

#### **Tour Stop #4: Summer Callbacks and Rescue of Neglected Lawns**

Ronald Calhoun, Ph.D. and Aaron Hathaway

Department of Crop and Soil Sciences

Michigan State University

As the housing market continues to dip in Michigan and other states, lawns often go unmaintained for months, perhaps years. During this period, an assortment of grassy and broadleaf weeds infiltrate and take hold. What is the most efficient way to reclaim these lawns?

An observational trial was conducted at MSU to answer this question. Treatments including broadleaf and grassy weed herbicides (Trimec Classic, Q4, Drive, and Roundup), interseeding, and fertilization were applied in combinations and alone to a long-neglected area at the turf center. With the inception of packaged call-back tanks, such as Q4, it is often easy to go out and spray for just about any weed in Michigan. However, perhaps four active ingredients is not enough to reclaim a lawn that has been long-neglected. Interseeding may be a practice worth incorporating into these types of programs. The treatment list is included below. Herbicide treatments were applied to the area on 7/22/10, while interseeding and fertilization were applied 9 days later on 7/31. Interseeding was done with the Turfco Triwave Overseeder with the fairway blades at a 2.5 lb/M rate. A starter fertilizer (19-25-4) was applied at 1 lb N/M for the fertilizer treatments.

Full treatment list is shown on following page.

## Turf Rescue Treatment for Neglected Turf

Treatment	Rate	Plot No. By Rep		
		1	2	3
1Overseeding* Trimec Classic	4PT/A	101	305	505
2Overseeding Q4	8PT/A	102	301	504
3Overseeding Speedzone Drive	5PT/A 1LB/A	103	307	502
4Overseeding Razor Pro	2QT/A	104	303	503
5Overseeding Trimec Classic Starter Fert.**	4PT/A	105	310	507
6Overseeding Q4 Starter Fert.	8PT/A	106	309	509
7Overseeding Speedzone Drive Starter Fert.	5PT/A 1LB/A	107	302	508
8Overseeding Razor Pro Starter Fert.	2QT/A	108	308	506
9Overseeding Starter Fert.		109	306	510
10Overseeding Untreated		110	304	501
11No Overseeding Trimec Classic	4PT/A	201	405	605
12No Overseeding Q4	8PT/A	202	401	604
13No Overseeding Speedzone Drive	5PT/A 1LB/A	203	407	602
14No Overseeding Razor Pro	2QT/A	204	403	603
15No Overseeding Trimec Classic Starter Fert.	4PT/A	205	410	607
16No Overseeding Q4 Starter Fert.	8PT/A	206	409	609
17No Overseeding Speedzone Drive Starter Fert.	5PT/A 1LB/A	207	402	608
18No Overseeding Razor Pro Starter Fert.	2QT/A	208	408	606
19No Overseeding Starter Fert.		209	406	610
20No Overseeding Untreated		210	404	601

\* Interseeding done with Turfco Tri-Wave Overseeder at 2.5 lbs/M with blend of Kentucky bluegrass seed

\*\* Starter fert. was a 19-25-4 applied at 1 lb N/M.