Fungicide/Growth Regulator Interaction

The use of related products can cause problems. In the past, use of three forms of a fungicide and low rates lead to the development of "Benlate Resistance." This is well documented and did occur in Minnesota, but I believe the development of resistant strains of Dollar Spot was not widespread and in many locations the MBC fungicides are still effective in controlling Dollar Spot.

The use of other related products can also result in problems and, after some calls about potential problems, I was able to determine that the concerns were about the use of the growth regulator TGR and Banner or sterol inhibiting fungicides. Ciba Geigy has data on very high rates of Banner on turf showing growth regulator effects. This rate is not labeled for use and would not be seen given the present label and use rates. The problem was reported when the growth regulator and the fungicide were applied at the highest rates at nearly the same time. With the use of these two products - Banner at the highest rate and TGR for Poa Control — a high rate is not compatible; however lower rates of both products, when used 5-7 days between applications, is OK. The use of Banner for Patch control, a high rate is recommended only with the low rate of TGR with two weeks between application or if no TGR is being used. The recommended spacing of the application date is being studied this year.

The information on this interaction was provided by Ciba-Geigy and specifically deals with the two products Scott's TGR and Banner from Ciba-Geigy. I expect that an interaction of this type can occur with other related products also. Anyone using Plant Growth Regulators (PGR) and sterol inhibiting fungicides should carefully monitor the turf for symptoms and check with the supplier for the latest information. The development of symptoms in the northeast and DC area is believed to be mostly related to the PGR product at high label rate or above in environments that are stressful-hot and dry. The production of symptoms from fungicide application alone was very limited in tests this year and Banner did not kill Poa annua. I don't expect this interaction to be a problem in Minnesota and believe the danger of a similar outbreak to be very limited given out normal climate.

"Semper Graminis Morbidis"

- Ward Stienstra, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Minnesota



MEMBERSHIP REPORT JULY 13, 1992 TARTAN PARK GOLF CLUB NEW MEMBERS-JULY 13, 1992		
Joe Anderson	Eau Claire Golf & CC	BII
Douglas Bakke	Rolling Hills Golf Club	А
Arlyn Boddy	Sleepy Eye Golf Club	А
Richard Dawson	Windom Country Club	A E E
Brian John Deyak	Veterans Golf Course	E
Dave Haack	City of North Mankato	E
Thomas Wade	Sartell Golf Club	В
Wallace Huff	Greenswood Turf Services	F
Barry Larson	Medalist America	F
RECLASSIFICATIONS-	-JULY 13, 1992	
Rob Heggernes	Kimball Golf Club	D to BII
Jack Krech	Watonwan Country Club	B to A
Kevan Tusa	Nordic Trails Golf Course	C to BII
1	Mike Olson, Membership Chairman	

Summer Patch-

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summer patch. Use mixtures or blends of resistant turf cultivars or species for best results. Conversions of golf areas from *Poa* to *Agrotis* spp. will also reduce disease incidence.

Fungicides are available that can effectively control summer patch. Applications should commence on a preventative basis in late spring or early summer when soil temperatures stabilize between 18 and 20C. Systemic fungicides have proven to be most effective but must be applied at high label rates and repeated two to three times at 21-28 day intervals. Efficacy is enhanced when products are applied in at least 1600 L of water per hectare. Certain contact fungicides may stimulate symptom severity when used repeatedly at high rates.