

TURF TWISTERS

DOUBLE IT UP?

Question: Presently I use a mixture of phenyl mercuric acetate and wetting agent to spray my fairways during the growing season to help protect them against disease, wilt, and crabgrass. Could I add 2,4-D to this mixture to control some broadleaf weeds at the same time? (Ohio)

Answer: No, 2,4-D would cause this mixture to act far more strongly as a herbicide, and the disease and wilt prevention qualities would be greatly reduced or lost entirely. Also, this mixture, applied in summer, could be potent enough to burn the grass. 2,4-D alone or in mixture with other herbicides is used in spring or fall, and very rarely at other times.

WET IT UP?

Question: Do soil penetrants or wetting agents offer any help in reducing soil salinity? (California)

Answer: Wetting agents provide little or no benefit in reducing soil salinity. In certain types of soils, they may offer a temporary means of water penetration. There is no substitute for good surface drainage, especially where salts are encountered. Use of tile drain lines and slit trenches would certainly be preferable and more effective than chemical wetting agents.

CALL US UP?

Question: Our club is in trouble and in need of help. We want to improve playing conditions. Can you help us and how soon? (Tennessee)

Answer: The Green Section Visiting Service is available to all USGA Member Clubs in the continental United States. We would be happy to assist you by direct visit and on-the-spot consultation. Contact any Green Section office (see inside the front cover) for details and dates.