Can you identify this sports turf problem?

Problem: Green arcs by fence line
Turfgrass area: Soccer fields
Location: Southeastern United States
Grass Variety: 419 Bermudagrass and ryegrass

Answer to John Mascaro’s Photo Quiz on Page 33
Answers from page 17

THESE GREEN ARCS by the fence line on this municipal soccer field were caused by a sprayer operator. In this part of the country, bermudagrass is overseeded with ryegrass for winter soccer play and then it is often sprayed out in the springtime in order to allow a quicker transition back to healthy bermudagrass. As you can see the sports turf manager instructed his crew to carefully hand spray the area with a sulfonylurea ALS inhibitor herbicide right near the fence line and then use the spray rig to spray the remainder of the field. This field is odd-shaped and the crew was trying to get it sprayed without having to mix another tank; however the tank ran out when they got to their clean up lap. Instead of mixing another tank and because this area was not within the playing surface of the field, they decided to leave this area as a “check plot” to see how quickly the ryegrass would respond to the application. This photo was taken about 2 weeks after the application. When the crew was spraying another field, they went back in and removed the remaining ryegrass.

Photo Submitted anonymously

If you would like to submit a photograph for John Mascaro’s Photo Quiz please send it to John Mascaro, 1471 Capital Circle NW, Ste # 13, Tallahassee, FL 32303 call (850) 580-4026 or email to john@turftec.com. If your photograph is selected, you will receive full credit. All photos submitted will become property of SportsTurf magazine and the Sports Turf Managers Association.

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