



## GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE

---

October 15, 2009

GroPro Organics Field Trial, Turf Nursery at Hayfields Country Club.

An informal field trial of GroPro Organics was completed during the period of May-August of 2009 in which time applications were made on the turf nursery at Hayfields. One test plot coincided with the normal application schedule of fertilizers and pesticides utilized on the golf course; the second area had the addition of the GroPro products, Super Stimulant and Nutrient Nectar, in combination at the recommended rates; a third plot received no pesticide applications until the occurrence of disease (treated post emergence).

Applications were made monthly in May, June, July and August. Each area was evaluated for disease occurrence, color quality, density and drought tolerance. In all cases the areas that had had the GroPro products applied had higher ratings than all other areas.

The evaluations, although not measured in formal scale, showed that the areas treated with the addition of the GroPro products were significantly better in color and density through the entire season. Better tolerance to both heat and drought stress were also noted, with less thinning of turf during times of heat and drought stress. Dollar spot occurrence during the early part of the season was noted on the check plot immediately upon the onset of favorable disease, while the normal application schedule plot no disease occurred within the 14 day application schedule. No applications were made on the combination plot intentionally to evaluate extended efficacy and an extension of protection was noted to be 20 days for an application recommended on a 14 day interval. This extended period of coverage was consistent through the entire test period.

The conclusions drawn from this field trial were that the addition of the GroPro Products to the typical application schedule improved the performance of the turf in both the use of the available nutrients applied and those already available in the soil. Extended efficacy of fungicide applications were noted to increase by nearly 50%.

This evaluation must also note that the 2009 season was not typical of what is recognized as the average growing season in the Mid-Atlantic region due to excessive precipitation amounts, below average temperatures and humidity. But it must also be noted that these conditions created different stresses on the turf plant, primarily root density, that were overcome by the addition of the biostimulant humic acid products to the normal application schedule. Further trials will certainly show improvement in overall quality of turf vigor, verdure and performance under any conditions.



## GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE

---