

# Removing Kikuyu from Couch

Stolonated perennial grasses like kikuyu (*Pennisetum clandestinum*) tend to be very difficult to control when they occur as undesirable weeds. These grasses have the capacity to store reserves in their stolons and can survive unfavourable conditions very well.

Kikuyu is characterised by prolific leaf growth during summer and by implication, strong xylem sap flow. Using MONUMENT® during these conditions will result in poor translocation downward to stolons and roots with lower effectiveness.

The reverse is true for autumn when kikuyu plants start to accumulate reserves in the stolons and roots in preparation for winter dormancy and survival. Using MONUMENT in these conditions will result in optimal translocation downwards to stolons and roots with very good results.

The extensive stolon and root systems of kikuyu can survive in tandem or isolation which means a herbicide needs to move throughout the plant system to effectively control it.

Fast acting herbicides which tend to give a quick visual result, may give quite poor results in the long run as effective plant death has not been obtained. For this reason, herbicides such as glyphosate, MSMA and Drive\* do not give adequate long term control of kikuyu.

In contrast, MONUMENT moves and affects the plants slowly enough to penetrate a very high percentage of the stolon and root system resulting in excellent suppression and limited regrowth. The photos below show the results of two autumns of MONUMENT use at Bonnie Doon GC in Sydney.



15<sup>th</sup> Fairway Bonnie Doon before MONUMENT



15<sup>th</sup> Fairway Bonnie Doon after MONUMENT

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## APPLICATION SUMMARY

Follow these guidelines for optimal performance of MONUMENT on kikuyu:

- Apply in autumn.
- Two applications will be required – 40 g/ha followed by 40 g/ha within a 21-28 day interval.
- Always apply with a non-ionic surfactant (250-500 mL/100 L of spray mix).
- Avoid mowing 1-2 days prior and after application.
- MONUMENT is registered for the suppression of kikuyu. In ideal situations complete control may be attainable but generally a follow up treatment will be required the following season.
- Read the label before use.

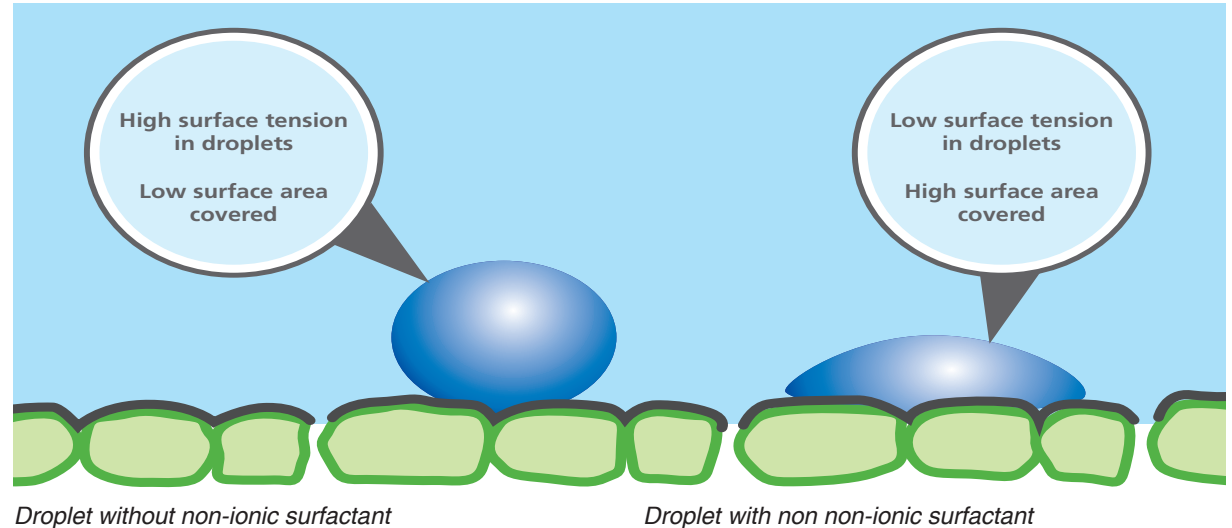
## NOZZLE SELECTION AND WATER RATES

For optimal results, ensure adequate foliar spray coverage. To achieve this a flat fan type nozzle is recommended in a water rate of at least 400 L/ha.

Avoid using a Floodjet or Turfjet nozzle as these produce extremely coarse droplet sizes and result in poor coverage.

For further information please call the Syngenta Technical Product Advice Line on 1800 067 108 or visit our website at [www.greencast.com.au](http://www.greencast.com.au)

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*Turfjet Nozzle*



*XR Flat Fan*

**Compare the results from an XR flat fan and a Turfjet at the same water rate.**

Note: the blue droplets are from the sprayer, the clear droplets are dew