FIELD SCIENCE

8 WAIT. Paclobutrazol applied alone at 32 fl oz/A/21 days reduced clipping yield 36% 8 WAIT. Flurprimidol applied alone at 8 oz wt/A/21 days reduced clipping yield 21 and 44% at 4 and 8 WAIT, respectively, while trinexapac-ethyl applied alone at 12 fl oz/A/21 days reduced clipping yield 43 and 67% at 4 and 8 WAIT, respectively.

Clipping yield reductions peaked, 8 WAIT, ranging from 67% to 80% with trinexapac-ethyl alone, flurprimidol + trinexapac-ethyl, and paclobutrazol (32 fl oz/A/21 days) + trinexapac-ethyl tank mix combinations. Also of importance, clipping yield was reduced 33%, 12 WAIT, from the untreated check by flurprimidol + trinexapac-ethyl. This tank mix combination showed good residual with respect to reducing clipping yield up to three weeks after the final application.

The tank-mix combination rates in this study, while not necessarily economically feasible, were chosen based of their performance in previous research by the author. Results from this research indicate no apparent advantage to a trinexapac-ethyl + paclobutrazol tank-mix compared to using trinexapac-ethyl alone at 12 fl oz/A/21 days. The flurprimidol + trinexapac-ethyl tank-mix combination produced the greatest reduction in clipping yield while causing acceptable injury to Tifway; however, lateral regrowth was reduced 18% 2 WAIT by this combination.

The flurprimidol + trinexapac-ethyl tank-mix combination exhibited great efficacy in both years with respect to reducing clipping yield. Yield reductions 12 WAIT, or 3 weeks after the final application, exceeded 30% with this treatment. Exceptional turfgrass quality and minimal injury (less than 10%) was observed with flurprimidol applied alone at 8 oz wt/ A/21 days during both years of the study and consistently provided turfgrass quality ratings around 8.

Future research should continue to vary rates and timings of flurprimidol, trinexapac-ethyl, and paclobutrazol tank-mix combinations on hybrid bermudagrass and other cool and warm-season turfgrasses. Residual clipping control of tank mix combinations should continue to be evaluated and better understood. Also, other PGR chemistries should be evaluated for potential use in the area of turfgrass management.

Dr. Wesley Totten is assistant professor of turfgrass and landscape management at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

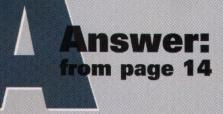
Dr. L.B. McCarty is professor of turfgrass/weed science at Clemson University.

John Mascaro's Photo Quiz Can you identify this sports turf problem?

Problem: Black spots on turf Turfgrass Area: Practice field Location: Blacksburg, Virginia Grass Variety: Bluegrass

Answer to John Mascaro's Photo Quiz on Page 43 John Mascaro is President of Turf-Tec International

John Mascaro's Photo Quiz





The black spots on the turf are a result of fireworks. At many colleges and universities, homecoming football games are often celebrated with a fireworks show. At Virginia Tech's Lane Stadium, the college's bluegrass practice field is located conveniently next to the stadium. This location also puts the practice field directly behind the stadium scoreboard. Fireworks were set up on the practice field for optimum visual effects, thus causing this unique design on the turf. Since the damage occurred late in the season, the singed turf was almost dormant. The sports turf manager will have to wait until spring when he can fertilize the damaged turf and allow it to recover properly.

Photo submitted by Jason W. Bowers, Sports Turf and Athletic Grounds Manager Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia.

If you would like to submit a photograph for John Mascaro's Photo Quiz please send it to Turf-Tec International, John Mascaro, 1471 Capital Circle NW, Suite # 13, Tallahassee, FL 32303 or email to john@turf-tec.com. If your photograph is selected, you will receive full credit. All photos submitted become property of SportsTurf magazine.





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