

...Ant Control

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turf and golf courses as approved sites, and do not specify that they cannot be used against *Lasius* ants on putting greens. Thus, their use is allowed under Section 2ee of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, so long as labeled rates are not exceeded. As with all pesticides, specific restrictions may apply in some states (e.g., California). Questions regarding labeling of these baits should be directed to their manufacturers. (Maxforce: 1-800-322-2802, ext. 8824; Advance: 1-800-777-8570.)

Maxforce Granular Insect Bait and Advance Granular Carpenter Ant Bait are available through pesticide distributors who carry products for the structural pest control industry. Note that a similar-sounding product, Advance Granular Ant Bait, was not as effective in our tests. So, if you try the Advance bait, be sure to specify the Granular **Carpenter** Ant Bait.

Regardless of the method, ants are usually easiest to control in spring, soon after the mounds appear. At that time, the colonies founded by new queens are still small, and nests that persist from the previous year are weakened from overwintering. By getting the jump on them, you can avoid the rapid expansion of colonies and mounds that normally occurs in late spring and summer. 

Daniel A. Potter is Professor of Turf and Landscape Entomology at the University of Kentucky. His new book, *Destructive Turfgrass Insects: Biology, Diagnosis, and Control*, is available from Ann Arbor Press.

RESEARCH SUMMARY

ASSESSMENT OF CURATIVE CONTROLS FOR SURFACE ALGAE ON GOLF GREENS

An assessment of curative chemical controls for algae was conducted on an 8-year-old turf of Penncross creeping bentgrass (*Agrostis stolonifera*) at Griffin, Georgia, during the summer of 1998. The turf was maintained at a cutting height of 5 mm and a mowing frequency of 5 times per week. Plot size was 3 by 3 feet in a randomized complete block design with four replications. The blue-green algae, primarily *Oscillatorie* species, were induced on the surface of the root zone, by pretreatment with two DMI fungicides that have a growth suppression effect on the grass shoots, which allows sunlight penetration to the soil surface. The fungicide and algicide treatments were applied on August 12, 1998. Estimates of the percent algae present were made at 7-day intervals following the initial treatment. Mancozeb + copper hydroxide, (Junction®) at the 4 and 8 ounce per 1,000 ft² rates and copper sulfate at 2 ounces per 1,000 ft² were the only treatments that provided acceptable suppression of less than 3% algae for the duration of the study. Daconil Zinc, Consyst, and calcium hydroxide provided marginally acceptable control of less than 10% algae. Fore 80, Daconil Ultrex, Heritage, ProStar, BannerMAXX, potassium sorbate, and QuickStop did not provide acceptable levels of algae suppression. At the peak algae coverage of August 19th through September 2nd, all treatments except the potassium sorbate provided significant suppression of this algae. Editor's note: More than six different algae species may occur on putting greens during a single growing season. It is possible that a chemical that controls certain algae species may not control a different algae species. **Source: Curative Control of Surface Algae on Golf Greens, 1998, by L.L. Burpee and S.L. Stephens.** 1998 University of Georgia, Turfgrass Pathology Research Report, pp. 1-4. 

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