

It is easy to just opt for the pesticide-based solution. The better answer, however, is to opt for the solution that is most cost-effective. For instance, non pesticide-based control solutions such as keeping fertilizer applications to a minimum are less costly than their pesticide-based counterparts.

If you decide to use non pesticide-based controls, the process monitoring the effectiveness of the control action(s) selected cycle back to the beginning. If, however, you choose to use a pesticide, you must then choose which one.

**Action 4** - If you decide to use pesticides, develop a list of the pesticides and their different formulations that are appropriate for your situation and that are available. Try to list the products by efficacy. Check

available reference materials –including those presented in this issue of *TurfGrass TRENDS* – for information on solubility, adsorption, and persistence, as well as displacement and leaching potential.

**Action 5** - Compare the site specific information gathered in Action 2 with the list of products and their potential movement characteristics (see Dr. Hull's Table 1). In comparing these data the best pesticide choices should emerge.

Here's an example to illustrate. The problem is a moderate to heavy "Dollar Spot" infestation that is damaging a juvenile bluegrass stand on a sloped area at the back of a green. The area immediately below the slope drains into a small stream. Supplemental watering is available and rainfall is not forecast for the next five

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Table 1. Six Contamination-Relevant Characteristics of Five Fungicides (based on Hull *supra*)

Fungicide	Number of Applications	Solubility	Adsorption	Persistence	Runoff	Leaching Potential
"A"	two	low	moderate/ high	moderate	medium	nonleacher
"B"	one	low	moderate	long	small/ medium	inter- mediate
"C"	one	low	moderate	moderate	medium	nonleacher
"D"	one	low	moderate	long	large	inter- mediate
"E"	one	low	moderate	moderate	medium	inter- mediate

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