave good grass cover all year. The turf didn't flush, then wear away and start looking hungry, which happens with the ordinary feed" he observed.

To feed the tees with Osmocote N for the season needs one dressing at 3/4 oz/sq yd. At this rate, a 25kg bag of Osmocote N crf from Sierra UK Ltd, Nottingham,



covers 1180 sq yds. At £40 per bag this equates to 3.3p/sq yd, but he saves over eight hours' labour cost and management time. "On comparison there's hardly any difference in price between using crf and my ordinary fertiliser" said Mr Flower. "The advantage is you only have to apply the crf once - before things get really busy - and the turf grows steadily all year."

Osmocote N granules contain NPR 39:0:0, in organic resin coating, safe for users and the environment. The rate of nitrogen release depends on soil temperature. At average temperature 16°C one application lasts 7 months. Release rate mirrors grass growth therefore reducing the chance of leaching and granules are small enough to avoid being picked up by

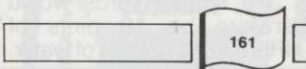
mowers. Costwise crf is comparable with conventional fertilisers and a labour-saving means of keeping tee turf green and strong all season.

applications.

Flo-Gro liquids are compound fluid fertilisers formulated as totally clear solutions without any sediment. To ensure accurate and consistent quality "state-of-the-art" computerised auto analysis has been used to guarantee the nutritional content of each product. Some of the Flo-Gro products contain "Didin Fluid" the slow release nitrogen inhibitor which phases the amount of nitrogen available to the plant.

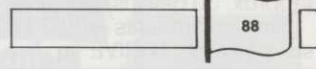
Flo-Gro liquid fertilisers eliminate unsightly powder and granule residues and mower "pick-up" on fine turf. Formulated as liquids Flo-Gro ensures more accurate and simple measuring and application can be combined with pesticide and other liquid turf care products.

Flo-Gro products will be available for use on turf and each is packed in 20 litre plastic containers, each product is colour coded to ensure easy recognition.



## NEW SOLUTIONS FOR GROWING PROBLEMS

**T**HE Farmura Flo-Gro range represents a completely new and revolutionary approach to turf nutrition. Specially formulated for use on turf following a successful national commercial users trial programme Flo Gro liquid fertilisers offer the professional Greenkeeper, Groundsman and Landscaper an advance range of products providing a safe and simple alternative to conventional fertiliser



## THRIVE

**T**HRIVE 100 per cent Organic Plant Food and Soil Conditioner, is the direct result of pollution control systems developed for farmers to use in containing and converting farm wastes into useful fertilisers. By containing these toxic slurries, seepage into watercourses with consequent environmental damage is prevented.

The process is anaerobic digestion of raw cow slurry, in large underground tanks. During this digestion period, weed

*continued on page 30*

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FARMURA WILL MAKE  
THE NEW 'FLO-GRO'  
LIQUID FERTILIZERS  
AVAILABLE TO THE  
TURF INDUSTRY

**FLO GRO**  
LIQUID FERTILISER

- Maximises nutrient uptake at soil and foliar level — reduces soil build up of excess nutrients
- Encourages more even application through spraying, providing even grass growth response
- Stimulates a healthy green colour without undesirable flushes of growth
- Eliminates unsightly powder and granular residues and mower 'pick-up' on fine turf

20  
LITRE  
plastic  
drum

**RESULT:** GREAT NEWS FOR GREENKEEPERS. BAD NEWS FOR COMPETITORS

STONE HILL, EGERTON, ASHFORD, KENT, TN27 9DU. TELEPHONE (023 376) 241/581

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