

PRIMO TURF REGULATOR

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Primo is a type II turf regulatory which inhibits cell elongation within the turf plant. The chemical name is cyclohexadione and carries a warning label although it has a low order of toxicity.

The product is very compatible with other pesticides and the manufacturer has a list of all the chemicals for tank mixing. The product will last approximately three to four weeks and provide up to 50% reduction of turf growth. The mode of action is systemic and can be applied with one to four gallons of water per 1000 square feet.

The cost to treat 25 Acres of fairway at Red Run Golf Club at the rate of .20 oz./M was just under \$600. The material is very cost effective when considering labor savings and clipping removal. Height of cut is at 3/8 of an inch with 80% poa annua and 20% bent. Cutting practices were every other day.

Primo turf regulator was applied at the rate of .20 ounces per 1000 square feet of turf on all fairways. Within one week a noticeable difference in the growth of the turf was observed and a dramatic reduction of clippings was also evident. The date of the first application was on May 2nd and a second application was applied on May 30 at the rate of .13 oz per 1000 square feet.

Recommendations: Suggest using primo for reduction on clippings on fairways at the label rate for the turf type that is predominant. Make sure that fertility is adequate before applying and never apply to stressed turf. The product is very volatile and early evening would be the best time for application with tank mixing not a problem. Adding iron to the tank is also suggested to help offset the discoloration that may occur at the higher rates.

The benefits of this product is numerous with the most being less mowing along with less clippings. Other benefits to consider is better density of the turf and less water usage. The product is an excellent tool for the turf manager and should be remembered as such in the every increasing world of turf chemicals.