The Use of Prograss for Poa annua Seedhead Suppression

John Stier and Stephen H Pearson
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Department of Horticulture
December, 2000

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this study is to determine the effectiveness of Prograss for use in suppressing Poa annua seedheads on golf course fairway turf.

EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

This study was conducted at Trout Lake GC in Arbor Vitae, WI. This allowed us to spray the treatments at the desired timings in the spring (we would have been past the ideal time in Southern WI). Each plot was 5 ft x 10 ft and the study contained 4 replications. A carrier volume of 44 gal/A was used. Each treatment was sprayed using a CO_2 powered backpack sprayer equipped with XR 8003 Tee Jet nozzles. The first (early) applications were sprayed on May 15, and the second (late) applications were sprayed on June 21.

Treatments	Rate (fl oz/M)	Timing
Untreated control	--	--
Prograss	0.5	early (5/15/00)
Prograss	0.5	late (6/21/00)
Prograss	0.75	early (5/15/00)
Prograss	0.75	late (6/21/00)
Prograss	1.5	early (5/15/00)
Prograss	1.5	late (6/21/00)
Embark	0.2	early (5/15/00)
Embark	0.2	late (6/21/00)

Ratings were taken June 6 and August 8 as well as a background rating on May 5 prior to the first spray. Percent Poa seedhead cover was visually estimated to determine a given rating.

RESULTS

P. annua infestation was very high (approximately 70% of turf). None of the Prograss treatments affected *P. annua* seedhead formation (Table 1). The superintendent did not see any phytotoxicity on any of the treatments.

Table 1. *Poa annua* seedhead control using Prograss, Arbor Vitae, WI.

	% Poa seedhead cover on turf		
Treatment	5/15	6/21	8/29
Untreated	72.5	71.3	67.5
Prograss 0.5oz/M early	68.8	62.5	70.0
Prograss 0.5 oz/M late	70.0	66.3	67.5
Prograss 0.75 oz/M early	65.0	77.5	68.8
Prograss 0.75 oz/M late	67.5	70.0	70.0
Prograss 1.5 oz/M early	68.8	72.5	66.3
Prograss 1.5oz/M late	66.3	65.0	68.8
Embark 0.2 oz/M Early	71.3	71.3	66.3
Embark 0.2 oz/M late	72.5	68.8	71.3
LSD 0.05	ns	ns	ns

ns = not significant at $p \leq 0.05$