

TURF TWISTERS

EFFECT OF CHARCOAL

Question: There are some new *Poa annua* preemergence control materials available referred to as bensulide products which prohibit any seed from germinating for several weeks after these materials are applied. Recently I was told that this residual action could be nullified with activated charcoal, and I would like to know if this is true. (W. Va.)

Answer: Initial studies at Virginia Polytechnic Institute Research Station indicate that much of the residual action of the two preemergence controls mentioned may indeed be overcome by applying activated charcoal.

The rates which seemed effective as well as most practical economically were between 75 and 150 pounds of activated charcoal per acre.

NAMES FOR POA ANNUA

Question: Is *Poa annua* universally known as annual bluegrass or it is also known by other names? If so, what are some of its other common names? (Conn.)

Answer: *Poa annua* is known by many names other than annual bluegrass, as follows:

Annual Bluegrass	— United States
Annual Meadow Grass	— Britain
Annual Spear Grass	— *
Common Meadow Grass	— Britain
Dwarf Spear Grass	— *
Low Spear Grass	— *
Spear Grass	— *
Walk Grass	— South Africa
Winter Grass	— Australia

* Origin not known. Taken from old literature on turfgrass without reference to when the name was used.

BROWN PATCH IN APRIL?

Question: On our greens in early spring we sometimes notice diseased patches which resemble brown patch. Is it possible to have brown patch in April? (N.Y.)

Answer: Normally not. This affliction, however, is a disease and it is one of the snow mold variety. The disease is known as *Fusarium*, and it looks very much like brown patch except that it doesn't have the customary smoke ring around it. Like all snow mold afflictions it disappears quickly with warm weather. It normally doesn't cause loss of turf.