

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 LIQUID® 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 LIQUID in these conditions will result in optimal translocation downwards to stolons and roots with very good results.



15th Fairway Bonnie Doon before MONUMENT – light green areas = kikuyu dominance

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 LIQUID 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.



15th Fairway Bonnie Doon after MONUMENT – kikuyu undetectable on a now pure couch fairway.

APPLICATION AND MIXING ESSENTIALS

1. Apply in autumn and spring.
2. Avoid applying when soil temperatures are below 14°C as this will severely affect control.
3. Always apply with a quality non-ionic surfactant. Use AGRAL (600 g ai/L) at 420 mL/100 L spray mix or other (1000 g ai/L) products at 250 mL/100 L spray mix.
4. Avoid applying to stressed plants. Plants under stress from pre-emergent herbicides, adverse climatic conditions or failed post-emergence herbicide applications may prove difficult to fully control.
5. Ensure mixing water has a pH of at least 6.5. Acidic pH contributes to the rapid hydrolysis of MONUMENT LIQUID's active ingredient, trifloxysulfuron. Avoid using acidifying agents and buffer pH to neutral if spray water source is known to have acidic pH.
6. Avoid mowing 1-2 days prior and after application.

For optimal results, ensure adequate foliar spray coverage. To achieve this, an AIXR or Turbo TurfJet type nozzle is recommended to deliver course droplet spectrum. Apply in a water rate of at least 400 L/ha.



For further information please call the Syngenta Technical Product Advice Line on 1800 067 108 or visit our website at www.greencast.com.au

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DIRECTIONS FOR USE

(extract from MONUMENT LIQUID label)

Situation	Weeds	Rate
Established turf as named: Common Couch (<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>), Durban Grass (<i>Dactyloctenium australe</i>), Hybrid Couch (<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> x <i>Cynodon transvaalensis</i>), Qld Blue Couch (<i>Digitaria didactyla</i>), Zoysia (<i>Zoysia japonica</i>)	Burr Medic (<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>)	115 mL/ha
	Mullumbimby Couch (<i>Cyperus brevifolius</i>), Nutgrass (<i>Cyperus rotundus</i>)	150 mL/ha
	Bindii (<i>Soliva sessilis</i>), Ryegrass (<i>Lolium perenne</i>), Winter Grass (<i>Poa annua</i>)	225 mL/ha
	Clover (<i>Trifolium repens</i>) Catsear (<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>) Cotula (<i>Cotula australis</i>) Creeping Oxalis (<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>) Curled Dock (<i>Rumex crispus</i>) Chickweed (<i>Stellaria media</i>) Milk Thistle (<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>)	300 mL/ha
	Kikuyu (<i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i>) SUPPRESSION ONLY	

READ THE FULL MONUMENT LIQUID LABEL FOR FURTHER DIRECTIONS.

