

Perennial Ryegrass Reseeding Getting Closer



With autumn approaching reseeded thinned perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*) turf is close at hand.



Perennial ryegrass is a bunch type turfgrass that requires reseeded to fill in voids.

Endophyte containing perennial ryegrass cultivars can be used in areas where surface feeding insects like the Argentine Stem Weevil or Cutworms are present.

Endophytes are fungi that are found inside the turf plant that produces a toxin that discourages surface feeding insects from feeding. Endophyte containing ryegrass may also establish quicker.

Irrigation Water Quality Dependent On Two Factors



With drought conditions prevalent in many areas this summer, irrigation water quality is always a concern. Suitability of irrigation water is determined by the electrical conductivity of the irrigation water (ECi) and the level of sodium (Na⁺), magnesium (Mg²⁺), and calcium (Ca²⁺) ions.

Electrical conductivity (EC) is measured in microsiemens ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$). In some instances the value maybe reported in decisiemens (dS/cm). If this is the case you can convert to $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ by dividing the dS/cm by 1000. Salinity tolerance of turfgrasses is affected by soil texture.

The EC threshold for turfgrasses is higher on well drained sandy soils versus a clay soil. For example the threshold for couchgrass (*Cynodon dactylon*) is two and half times higher on sand than on clay.

In conjunction with EC, the Sodium Absorption Ratio (SAR) is used to help predict soil structure stability. SAR is calculated from the sodium, magnesium and calcium ions in the water. The SAR measures the relative concentration of sodium in relation to the calcium and magnesium in the water. High concentrations of sodium in the water can help cause soil structure degradation.

Dollar Spot Remains Active

Temperatures in the middle 20's C during the days and middle to high teens at night is favorable for Dollar Spot. Dollar Spot (*Sclerotinia homoeocarpa*) will be active on creeping bentgrass and annual bluegrass

greens. Under fertilized turf is especially susceptible to this disease. Dollar Spot can also occur on couchgrass if nitrogen levels are low.

Questions?

If you have questions about the Syngenta TechNotes SH contact Kate Dorahy at kate.dorahy@syngenta.com, Peter Sullivan at peter.sullivan@syngenta.com or your local Nuturf representative.