

# ON THE ROAD WITH THE USGA

By R.A. (Bob) BRAME, USGA Director

The highlight of my November 2002 travel was the Kentucky Turfgrass Conference and Show held in Bowling Green on November 5th, 6th and 7th. The following bullets are a few points taken from my notes. The presenter of each bullet has not been listed, but can be provided via either follow-up email or phone conversation.

Poa annua seeding throughout the season probably denotes perennial biotypes as opposed to those that seed aggressively (or only) in the spring/early summer, which are more likely to be true annuals.

Most Poa annua annual biotypes germinate in the fall and this means that late August is the best time for a preemergent application to control/reduce encroachment.

Poa annua control on overseeded bermudagrass fairways can be achieved with two applications of Prograss in the fall (around Thanksgiving and three or four weeks later).

Controlling Poa annua on bent-Poa greens must incorporate the fact that bentgrass is more heat and drought tolerant.

Paclobotrazol applications on greens over the fall and spring, per label rate and frequency, can aid in controlling Poa annua (As always, follow the label limits and remember that the total number of applications allowed each year can not exceed four).

Soil temperatures are more important than air temperatures with regards to the health and endurance of cool-season turfgrass. Generally, root growth stops at 77 degrees Fahrenheit and roots begin to die off at a soil temperature of 84 degrees.

Turbo turf flood nozzles are offering better results than either flat fan or rain-drop nozzles. Venturi nozzles may be coming (even mandated) in the near future to further reduce drift.

There is no tie to the use of natural organic fertilizers and black turfgrass ataeinus activity.

Gray leaf spot disease was active in Kentucky through October.

Basal anthracnose disease resistance to Thiophanate-methyl and strobilurin fungicides has been confirmed in Kentucky.

Triton, a new DMI fungicide with no plant growth regulating side effects, will be labeled soon.

Honor, a new strobilurin fungicide, will be labeled soon.

Studies have shown that fairways can

be converted to zoysiagrass for approximately \$20,000 per acre using sod, \$3,500 per acre via strip sodding and \$700. to \$1,000. per acre with seed. Currently, the latter option is not recommended.

If you missed the Kentucky conference, the Ohio Turfgrass Conference and Show is next and will be held in Columbus, Ohio during the second week of December. See you there.

*(Editor's Note: Bob Brame may be reached at [bobbbrame@usga.org](mailto:bobbbrame@usga.org))*

## Pipe Logic 102

GOLDLINE® pipe = Drier course

Drier course = Less disease

Less disease = Healthy turf

Healthy turf = Happy players

Happy players = More green fees

More green fees = Higher profits

Higher profits = Happy board

Happy board = Quiet board

Quiet board = Hero status

Therefore:

**GOLDLINE® pipe = Hero status**



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