

Stop 3

Moss Control on Greens

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Moss has become a serious problem on golf courses, particularly on greens where it causes interference with putting by creating an uneven surface. Many products claim the ability to selectively eradicate moss from turf areas, so a test was set up in 2002 to determine which were the most efficacious. A "moss control study" was established on a creeping bentgrass/annual bluegrass green. Fertility was maintained at 1/4# nitrogen/1000 ft²/month. Most treatments were applied beginning at the end of May, 2002, with reapplications made according to the table below throughout the entire growing season. Some treatments were added to the study later as product was received. By November of 2002, several treatments provided a reduction in the amount of moss with some completely eradicating it, however, none were significantly different from the controls which also showed an overall reduction in moss in the fall. In addition, some phytotoxicity was observed with some of the products, probably because they were applied for such an extended period of time.

However, in the spring of 2003, significant reduction in moss was observed with several of those treatments from 2002. Select treatments from the original study were reapplied in the spring of 2003 in split-plot applications with just ½ of each plot being re-treated (see below). Applications were made from May 8 until June 6, 2003, with 5 applications of the 7-day treatments and 3 applications of the 14-day treatments being made. The following treatments were included in the study:

Moss HTRC – 2002-2003		
	Treatment and Rate/1000 sq ft	Interval (Days)
1	TerraCyte 8 lbs	14
2	Dawn Detergent 4 fl oz	7
3	Junction 6 oz (in 2 gal, pH 5.5)	7
4	Kocide 1 lb (in 5 gal)	14
5	Spotrete 3.75 fl oz	7
6	GardenSafe Moss+ Algae Killer 80 fl oz (in 25 gal drench)	14
7	Copper Sulfate 5 oz (in 4 gal)	7
8	Schweizer M. Royal 140 g (in 2 gal)	28, 14
9	Control	--

All plots received Chipco 26GT at 2 oz/1000 ft² as needed for disease control.

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Moss – 2002-2003

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1		5		9				8	2							3
2		7			1	7	4	9	6	4			1			
3		3			5	9	6		3			7	6	5		
4	1		6	8				7					2	8	9	4
5	2		4		4	3	8		1	5						