great care should be given to not applying too much fertility to newly establishing turf sites.

Once the facts are known, informed decisions about fertilization can be made. There is freedom in knowing the truth, and the USGA will continue to fund necessary research for providing the best playing conditions while also protecting the environment.

BY TODD LOWE USGA Agronomist

The Legacy Club's Fertility Program

John Kopack, superintendent of The Legacy Club at Alaqua Lakes shares his fertility program with *The Florida Green*. The Legacy Club was only the third public course to be built as an Audubon Sanctuary Signature Course.

Kopack says, "We maintain 30-foot unfertilized bahiagrass and cordgrass

buffers around the lakes to ensure there is no runoff into the water bodies. Additionally, our irrigation system is designed so that no sprinklers throw water into lakes, wetlands or other natural areas. We also store all the storm water runoff from the development: it moves through staging ponds to the irrigation lake and is then recycled onto the course."

"We do soil testing three times a year. I check four greens, tees and fairways each time and I keep three greens as permanent control sites and vary the other three choices for each test. I personally do the tee and fairway granular fertilizer applications with a two-ton capacity Lely spreader pulled by a tractor. On our greens we cut the rate in half and go two directions with Lesco rotary spreaders."

Greens Program

Granular — six applications a year of 12-2-12 with 50% sulfur coated urea.

 $Liquid - Spray \, boom \, applied \, 2 \, times$

a month in the cool season with Peters 20-20-20 at 1/4 lb. of nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. We also include soluble iron in with our fungicide applications in the winter time. Coronas 12-0-0 or 15-0-0.

Tees and Fairways Program

Granular — two applications a year spring and fall. Usually a 15-5-15 blend with 70% slow release nitrogen.

Fertigation Program

Warm season — 2-3 applications of 11-0-8 with 50% slow release N. Each application takes 5-7 days with meter set at 30%.

Cool season — 2 applications of 20-0-0 with a unit of iron. These are usually made prior to our member-guest and invitational tournaments for special event green up.

Special — We apply a 0-34-0 that comes in a mini bulk container during our overseeding process to help the new seedlings get rooted.



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