DORMANT GREENS

I had the good fortune of playing 18 great dormant bermudagrass greens recently. The ball rolled great, tracked well and the greens were plenty fast. The hole locations had been changed regularly to reduce wear, and rolled/mowed frequently enough that the putting surfaces were smooth.

The bermudagrass greens I played were still dormant, with maybe a hint of green low in the canopy. No painting (dyeing to be technically correct) on the greens I played. My round of golf on dormant bermudagrass greens illustrates that golf can be played under all sorts of conditions with many different playing surfaces and still be fun.

When deciding which winter playing surface is right for your course start by determining if repeat fall applications differ from repeat spring applications for the elimination of annual bluegrass. Initial testing shows good creeping bentgrass tolerance and that perhaps a fall application program is more effective in annual bluegrass removal than a spring program. Contact David Kopec, Ph.D., of the University of Arizona at dkopec@ag.arizona.edu for more information.

— C.T.

“GLYPHOSATE-RESISTANT ANNUAL BLUEGRASS IS OF CONCERN GIVEN THIS SPECIES’ PROLIFIC SEED PRODUCTION AND LONG-TERM SEED VIABILITY.”

James Brosnan, Ph.D.

(see full story on page 38)