

Turf Solutions

First Class Greens Without The Water, Thanks to H₂Pro

8th July 2009

The course manager at Leyland Golf Club in the north west of England has delayed watering his greens by more than a month, following the use of the Scotts wetting agent, H₂Pro.

Scott Reeves and his staff only began to hand water the greens on the parkland course for five minutes each on 22nd June, whereas watering had begun towards the middle of May in previous years.

2nd Green at Leyland Golf Club He says that his greens have never been in such good shape, and he puts this down to the fact that H₂Pro has been used exclusively on the course this year.

"I've used pretty much all the wetting agents available over the years but I've had far superior results from H₂Pro," he enthused. "Dry patch used to be a problem here. We're quite close to the coast between Preston and Chorley and our weather generally comes in from the west. We made our first application in March at a rate of 25 litres per hectare tank mixed with 20 litres of Greenmaster Blade liquid fertilizer to relieve the

Stress to the plant, as advised by our technical advisor, Ed Carter. We'll continue to apply 10 litres per month of H₂Pro with 20 litres of Blade throughout the summer, finishing in August dependent on the weather conditions. We have a real mixture of greens here – four or five USGA specification, all on different types of sand and some clay push ups so we don't use a 'one size fits all' maintenance regime, but they've all been treated in the same way with the H₂Pro and I'm absolutely delighted with the condition of all of them this summer."

Dry patch can result in areas appearing drought-stressed through lack of available water, due to the presence of water-repellent material in the soil. As soils dry, water repellency increases impacting on infiltration and unsaturated flow, water use efficiency and turf quality which can affect play on close-mown surfaces.

Scotts' Technical Advisor for the area, Ed Carter, said: "The symptoms of dry patch are visible during the summer and autumn but to keep the condition under control, H₂Pro should be applied earlier in the year. Because we've had two very wet summers in 2007/8, some Course Managers stopped applying wetting agents and a few seem to have been caught out by the warm, dry conditions we've been experiencing this year. Unlike older wetting agent technologies, H₂Pro contains Multi-Matrix surfactants making it effective through the rootzone, not just on the surface or thatch layers and it significantly reduces the irrigation requirement of soils."



2nd Green at Leyland Golf Club



Growing success

Scott Reeves continued to use wetting agents in the past two years, mainly to flush the moisture through at a higher rate. "I see H2Pro as an insurance policy. Given the effort and resources that have been invested in the greens over the past two years it would be poor management if we did not use every tool at our disposal", he added.

H2Pro is available as a liquid, tablet and granules. For more information about the range, visit <http://www.scottspprofessional.co.uk/uk/range/36>.



Growing success