How Dyclomec controls weeds and grasses without harming ornamentals

1. Dyclomec is a 2,6-dichlorobenzonitrile, commonly known as Dichlobenil. This unique herbicide goes directly to a vapor stage without going through a liquid stage. It is activated by temperature and soil moisture.

2. This remarkable herbicidal compound of razor-thin crystals is uniquely processed by PBI/Gordon to make a precise granule.

3. Granules are spread on soil surface. Moisture carries the Dyclomec crystals into the upper layer of soil. Because of adsorption by soil particles, lateral movement is minimal.

4. Temperature and soil moisture activate the Dyclomec crystals and they begin to radiate a herbicidal barrier. This continues for an entire growing season, and the spent crystals disappear, leaving no residue.

5. In this vapor barrier, no plant cell division can occur. Seeds trying to germinate in the barrier will die. Sprouts below this zone will be killed as they try to penetrate the barrier.

6. Existing vegetation such as shallow-rooted grasses and annual weeds having root structures in this barrier will likewise be affected and die after two to three weeks.

7. Certain perennial weeds coming out of dormancy and attempting new growth within the Dyclomec barrier will run into the same dead end: they will be killed by the vapor.

8. Dyclomec, when used as directed, does not affect nursery stock such as shrubs and trees that have deep roots extending well below the herbicidal vapor zone.

An easy and efficient way to apply Dyclomec granules

Because proper distribution of Dyclomec is important, this patented Acme® Spred-Rite® spreader is the ideal tool. Granules are gravity-fed through deflector spikes that give a uniform pattern. Hold the head high for a wide swath; lower for a narrow swath; remove it for the finest line of control. Regulate flow with interchangeable orifice disks. Spreads any granular material. Lightweight. No moving parts.

Do you have any questions about Dyclomec?

Dyclomec is an exceptionally versatile material and can be used in so many different situations. If you have any questions we invite you to call Glenn Munger, the product manager for Dyclomec at PBI/Gordon.

Glenn is generally recognized as the leading authority on Dyclomec in the United States, and his help is yours for the asking. Call anytime during office hours.

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Maple Bluff's Tom Harrison improved his course 100 percent with an irrigation system combining Rain Bird valves and heads with Toro controls. He designed it himself.

by Jerry Roche, editor
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Tom Harrison, club superintendent, Maple Bluff County Club.

design through another computer in exchange for purchasing equipment from them.

"We ended up with four opinions," Harrison says. "Except for the size of the pipe—I had sized pipe bigger than it needed to be—there wasn't a single thing we changed."

Club members supported Harrison.

"The members don't expect poor business decisions or anything that isn't done right," Harrison observes. "Money is one of the hurdles that is easy to get over, compared to that. The members didn't see in the cost one big figure to pay a landscape architect, but I assured them that I had the best contractor and the best price. That's the way we do everything here."

Harrison and his staff designed and erected the pump building in January, 1984. L.W. Allen installed the three-pump systems capable of delivering 1,400 gallons per minute.

"Everything we did was geared toward saving energy," says Harrison. "We even put time-of-day use meters on the electrical system to get the cheapest rates."

In March, 1984, pipe went underground and pumps installed. Four months later, Harrison turned on the system.

"The biggest problem was that—when we started—we didn't put strainers on the pumps and they got clogged with a couple small bullheads," recalls Harrison.

But things are running perfectly today.

"We've had probably a 100 percent improvement in the course," the superintendent observes. "There is no more overwatering, there aren't any dry areas, and water usage is about 60 percent of what it was. The members are just delighted because there was no downtime.

"A dry year like this will bring out the bad in the system. We haven't had any problems."

Harrison received much of the experience necessary to tackle this job as a part-timer at Madison's Nakoma Golf Course. He then enlisted in the Navy and became a Seabee engineer.

"But I didn't like the indoor part of engineering," Harrison observes. "As a student working at Nakoma, I realized I liked being outdoors better."

He started at Maple Bluff in 1967, became its superintendent in 1976. During the 1970s, Maple Bluff hosted the Women's Western Open and the state amateur tournament. In 1987, it entertains the state amateur again. One state event is held there each year.

Harrison has four full-timers on his staff: two assistants and two mechanics. Five additional persons are hired in the spring; and from June 1 to September 1, the staff numbers 16. Besides the golf course, Harrison's crew maintains tennis courts, a pool, and the entire country club grounds.

Problems are minimal.

"The people working for me are a piece of cake because they're good kids who are tickled to have a job," says Harrison. "And the members aren't a problem compared to most clubs. They're understanding."

"The course itself isn't too much of a problem. Fairway management is now on a strictly preventative basis. We don't waste material. We're very, very picky. From being on the course, I know the cycles of problems."

"But I don't like surprises, and Mother Nature is always throwing them at you. It's the one thing that's hardest to deal with," he says.

There is another problem, too: "probably the biggest one is my own inner drive to survive a summer without losing any more grass than what's on my desktop," he says.

This same trait helped get the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association formed on Oct. 11, 1980. Harrison was one of 11 founding fathers, and is the current president. The organization donated $30,000 to turf research last year.

"We're trying to create an awareness of turf at the University of Wisconsin," Harrison notes. "Turf research in Wisconsin was headed down the tubes before we got started. We're succeeding and getting a great reception from the ag department."

It probably helps that one of Maple Bluff's members is football Hall of Famer Elroy "Crazylegs" Hirsch, Wisconsin's athletic director. Not that help is needed: visitors to the course are often amazed at how beautiful turf can be.

It's truly a green monument to Tom Harrison, do-it-yourselfer extraordinaire. WT&T
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A TULSA TREASURE

You don’t need to be an engineer to figure out that Southern Hills is a top-flight golf course.

by Ken Kuhajda, managing editor

With a degree in metallurgical engineering and a reserved seat in law school, you’d expect Bob Randquist to be fighting traffic to get to his big-city high-rise for work each morning.

Or at least be a member of the wool suit, oxford shirt, silk tie, and loafer gang. Or at least drive a BMW.

However, Randquist doesn’t fit into a nice, neatly-wrapped category.

‘Being a player and involved in the maintenance end, I see things that I didn’t see before. It makes it hard for me to concentrate.’

—Randquist

He’s not doing what you would expect someone of his age and education to do. He chooses turf over concrete, Cushmans over BMWs, open space over office space.

You can find him 12 months a year at prestigious Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa, Okla., studying turf instead of metals.

He’s been Southern Hills superintendent since December, 1979, directing a crew of 14 in preparation for events like the PGA Championship in 1982.

His big decision

While a student at the University of Oklahoma, Randquist worked for several golf courses during summer months, developing a fondness for the work.

“After I graduated, I had the chance to take a job as assistant superintendent with Trosper Park Golf Course in Oklahoma City,” he says.

There was a good chance for advancement, which made the offer even more appealing. Strike one.

His degree in engineering meant he would probably have to move from his beloved Oklahoma to the big city. Strike two.

Wife LaVada still had another year of college at OU. Strike three:

By that time, he bled green, raptured by golf courses.

“I love the work, I love the game of golf,” says the former 1-handicapper, now a 6. “I’m glad to be involved with it. I guess my only regret is the fact that I don’t get to play enough.”

When he does play, he sees things differently. “Being a player and involved in the maintenance end, I see things that I didn’t see before. It makes it hard for me to concentrate while some guys can shut it out. I’m not one of them.”

While golfing, he spends more time looking over a stress area than playing his own game.

The course

Whether working or playing, Randquist enjoys the outdoors.

“What appeals to me about this business is that you get to see the results of your work,” he says.

He also gets spiritual fulfillment. “I really have a deep sense of appreciation that I have the chance to do what I do. It’s a chance for me to be a steward in part of God’s creation.”

His piece of God’s creation is located in south Tulsa, nestled among the rolling hills of northeast Oklahoma.

It’s truly a fine course, one requiring both strength and finesse to score. Well-known in golf circles, Southern Hills has hosted two U.S. Opens (1958, 1977), two PGA Championships (1970, 1982), the U.S. Amateur (1965), and U.S. Women’s Amateur (1946). Golf Digest ranks it 11th among U.S. courses.

It’s not a long course (6,862 yards, par 70 at tournament time), it’s not visually intimidating, but it can eat you quickly.

At tournament time, any shot in the rough (a mix of common bermuda, bluegrass, and ryegrass) almost assures the golfer of a bogey. The tight fairways are easy to miss.

At times, you can hit the fairway but not a particular spot and end up with a bogey.

The course’s 3,500 trees come into play frequently. Despite its serene appearance, Southern Hills can spell disaster for those off their game.

Some say the first three holes (all par fours) are the key to winning a championship at Southern Hills. Numbers 1, 2, and 3 (447, 459, and 406 yards, respectively) call for accuracy right out of the shoot. An errant shot and even a pro is looking at a six.

Numbers 4 through 7 are considered fairly easy holes for the pro, perhaps a break for what lies ahead.

Hole number 8, a 215-yard par three, features a tight fairway, sloping green, and three strategically placed traps. Accuracy off the tee is paramount to solving this hole.

Numbers 9 through 11 allow the golfer a brief rest before tackling perhaps the course’s most famous hole.

Number 12: 445-yards, par four.

Both Ben Hogan and Arnold Palmer picked number 12, a dog-leg left, as one of the country’s top par fours. A tee shot has to dissect a group of trees and land on the right side of the fairway for a long iron approach to the well-guarded green. Three deep traps and a pond add to the challenge.

When and if the golfer makes it past 12, he’s faced with the course’s longest par four, number 13 (465 yards, a 537-yard par five for members), a par three with six bunkers, and number 15, a par four, slight dog-leg left with three traps...
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