

## Poa annua

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active ingredient per acre. Since 70 to 80 percent of the *poa annua* germination in the Southeast occurs in the fall, it is essential to perform the fall treatments for optimum results. It appears the fall treatments directly kill new *poa annua* seedlings, a discovery made by Yelverton.

The initial fall treatment should be made at the time when the first flush of annual bluegrass germination occurs, usually during late September or early October in the Southeast. Adding a little soluble nitrogen with the Turf Enhancer each time at the rate of 0.125 to 0.25 pounds nitrogen per 1,000 square feet enhances the activity of the growth regulator. Successive treatments are advised at four-week intervals.

"Lengthening the treatment interval will lead to failures with this program," said Johnson.

Depending on the weather, superintendents may be able to apply treatments through early- to mid-December, if both the bentgrass and *poa annua* are still actively growing.

Treatments are restarted in the late winter once temperatures start to warm and new leaf-tissue growth appears on a regular schedule.

The scientists recommend proceeding at four-week intervals again with the Turf Enhancer for a total of two to three applications for the remainder of the spring season. The last treatment will depend on the weather.

"If it is hot and the forecast is for unusually warm temperatures, I would not make the last spring treatment," Yelverton said.

Another alternative is to apply at a reduced rate in the late spring. Also keep in mind, they said, that when the weather warms, bentgrass diseases start to appear and superintendents do not want to be in a situation where they have Turf Enhancer on their greens and apply a sterol-inhibiting fungicide in warm weather.

"This combination may take out bentgrass," Yelverton said.

In the spring and fall, superintendents usually schedule cultural practices such as aerification and verticutting. Yelverton recommends "doing these practices between treatments so that it is two weeks on either side of a Turf Enhancer application."

This program should be repeated annually for best results,

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according to both scientists. They have proven it will help to reduce *poa annua* population in most instances on bentgrass greens.

"There always is the site where nothing seems to work," said Yelverton, adding that superintendents should keep in mind that this program will discolor *poa annua*, so the amount of *poa* present will dictate the amount of discoloration on greens. Even though it discolors *poa*, the put-

ting quality is improved because it tends to take the bumpiness out of mixed bent/*poa* greens.

If someone has 80 to 100 percent *poa* greens and he wants to keep it, Yelverton would not use Turf Enhancer.

"To manage *poa annua* growth on these greens, I would use low rates of Primo," he said. "Primo won't take out the *poa annua* at labeled rates, but it will tend to level up the putting surface a bit."

## Western Golf hires Traficano

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Western Golf Properties, Inc. has selected Joe Traficano as superintendent at Stone Creek Golf Club in Urbana, Ill. Scottsdale-based Western Golf Properties, Inc. is the management company for this upscale daily-fee, 18-hole Dick Nugent-designed course.

Traficano worked at Desert Mountain Golf Club in Scottsdale, but grew up in Rantoul and is familiar with the local agronomic elements. He has a bachelor's degree in agriculture from the University of Arizona, with emphasis in turfgrass management. Prior to his experience at Apache at Desert Mountain, he was superintendent at Starr Pass Golf Club in Tucson.



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