Timing of Oil Spill Clean Up Efforts

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Oil spills and hydraulic leaks on golf courses can be costly events. Time is an important factor in the clean up of oil spills on turfgrass in order to minimize damage to the turf. The length of time that oil is allowed to sit on turf will increase the resultant damage to a certain point, but how long can the oil sit on the turf before clean up efforts are fruitless? The purpose of this study is to test various time lapse intervals between oil application and clean up activities to determine the longest time lapse which results in acceptable turf survival after clean up.

Hot oil treatments (176 F, 80 C) were applied to an annual bluegrass fairway. Treatments include:

1.) No clean up procedures

- 2.) No oil, "clean up" only
- 3.) Immediate oil clean up (less than 5 minutes lapse between application and clean up)
- 4.) Clean up _ hour after oil application
- 5.) Clean up 1 hour after oil application
- 6.) Clean up 24 hours after oil application

Clean up included the use of 300 grams of Peat Sorb per plot which was worked into the oil strip using a hand brush. Four replications of each treatment were included. Ratings were taken by visually determining the percent of green tissue in each strip.

	Rep 1 - A	Rep 2 - B	Rep 3 - C	Rep 4 - D
1	1	4	6	3
2	2	3	4	5
3	3	5	5	2
	x	6	3	4
4	4	x	1	X
5	5	1	2	6
6	6	2	x	1

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