

## NEMATODE CONTROL

(from page 24)

greens? Russell calculates it this way. Green fumigation is made by square footage. Average charge is between \$6 and \$7 per 1000 square feet for material and application. That's for the complete job. Average cost then is about \$35 per green.

The irregular areas of most golf greens are hard to measure accurately. Russell came up with the idea of mounting a surveyors measuring wheel on the injection rig. "When the shanks are inserted, the wheel engages the surface of the turf and accurately records the linear feet of injection," he says. "This makes it a simple job to calculate the square footage and cost per green."

There's an added advantage to this method of measuring that has become a hit with superintendents. "Most of them are keeping these accurate area figures for each green as future reference in calculating rates for fertilizer and environmental protection chemicals," he says.

Accuracy of rate is of prime importance in doing a good job of fumigation. For this reason, Soil Fumigants Company have installed a pump and constant pressure on the system to insure a uniform and accurate delivery. Pump pressure with controlled psi is employed on both the small greens rig and the larger fairway machine. Rate is regulated by ground speed, adjusted pressure and orifice size on the shank outlet.

After three years experience with the fairway fumigation and two years with treating greens, the Russells offer these tips for nematode control in the Gulf States: The best nematode control maintenance program should be annual treatment of greens, tees and other high maintenance areas. For fairways and other low maintenance turfgrass, treat-

ment should be scheduled every two years.

"This gives preventive nematode control that should eliminate at least 95 percent of the turf problems," says John Russell. "Further north, where colder winters are the rule, the turf nematode problem is not as serious. I feel the problem should be dealt with as it arises."

Should a superintendent consider building equipment and doing his own treating? Or should he rely on custom applicators such as Soil Fumigants Company? Jack Russell strongly believes that there are real advantages for having the job done by the applicator. There is the initial high investment in equipment, about \$12,000 for a large fairway rig or roughly \$7000 for the smaller greens unit. In addition, there is the necessity of learning how to apply the nematicide. An experienced custom applicator has this training and the people to do the job professionally the first time.

"Let's not forget about the environment," cautions Russell. "With the increased emphasis being placed on protection of wildlife, fish and man, it is becoming important to know what the label on the product says, but also how to use the material to the best advantage without infringing on the surrounding environment.

"We've found that with this method we can apply much lower rates of Nemagon and minimize surface runoff. Contact with the chemical is reduced to a negligible degree," he continues. "We feel that we're using one of the safest nematicides on the market, particularly when injected at the recommended rate of 20 to 35 pounds per acre."

What about the future? Says Jack Russell: "No doubt new and improved chemicals for turf nematode control will be developed. Better

equipment to simplify application even more will enter the picture. But we believe that until these improvements are available and proven, our two applicators units are giving us the best possible results."

Results is what counts. Vigorous turfgrass free of thin and bare spots is what Soil Fumigants Company is after. And at the rate business is coming in, you'd think there was a reward posted for nematodes! □

## Scotts Poa Anna Control Plus Fertilizer Available

ProTurf Division of O. M. Scott & Sons has introduced a new product specifically developed for the needs of Southern and Western golf courses and Western golf courses and other turf areas.

Poa Anna Control plus Fertilizer was designed for use on bermudagrass, and selectively kills Poa annua, bluegrass, and bentgrass, while providing the bermudagrass with a full feeding of nitrogen and potassium. The product is tailor-made for the elimination of winter overseeded grasses on putting greens. A spring application removes all varieties of grasses that are typically used in overseeding mixtures and thus provides a smooth transition to bermudagrass.

The product is dry-applied, granular, odorless, non-burning and dust-free. Primarily designed to be used on bermudagrass greens, tees, and fairways, it will effectively eliminate established Poa annua or winter grasses in three to five weeks, used at double rate in spring or any time these grasses appear.

For additional information write George Horn, ProTurf Division, O. M. Scott & Sons, Marysville, Ohio 43040.



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