POA ANNUA PUTTING GREEN INFESTATION

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Pin rotation on a golf course putting green helps to disperse foot traffic evenly. This is an idea that has been followed on putting greens for decades because traffic is so damaging to putting green turf stands in an era golf is growing as a sport by leaps and bounds. It is also accepted, through years of observation, that, as traffic increases, *Poa annua* infestation into a putting green, in turn, increases. Because of these observations newer, more dense varieties of bentgrass have been developed to combat the infestation of *poa annua*. A bentgrass putting green was established in the spring of 2003 featuring Penncross, Providence, G-2, and Bengal—old and new bentgrass varieties. Each variety was treated with and without daily foot traffic, which was applied in relation to daily pin movement on a putting green. The information generated by this project will help researchers and superintendents by: 1) revealing the relative abilities of new and old bentgrass varieties to withstand *poa annua* infestation, 2) giving us definitive numbers of *poa annua* infestation for trafficked and untrafficked putting green turf, and 3) helping to predict the timeframe that *poa annua* infests as natural putting green foot traffic is applied. Whether you choose to favor or eliminate your *poa annua* on the putting green, this information will further our understanding of the relationship between *poa*, traffic, and bentgrass.