

TURF TWISTERS

NOT WHEN BUT HOW MUCH!

Question: Does watering in the heat of the summer day hurt turfgrasses on greens? (New York)

Answer: When correct amounts of water are applied to turfgrasses any time of the day or night there is little danger of injury. This includes watering in the very hot sun, as superintendents are sometimes forced to do, to keep grasses from wilting. It's not when, but how much water is applied that is important.

BENTGRASS

Question: We have a putting green that is very thin because of wet wilt damage and an ensuing occurrence of algae. Should we reseed it now (late July) or will we just waste our seed? (Oklahoma)

Answer: July is not all bad for overseeding greens. In fact, some have had very good results from a mid-summer seeding program. First, aerify and/or spike the green to prepare a good seed bed. Then overseed with seaside (three pounds per 1,000 sq. ft.) or Penncross (one pound per 1,000 sq. ft.).

GOOSEGRASS

Question: My Penncross greens are loaded with goosegrass. How can I eliminate it? (Georgia)

Answer: There is very little you can do in the way of post emergent treatment except hand pick the goosegrass. Any post emergent chemical which would kill the goosegrass would also kill the bent. As a control the following year you should use one of the pre-emergent chemicals recommended for goosegrass to stop it before it becomes established.

RYEGRASS

Question: I hear there are some new ryegrass varieties for overseeding bermuda. Are they available? (Louisiana)

Answer: The grasses being evaluated look far superior to those now being used, but availability will be limited this fall. I would suggest you keep in touch with your supplier of grass seed.