



Poa trivia

By Cubby O'Brien
Simplot Partners



Turf Talk

It's the second week into June and we have just had the first real day of summer-like weather. Today was in the mid-eighties and the low will be near mid-60.

This spring has been lousy to put it mildly, cooler than normal and much wetter. This past May could go down in the books as one the coldest and wettest in a long time. There were some flare ups of cool season brown patch along with the usual pink snow mold which tends to show up during those cool, gray, wet periods, which was most of May. I feel for the public courses during springs like these. I would expect revenues to be down but I'm sure they'll bounce back. The most frustrating part for superintendents I visited with this spring was the sluggish growth of the turf, with poor fill-in and tough to hold color. But now with the temps up I'm sure things are changing for the better.

I saw some very promising results with Proxy this spring for seedhead suppression on Poa. As with most, timing seemed to be the key. Those applications made two weeks prior to the "boot stage" (when the seed head is cupped down in its sheath) performed best. Two weeks after boot worked well also, with about a 70% reduction. Some experimented with greens (not yet labeled) by adding .1 oz of Primo and had very good results. The applications were too early to give much growth regulation from the Proxy as it performs better in the warmer temperatures that way. The advantage

with Proxy seems to be no discoloration after treatment.

Just a friendly reminder, patch diseases (namely take-all and summer) love the type of spring we just had. Anyway, the fire flies are out now and the cottonwoods are causing their snow flurries, so the season must be here!

New Jobs

Tony Rzadski landed the grow-in job in Sheboygan Falls for the new Nicklaus design course called The Bull at Pinehurst Farm. It's a 7200 yard course and housing development scheduled to open in July 2002. T.R. was

previously the grow-in super at the new Woodside golf course north of Hartland.

Chuck Wollner has hired a new assistant at Christmas Mountain golf course in the Wisconsin Dells. Mark Finnessy came from David J. Franks Landscape and had worked at Stevens Point CC.

This is a short edition of *Poa trivia* but without input from others it's tougher to pass on news. So if you know something that others might enjoy hearing about tell me. Call (630) 514-8754 or e-mail cobrien@simplot-partners.com. 

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