

TURF TWISTERS

WHEN CONTROLLING POA ANNUA

Question: I plan to experiment with some of the pre-emergence herbicides for *Poa annua* control on my greens. Just to be safe, is there anything I can apply after the herbicide has been put down to neutralize its action if too much injury begins to occur? (Conn.)

Answer: Yes. When using the bensulide types of herbicides (like Pre-San or Betasan) you could apply 5 pounds per 1000 square feet of activated charcoal. To avoid a mess, spray it on using a lot of agitating water. Then irrigate it well to get it into the thatch.

IN THE METRIC SYSTEM

Question: With the increased use of the metric system in turfgrass research and information disseminated at turf conferences, what are some handy conversion units one may use? (Minn.)

Answer: For quick reference and easy conversion, the following units may be helpful:

1 fluid ounce	=	30 milliliters
1000 sq. ft.	=	90 square meters
1 pound	=	0.45 kilograms
1 quart	=	0.95 liter
1 acre	=	0.4 hectare

WITH DIESEL VERSUS GAS

Question: With the fuel crisis again on our minds, the idea of using diesel tractors has been raised. Are they any more efficient? (Long Island, N.Y.)

Answer: At one time they could have been, but with the overall scarcity of all types of fuels and with the price advantage per gallon narrowing, any real advantage is apparently gone. Research done at the Ag Engineering Department of an eastern university has found that, in the long run after some years of service, the operating cost for fuel, maintenance, parts, labor and down time, the gas and diesel-engined vehicles were very, very similar. One other point; when diesel fuel is used, two supply tanks are needed in the maintenance area along with someone readily available to repair diesel engines. Diesels are used to power some golf course equipment but there is apparently no great gain in overall long term efficiency.