



TURFAX™

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JB Comments:

Rumors Versus The Facts

The rumor mill is that winter overseeding cannot be accomplished in such a high density turf as Champion vertical dwarf bermudagrass. What are the facts? Winter overseeding of various mixtures including perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*), rough bluegrass (*Poa trivialis*) and creeping bentgrass (*Agrostis stolonifera*) have been successful on Champion putting greens from Houston, to Wichita Falls, to Bay City, to San Angelo, Texas. These golf courses typically have utilized a 3.2 mm (1/8 inch) mowing height and in-season vertical cutting to control unwanted thatch-stem biomass buildup, plus 2 to 4 pre-plant vertical cuttings using a 3/4-inch (20 mm) blade spacing.

RESEARCH SUMMARY:

GRAY LEAF SPOT CONTROL STUDY

Gray leaf spot has been recognized as a problem on St. Augustinegrass (*Stenotaphrum secundatum*) for many years. But only recently it has become of concern on tall fescue (*Festuca arundinacea*) and perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*) turfs. Thus, there is considerable interest in terms of control strategies.

Replicated investigations were conducted concerning eight fungicides for the control of gray leaf spot (*Pyricularia grisea*), which was inoculated onto a tall fescue turf in early August of 1996. At 4 and 6 weeks after inoculation only azoxystrobin (Heritage™) and thiophanate-methyl (Cleary 3336™) provided acceptable gray leaf spot disease control, of less than 10% under the hot, humid conditions in Griffin, Georgia. Other fungicides that gave unsatisfactory control in the test included chlorothalonil (Daconil 2787™), flutolanil (ProStar™), iprodione (Chipco 26016™), mancozeb (FORE™), procymidone (Sumilex™), and propiconazole (Banner™).

For more specifics see the original publication on pages 33 through 35 of the 1996 University of Georgia Turfgrass Pathology Research Report. The paper is authored by L.L. Burpee and S.L. Stephens. University of Georgia Experiment Station, Griffin, Georgia, 30223-1797, USA.