

## Toro OKs wetting agents in HydroJect

By hal Phillips
Good news for all those maintenance crew members who've been using wetting agents in their HydroJects on the sly: The heat's off.

The Toro Company has approved the use of wetting agents in the Toro HydroJect 3000 water injection aerator. The approval is limited to liquid, soilwetting agents that can be applied directly through the machine.

Officials at Toro have long been aware that superintendents across the country have been running dispersants through the HydroJect. However, "They won't admit it to us because it would void their warranty," said Ben Street, market manager for Toro's Commercial Products Division.
In fact, HydroJect owners have raised the issue with Toro since the technology was introduced in 1990.
"They've been wanting to do it almost from the beginning, but we've never approved it," Street continued. "We've always had concerns about what we could run through the HydroJect without damaging the machine."

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## Overseeding: Not much fun, but necessary

By ANN SCHREIFELS and DR DOUGLAS HOUSEWORTH
Overseeding turf is like taking medicine you wouldn't take - if it weren't good for you. In the case of golf courses in the South, overseeding definitely is good for business.

The process requires extra work, but it pays off fast. Managing the transition from summer to winter turf, however, requires preparation well in advance of the planting date.

Peer and disease pressure both play big roles as golf course superintendents determine whether to overseed. Peer pressure boils down to one question: What is the competition doing? Once one course in an area begins overseeding, others most often follow suit.
From a marketing standpoint, yearround, wall-to-wall green is a big attraction. The course that isn't green is perceived to be "worse" than its competitors. Dr. Gerard Pepin, director of research at Pickseed West, said the trend has grown rapidly in recent years.
"Overseeding began many years ago in the Southeast and 10 years ago on greens and tees in California," he said

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## Fairway/Tee Results

| NAME <br> -PROVIDENCE <br> *PUTIER 88.CBL <br> *WVPB 89.D. 15 <br> - SR 1020 <br> -PENNIINKS <br> *FORBES 89.12 <br> *NORMARC 101 <br> MSCB- 8 <br> - COBRA <br> 88. CBE <br> - PENNCROSS <br> ${ }^{*}$ CARMEN <br> TAMU B8-1 <br> UM 84.01 [BISKA] <br> MSCB-6 <br> * NATIONA. <br> *EMERAID <br> - EGMONT <br> *BARDOT <br> - TRACENTA <br> Allure <br> BR 1518 <br> LSD VALUE | CAI <br> N/A <br> 6.3 <br> $\times$ <br> 6.1 <br> 6.4 <br> 6.3 <br> 6.3 <br> 6.3 <br> 6.3 <br> 6.6 <br> 5.8 <br> 6.0 50 <br> 6.4 <br> 6.1 <br> $\times$ <br> 5.2 <br> 5.7 <br> 5.5 44 <br> 4.2 <br> 4.1 <br> 3.4 0.8 | GAI 7.1 6.9 6.9 6.5 6.7 7.0 6.7 6.6 $X$ 6.4 6.6 6.9 6.8 5.9 6.8 5.6 6.5 5.9 4.7 5.2 5.3 5.0 5.5 0.6 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { KSI } \\ & 7.2 \\ & 7.0 \\ & 6.8 \\ & 6.8 \\ & 6.9 \\ & 6.8 \\ & 6.5 \\ & 7.0 \\ & 6.6 \\ & 6.8 \\ & 6.8 \\ & 6.7 \\ & 6.5 \\ & 6.7 \\ & 6.1 \\ & 6.3 \\ & 6.5 \\ & 6.8 \\ & 6.3 \\ & 6.6 \\ & 6.1 \\ & 6.3 \\ & 6.5 \\ & 0.4 \end{aligned}$ | KYI <br> 6.4 <br> 5.5 <br> 6.0 <br> 6.1 <br> 5.5 <br> 60 <br> 5.6 <br> 5.8 $\times$ <br> X 5.3 <br> 6.2 <br> 5.8 <br> 5.2 <br> 4.8 <br> 5.0 <br> K 6.3 <br> 5.7 <br> 6.0 5.1 <br> 5.6 $x$ <br> $\times$ <br> 4.9 <br> 0.5 | MA1 <br> 7.5 <br> 6.9 <br> 7.5 <br> 7.1 <br> 7.1 7.5 <br> 7.7 <br> 7.3 <br> 6.8 7.3 <br> 7.3 <br> 6.7 <br> 6.6 <br> 7.1 <br> 6.6 <br> 6.5 <br> 6.4 <br> 6.1 <br> 6.7 6.3 <br> 6.2 <br> 5.9 <br> 4.7 1.2 | MII <br> 6.6 <br> 6.2 <br> 6.2 5.0 <br> 5.9 <br> 5.8 <br> 6.0 <br> 5.3 5.8 <br> 5.7 <br> 5.8 <br> 6.0 5.9 <br> 5.7 <br> 4.7 4.7 <br> 4.9 <br> 1.8 <br> 1.2 <br> 1.1 1.7 <br> 1.1 1.1 | MSI <br> 5.9 <br> 5.7 <br> 6.5 <br> 6.0 <br> 6.4 <br> 6.3 <br> 6.3 <br> 6.3 <br> 6.3 <br> 6.1 6.1 <br> 6.0 <br> 5.7 <br> 5.9 <br> 5.7 <br> 6.3 5.4 <br> 4.7 <br> 5.5 <br> 5.5 6.0 5.1 <br> 5.1 <br> 5.2 5.3 <br> 0.9 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { TXI } \\ & 4.2 \\ & 4.3 \\ & 3.3 \\ & x \\ & 4.2 \\ & 3.7 \\ & 3.8 \\ & 3.5 \\ & X \\ & 3.3 \\ & 3.5 \\ & 3.8 \\ & 3.5 \\ & 3.3 \\ & 3.3 \\ & X \\ & 4.7 \\ & 3.8 \\ & x \\ & 4.2 \\ & 3.3 \\ & X \\ & 3.3 \\ & 1.3 \end{aligned}$ | WA3 <br> 5.8 <br> 6.6 <br> 5.7 <br> 5.4 <br> 5.8 <br> 5.6 <br> 5.6 <br> 5.3 <br> 4.3 <br> 5.6 <br> 5.1 <br> 4.3 <br> 47 48 <br> 5.5 <br> 4.4 <br> 4.4 <br> 5.2 59 <br> 6.1 <br> 6.3 <br> 4.8 3.5 3.5 <br> 0.5 | MEAN 6.3 6.2 6.1 6.1 6.1 6.1 6.1 6.0 6.0 5.9 5.9 5.8 5.7 5.6 5.6 5.6 5.6 5.4 5.3 5.0 4.8 4.7 4.3 0.3 |
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## NTEP bentgrass results are in; more specitic testing in offing

By MARK LESLIE
National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) officials plan to more closely study wear tolerance, close mowing and aggressiveness in a new battery of tests on bentgrasses.
After publishing second-year data from the NTEP's first bentgrass plots ever, National Turfgrass Federation National Director Kevin N. Morris said more specific studies are needed. "These tests are a starting place," Morris said. "We have been able to show there are a lot of good varieties available besides the standards. We've also been able to get good disease data.
"But bentgrass is very specific to golf course use. We have to do more in-depth work on wear tolerance and other factors that are what superintendents encounter in the real world. For instance, aggressiveness. Competition with poa annua is important. And more intense maintenance would be important to superintendents."

Improvements in the testing system will be evident in a new group of bentgrasses that will be planted in the fall of 1993. Results will be published in 1995.

Striving to address the variance in how different sites are maintained and gain more complete data, the NTEP this year will start paying cooperators in the tests as they submit information.
"Basically, that will give us more freedom and flexibility to get better tests in place and pay people to do a better job," Morris said. "We will be able to do some of these tests like wear tolerance that take more time, resources and power."

He explained that bentgrass tests require cooperators to more intensely mow, water and treat the grass with pesticides: "In many cases you have to have an area set up particularly to do that - graded, irrigated and with the right soil. It is more expensive to set up an area initially, so not

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[^0]:    Ann Schreifels is a free-lance writer. Dr. Douglas Houseworth is manager of technical services for Ciba-Geigy's Turf and Ornamental Products group.

