above-mentioned distance. The number of ounces you collect are equal to
the number of gallons you’re applying per acre.
Spray nozzles. Measure a 1000-sq. ft. area (40’X25 feet) and spray it with
a known amount of water in the same manner you would spray in the field.

When the area is sprayed, you know your application rate per 1000
sq. ft. This allows you to adjust to the sprayer’s walking speed to meet the
desired application level.

Augustin also recommended using a new meter introduced by Great
Plains Industry that measures flow rate. It fits on a spray gun and gives a
direct reading of gallons per minute.

“Many of these techniques apply across the board. They’re very funda-
damental,” said Augustin. “Your livelihood depends on efficient, eco-
nomical application, and by proper calibration of sprayers and spreaders, you’ll defi-
nitely help control your costs and make yourself more profitable.”

DISEASES

Isolating a ‘new’ patch disease

A number of years ago, a patch disease appeared on the turf scene that dis-
played all the classic characteristics of other patch diseases.

It would occur suddenly, producing distinct patches and rings in the
turf. turf crowns and roots were usu-
ally both involved with an ectotrophic
fungi.

The disease’s response to various fungicides differed, especially to ster-
ile inhibitors such as Bayleton and Rubigan. The fungicides had an un-
predictable, inexplicable effect.

This disease, though similar to
fusarium blight, didn’t match up,
notes Gayle Worf, Ph.D., a turfgrass
pathologist at the University of
Wisconsin. In looking at the crown of
the plant for its health, there was evi-
dence of a dark ectotrophic fungus
that was proven to be doing damage to
the crown.

Diagnosis showed symptoms of the
disease included an abundance of the
dark fungi in the crown and root and
elimination of other possible causes of
the stressed appearance of the turf
such as drought.

Researchers isolated the organism
and worked to demonstrate its patho-
genicity. The isolation separated the
disease from summer patch and the
new disease was named: necrotic ring
spot.

Worf found that various cultural
practices helped to control or enhance
the disease. Higher fertility enhanced
the disease though thatch had no
effect.

He found that turfgrass varieties
strongly affected the disease’s onset
and severity and recovery potential
from disease. “Few if any varieties are
completely resistant,” Worf states,
“but some are worse than others. Rye
blends do very well.”

LEGISLATION

ACA members urged to fight insurance plan

The American Cemetery Association
(ACA) is urging its membership to
fight proposed legislation that will re-
quire employers to cover their em-
ployees working 17 1/2 hours per week
or more under a comprehensive
health benefits plan.

The bill, S. 1265, was introduced by