

GDDs for Timing PGR Applications: Impact on growth & performance

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- Installed backyard putting green
- University of Wisconsin – Madison
 - B.S. Soil Science – Turf Management, 2009
 - Internships at Whistling Straits Golf Course
- MS for Wisconsin, 2010 – PGR research
- PhD from Cornell University, 2014 – Civitas Physiology

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Growing Turf Program at University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- 40+ undergraduate turfgrass science majors
 - Steady increase
 - High job placement
- Expansive undergrad internship program
 - Increases our exposure
 - Expands student’s experiences
- Broad range of research
 - Drs. Amundsen, Gaussoin, Kreuser & *New Prof Soon*



★ TLMT Internships 2012-14

Today’s Road Map

- PGR Introductions
- Modeling PGR performance with GDDs
 - Primo Maxx
 - Anuew
 - Class B PGRs and their combinations
- Why even use PGRs?
- Wrap-up



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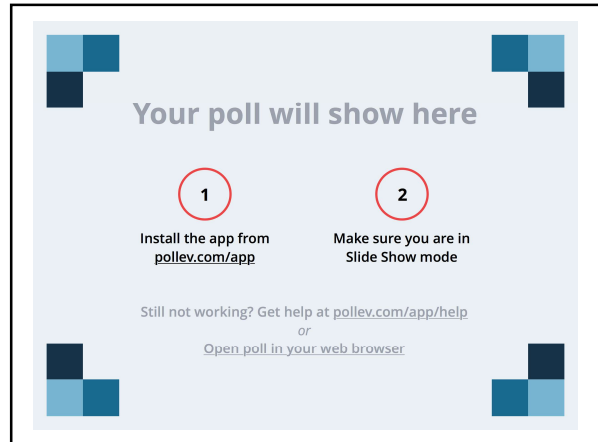
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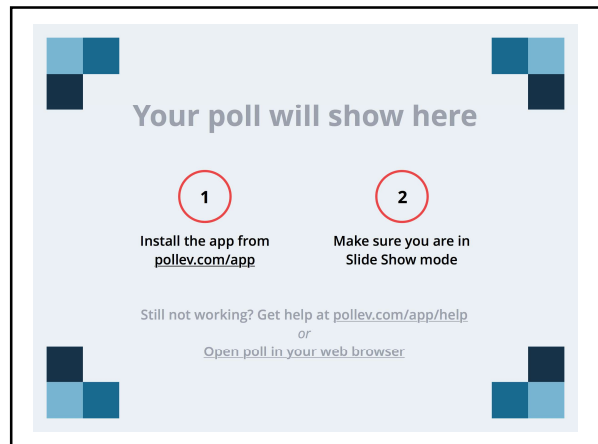
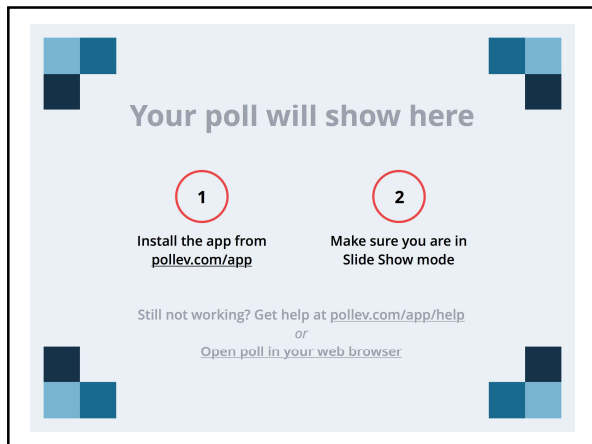


Plant Growth Regulators

- Definition: A Plant Growth Regulator (PGR) is any natural or synthesis compound that regulates plant growth
- Impacts
 - Clipping Yield Inhibition/Rebound
 - Tiller Density
 - Root Mass and Density
- Examples
 - Hormone Inhibitors
 - Hormones
 - Herbicides
 - Seaweeds/Humic Acids

Classification of PGRs

		Common Examples
• Class A: Late Gibberellic Acid Inhibitors (Type II)		Trinexapac-ethyl Prohexadione-Ca
• Class B: Early Gibberellic Acid Inhibitors (Type I)		Paclobutrazol Flurprimidol
• Class C: Cell Division Inhibitors		Mefluidide
• Class D: Herbicides		Glyphosate
• Class E: Plant Hormones/Mimics		Ethephon
• Class F: Naturally Occurring PGRs		Humic Acids



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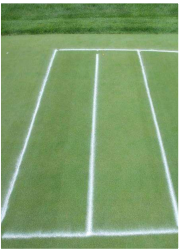
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Class A Compounds


- Late Inhibition of Gibberellic Acid
 - Final Step in Pathway
- Foliar Absorption
 - Rapid Uptake (15 to 60 Minutes)
 - Effective in Wide Range of Spray Volumes
 - Liquid and Dry Formulations
- Safest PGR
 - Widespread Usage
 - Safe on Most Grasses
- 50% Yield Suppression Typical



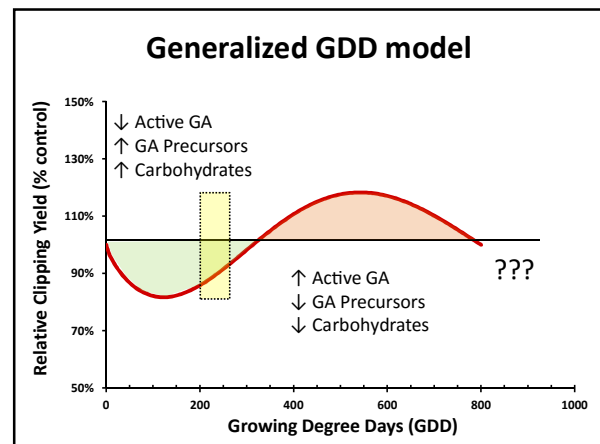
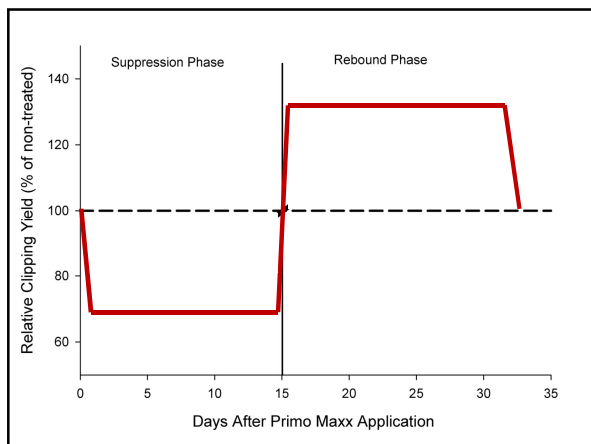
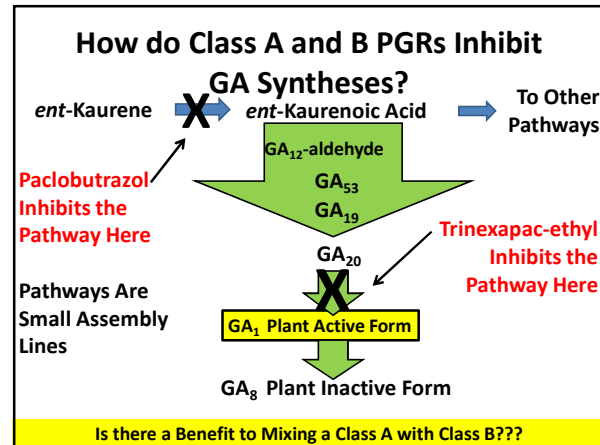
Common Products	
Trinexapac-Ethyl	Primo Maxx
	Governor
Prohexadione-Ca	Anew

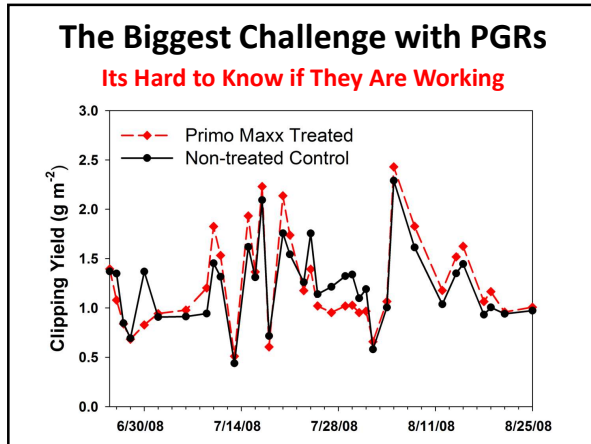
Class B Compounds

- Early Inhibition of Gibberellic Acid
 - Can disrupt other pathways
- Root Absorption
 - Irrigated in with 1/4 inch
- More Phytotoxic
 - Slight Discoloration, *Poa annua*
 - Widespread usage
- 50% Yield Suppression Typical



Common Products	
Flurprimidol	Cutless
Pacllobutrazol	TGR
Pacllobutrazol	Trimmit





Labels Can Be Imprecise – Good and Bad

Example: 2008 PGR Label

The rates presented in the Application Rate Table provide approximately 50% growth inhibition over a 4-week period with little or no discoloration of turf growing under favorable conditions. Excessive turf growth, which may occur with high fertilization or during spring flushes, may require higher rates of Any PGR. Under these conditions, Any PGR rates may need to be increased up to 50% to provide an adequate length of control.

For extended growth suppression up to 8 weeks, when temporary discoloration can be tolerated, a maximum of twice the recommended Any PGR rate from the Application Rate Table may be applied.

Rate can be legally increased 100%

Application Timing
Apply Any PGR to actively-growing turf. If turf is going into dormancy because of high or low temperatures or lack of moisture, apply a lower rate of Any PGR.

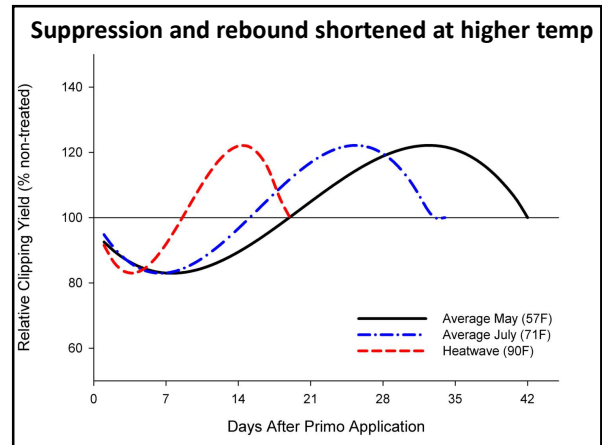
Repeat applications of Any PGR may be made as soon as the turf resumes growth or more suppression is desired, but do not apply more than 7.0 fl. oz./1,000 sq. ft. per year.

It can be re-applied as often as desired

PGR Metabolism

- **Decreased Efficacy During Summer**
 - Lickfelt et al. (2005)
 - Beasley and Branham (2007)
- **TE Metabolism Directly Related to Air Temperature** (Beasley and Branham, 2005)
 - 6.4 Day Half Life at 18°C (64°F)
 - 3.1 Day Half Life at 30°C (86°F)

Doubling temperature (°C) roughly doubled PGR breakdown (metabolism)



Growing degree days (GDD) factors in air temp

- Heat units (GDD) predicts TE re-application intervals
- Calculating GDD

Date	High (F)	Low (F)	Average (F)	Average (C)	GDD (C)
5/1/16	75	50	63	17	17
5/2/16	72	47	60	15	32
5/3/16	85	65	75	24	56
5/4/16	93	72	83	28	84

– Use GDD Excel tracker and GreenKeeper

- EASY!!!

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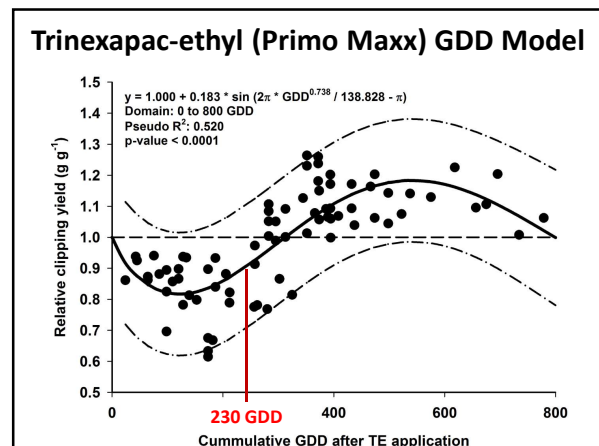
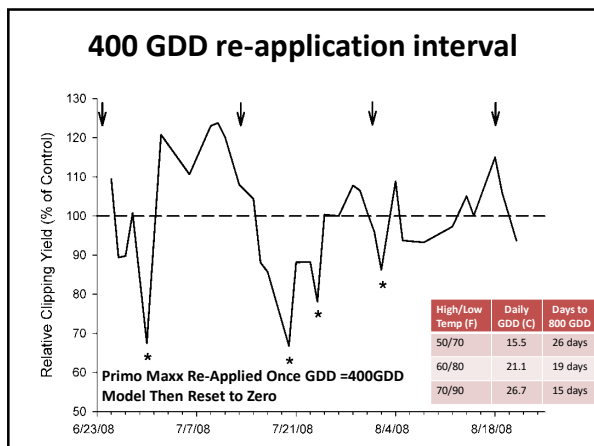
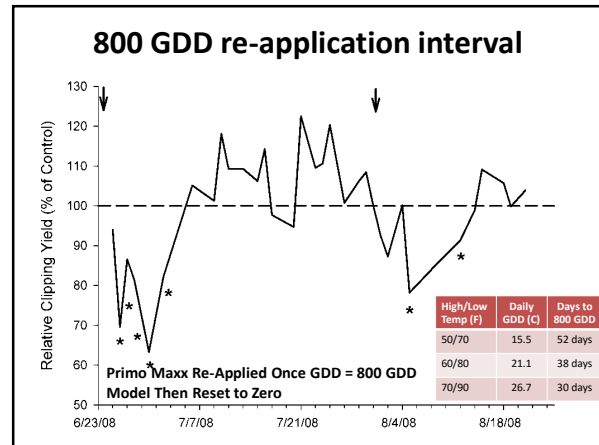
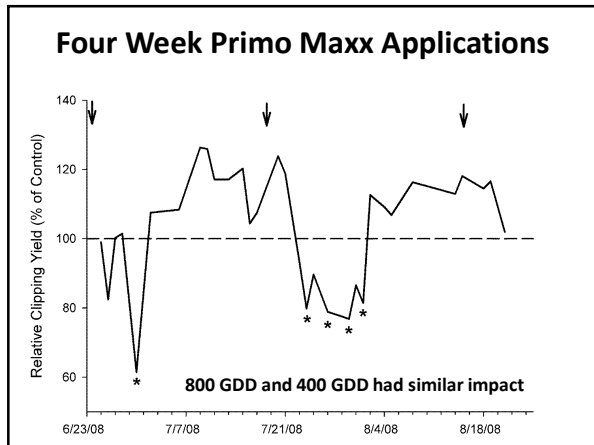
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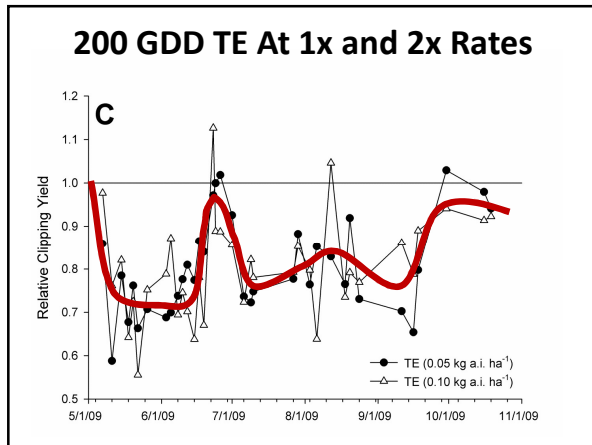
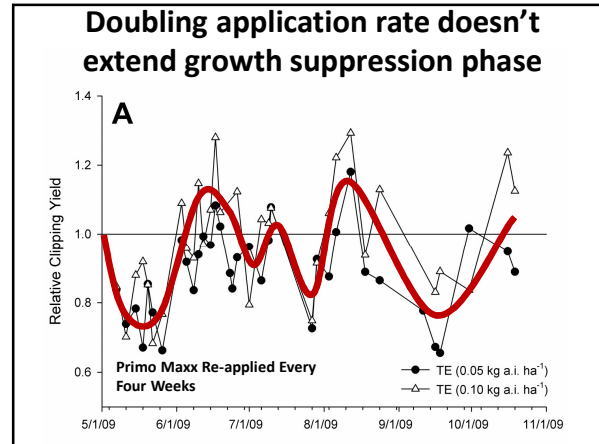
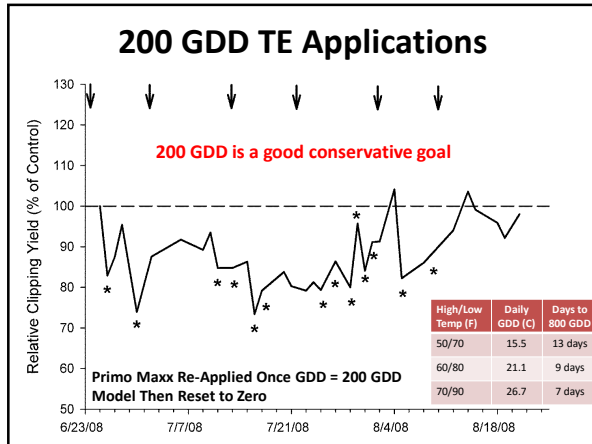
GreenKeeper Tracks GDDs for you!

www.GreenKeeperApp.com

GDD models created to determine ideal GDD re-application intervals

- Primo applied to **Creeping Bentgrass** research **Green**
- Collected clippings daily
- Re-applied Primo Maxx at various GDD intervals or every four weeks
- Observe which threshold provided consistent growth suppression





Country Club Of VA, Richmond, example

- Troy Fink, CGCS, James River Course
- A4, USGA greens, <1% Poa

- 150 GDD spray trigger: May-Sept

- 1.75 lb N/M from 20 Apr to 15 Sept
- 4.3 lb N total

- ### Country Club Of VA, Richmond, example
- Apr 20, 1st Primo application
 - 5.5 oz/A or 0.125 oz/M all season
 - Until June 17, apps needed based on 150 GDD trigger every 7 to 12 days
 - After June 17, GDD spray trigger < 7 days, so added in Cutless at 10 oz/A to maintain weekly sprays until 14-Aug, then back to Primo-only until Oct 3
 - Average GDD interval between apps: 160

Country Club Of VA, Richmond, example

Troy Fink quote:

“Regulation was the best I’ve ever had. Clippings would barely cover the bottom of the bucket to a 1-inch depth. If weather interfered with proper 150 GDD timing, an increase in clippings was always seen, but re-applying at next application would bring everything back to normal.”

University of Minnesota research supports 200 GDD interval

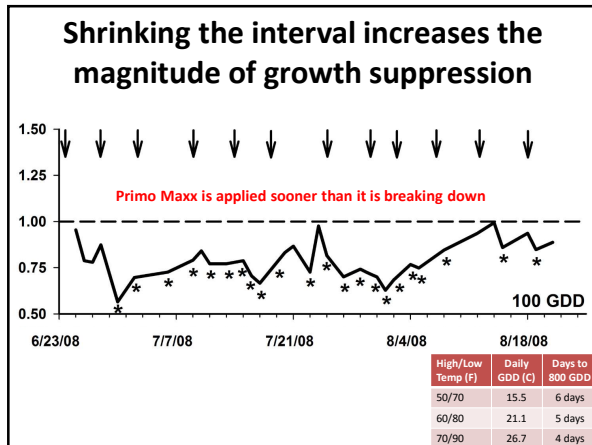
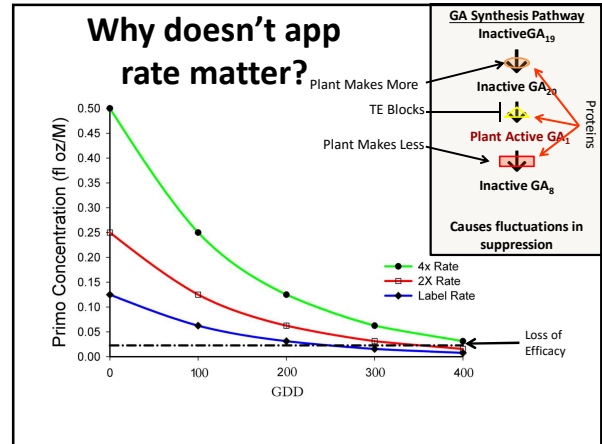
Member Driven Research
Growing Degree Day Modeling for Primo Applications on Creeping Bentgrass Putting Greens
 Dr. Brian Horgan, Sam Bauer, Matt Cavanaugh

Plant growth regulator use on golf courses has increased dramatically over the past two decades. During this time, researchers and superintendents have consistently been looking for ways to improve the application strategies for these products. Trineceptol (TE), trade name Primo Maxx, is a commonly applied gibberellic acid synthesis inhibitor which is used for growth suppression, turfgrass quality, and density improvement. Research has demonstrated that the metabolism of TE occurs at a faster rate when temperatures increase in the summer months (Bridham and Bessley, 2007). For this reason, growing-degree-day (GDD) models have been used to schedule TE applications being used by many golf course superintendents relies on applications every 200 GDD (base 0° C) which was developed by researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. These researchers did not find a difference in the magnitude or duration of suppression by increasing the application rate from 0.125 oz to 0.25 oz of Primo Maxx per 1000sq (Kremer and Soklat, 2011). This suggests that application rates may be too high. For more background on the utilization of GDD for plant growth regulator applications, see the comprehensive review by Dr. Bill Kremer from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in the April 3rd, 2015 issue of USGA Green Section Record (Kremer, 2015).

- Tested lower Primo Maxx Rates
 - 0.13, 0.094, 0.063, 0.031 fl oz/M
- 200 GDD re-application interval still required at lower rates
 - Suggest 200 "safe" interval
- Lowest rates provided less clipping yield suppression



Extension
Turfgrass Science



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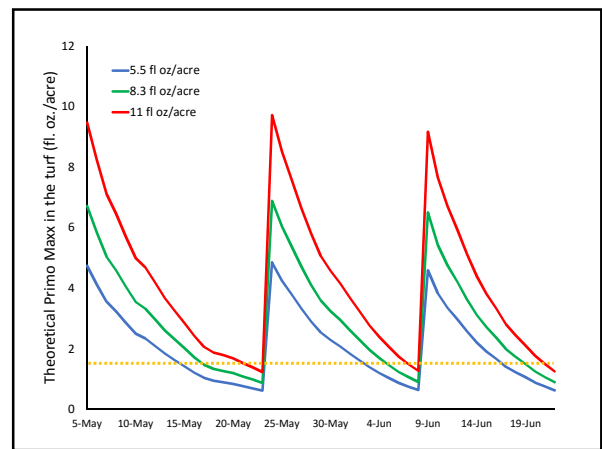
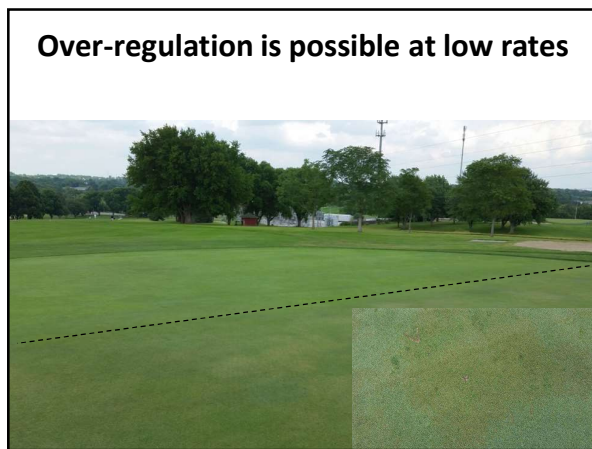
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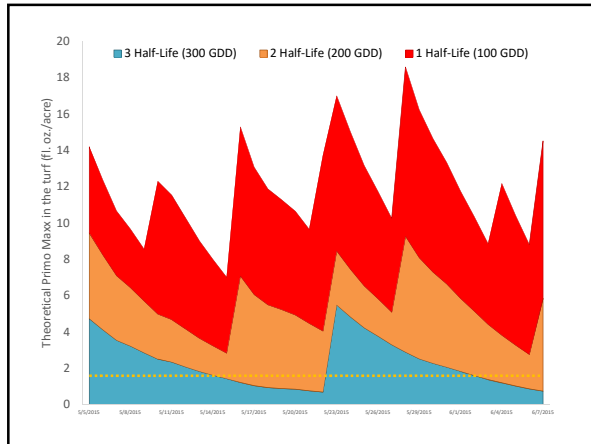
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PREPACKED PGRS ARE MORE PREDICABLE



Photo: John Kaminski

Etiolation caused by Xanthomonas reduced by TE

Impact of biostimulants and trinexapac-ethyl on etiolation (caused by *Xanthomonas translucens*) in creeping bentgrass putting green turf in Raleigh, NC during fall 2011. Values within a treatment grouping followed by the same letter do not significantly differ by Tukey's HSD test, $\alpha = 0.05$.

	Etiolation (%) ^a				AUEPC ^b
	23-Sep	27-Sep	30-Sep	13-Oct	
Biostimulant^c					
Knife Plus	24 a	25 a	13 a	10 a	219 a
CytoGro	16 a	21 a	7 a	7 a	158 a
Astron	28 a	36 a	8 a	12 a	252 a
Nitrozyme	24 a	26 a	10 a	10 a	208 a
BioMax	19 a	29 a	8 a	12 a	209 a
PerkUp	15 a	24 a	7 a	6 a	167 a
Non-treated	20 a	28 a	7 a	9 a	201 a
Trinexapac-ethyl Interval (TEI)^d					
7 d	2 b	7 b	2 b	1 b	38 b
14 d	4 b	15 b	2 b	2 b	78 b
None	56 a	60 a	22 a	25 a	489 a

J.A. Roberts et al. / Crop Protection 72 (2015) 119–126

Etiolation caused by Acidovorax increased by TE

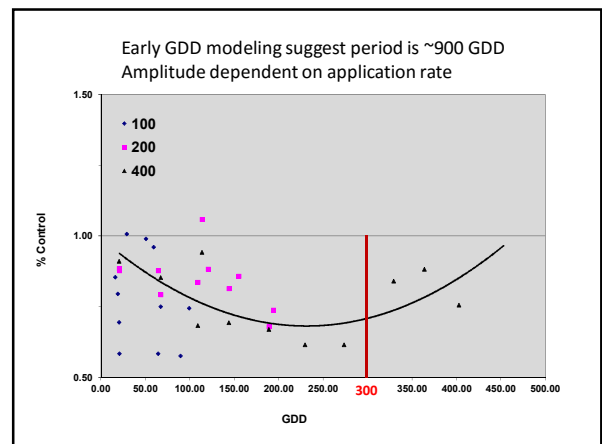
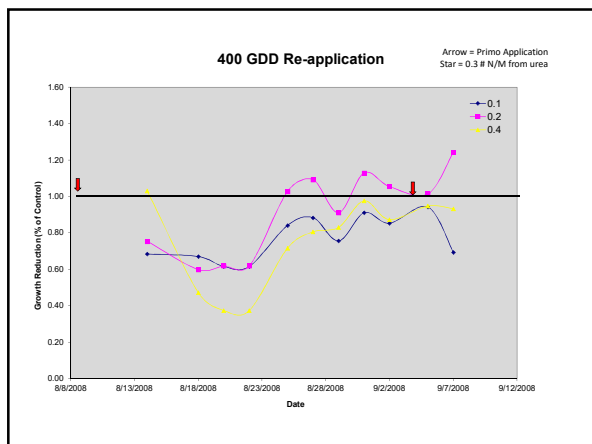
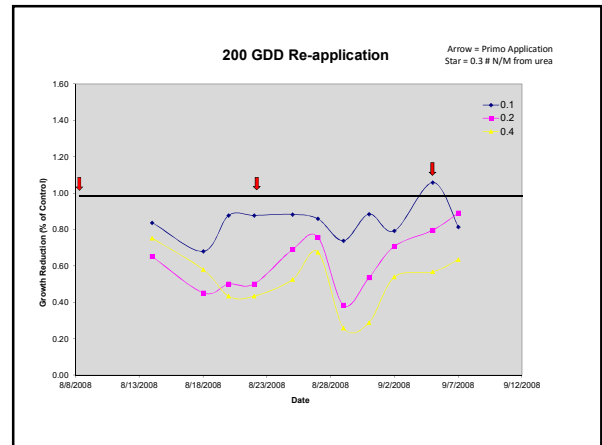
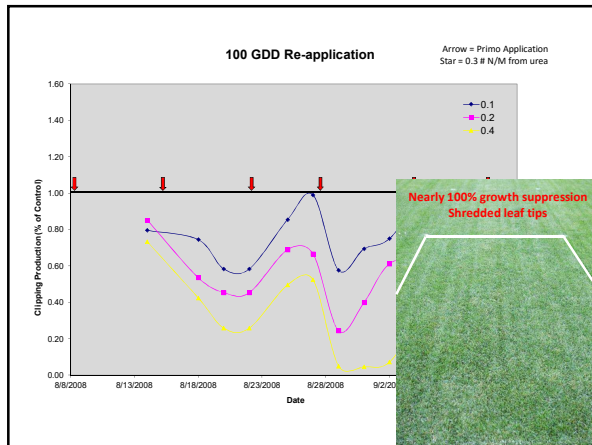
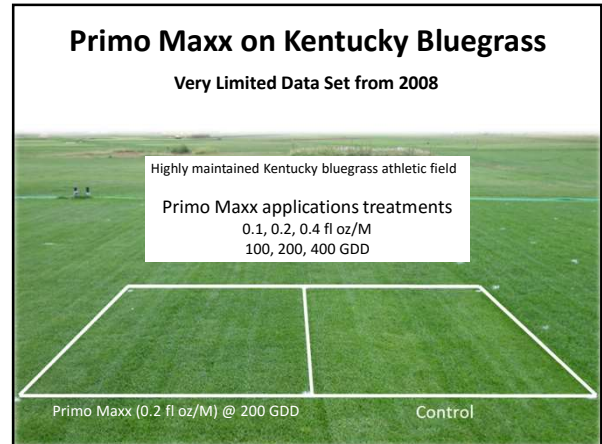
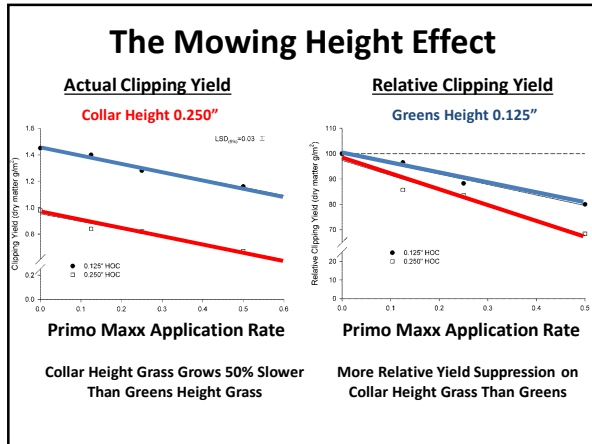
Impact of biostimulants and trinexapac-ethyl on etiolation (caused by *Acidovorax avenae*) in creeping bentgrass putting green turf in Raleigh, NC during summer 2013. Values within a treatment grouping followed by the same letter do not significantly differ by Tukey's HSD test, $\alpha = 0.05$.

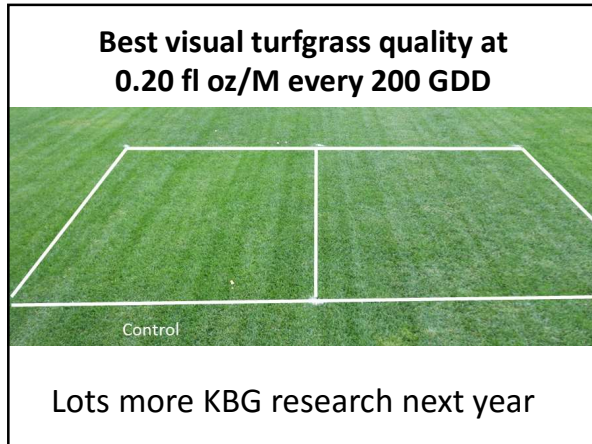
	Etiolation (%) ^a								AUEPC ^b
	10-Jun	17-Jun	24-Jun	2-Jul	8-Jul	16-Jul	21-Jul	28-Jul	
Biostimulant^c									
Knife Plus	26 a	22 a	5 a	2 a	2 a	4 a	17 a	9 a	464 ab
CytoGro	23 a	19 a	5 a	2 a	1 a	2 a	15 a	8 a	405 ab
Astron	24 a	23 a	7 a	2 a	1 a	3 a	16 a	9 a	467 ab
Nitrozyme	23 a	23 a	8 a	3 a	2 a	3 a	19 a	11 a	506 a
Non-treated	21 a	19 a	5 a	2 a	1 a	2 a	13 a	7 a	388 b
Trinexapac-ethyl Interval (TEI)^d									
7 d	43 a	36 a	12 a	3 a	2 a	4 a	39 a	19 a	849 a
14 d	16 b	22 b	4 b	2 b	1 ab	3 a	6 b	7 b	338 b
None	12 b	6 c	3 b	1 b	1 b	2 a	3 b	1 c	151 c

J.A. Roberts et al. / Crop Protection 72 (2015) 119–126

Etiolation Summary

- Unclear connection between Primo and 2 types of bacterial etiolation
 - In Roberts data, turf quality never declined
- Some bacteria make GA & this may be why Primo effects could be negated
- Many supers have gone to Primo + Cutless low rate summer combos as a stronger anti-GA combo against etiolation



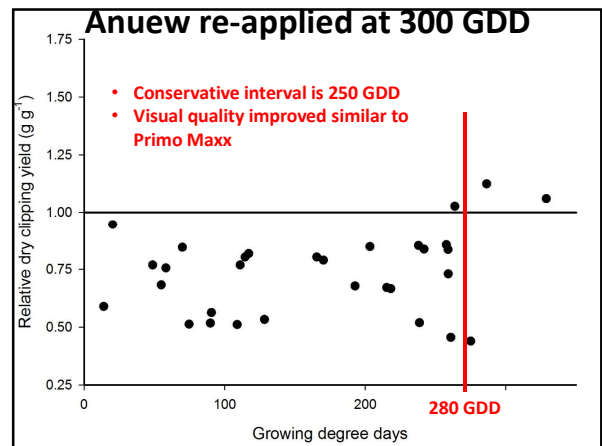
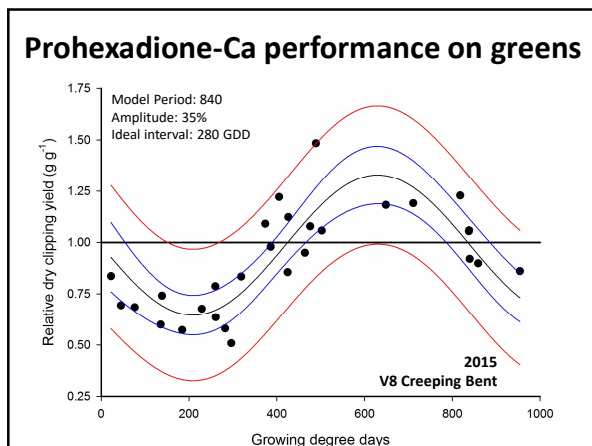
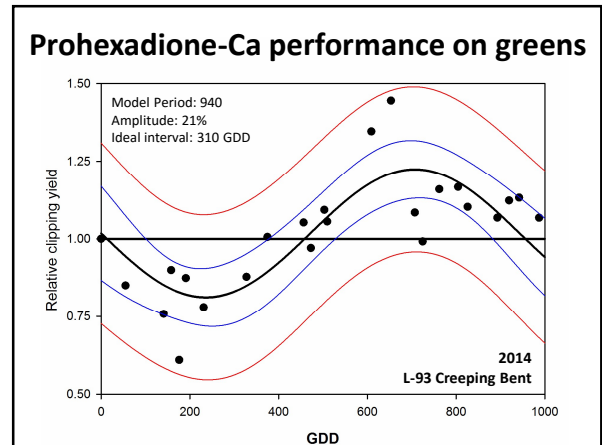


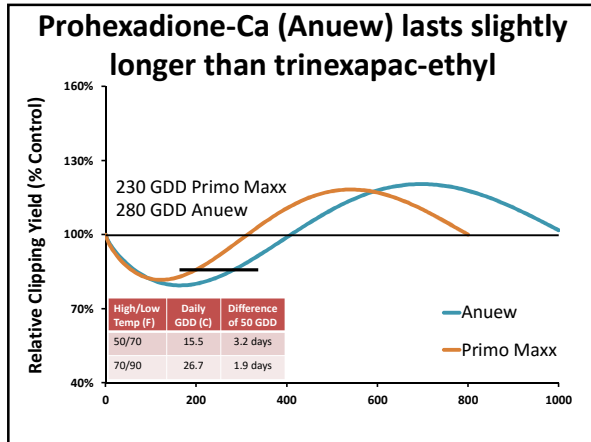
- ### Trinexapac-ethyl Summary
- Applying PGRs on calendar schedules are inefficient
 - GDDs (base 0°C) predict PGR duration
 - Bentgrass greens (200-230 GDD)
 - KBG field/fairway (300 GDD) – Greater growth suppression – **More data required!!!**
 - Application re-application interval more important than rate to sustain suppression phase
 - Higher mown turf more sensitive to PGR application

Anuew™ PGR on the block

A.I.: Prohexadione-Ca
 PGR Class: Class A – Late GA Inhibitor
 Uptake: Foliar
 Formulation: Extruded granule (dry product)
 Rate Range: 1.8 to 29.1 oz/acre (0.04 to 0.67 oz/M)
 1.8 to 7.25 oz/acre – Cool-season greens
 7.25 to 14.5 oz/acre – Warm-season greens

Registered
Not Registered





- ### Anew Summary
- Another Class A PGR
 - Similar growth suppression as trinexapac-ethyl
 - Greens
 - Bentgrass fairway turf (not shown)
 - Lasts roughly 50 GDD longer (250-280 GDD)
 - Some reports of phytotoxicity
 - Weren't observed
 - Improved turfgrass quality with frequent application

- ### Today's Road Map
- PGR Introductions
 - Modeling PGR performance with GDDs
 - Primo Maxx
 - Anew
 - Class B PGRs and their combinations
 - Why even use PGRs?
 - Wrap-up

What's the ideal interval for other PGRs?

75 votes • Final results

ent-Kaurene → ent-Kaurenoic Acid → To Other Pathways

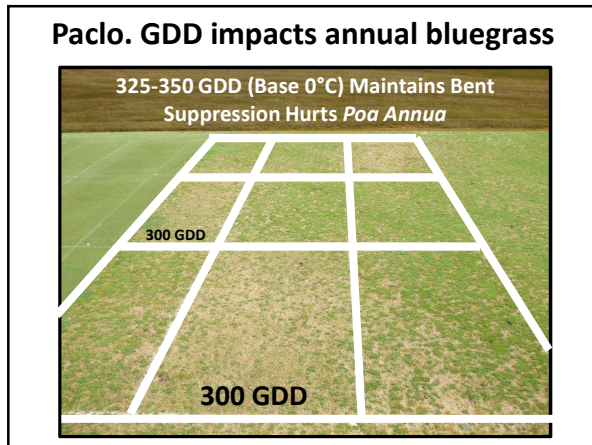
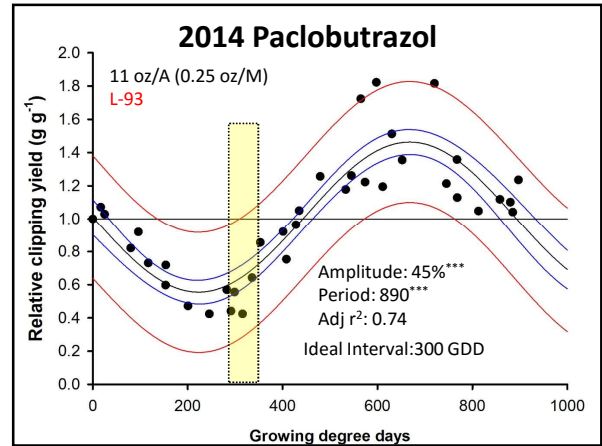
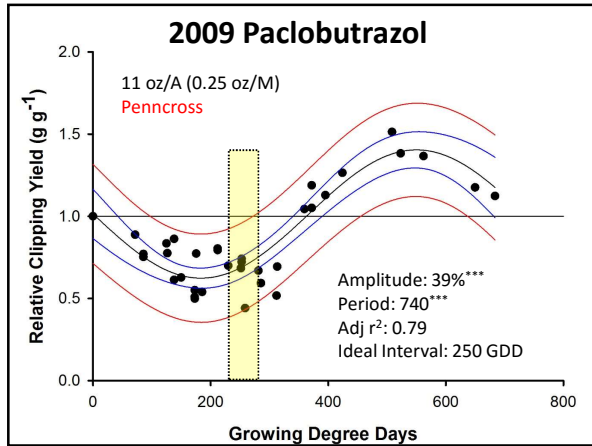
Class B PGRs → GA₁₂-aldehyde, GA₁₃, GA₁₉ → GA₂₀ → GA₃ Plant Active Form / GA₃ Plant Inactive Form

Is there a benefit to mixing A.I.?

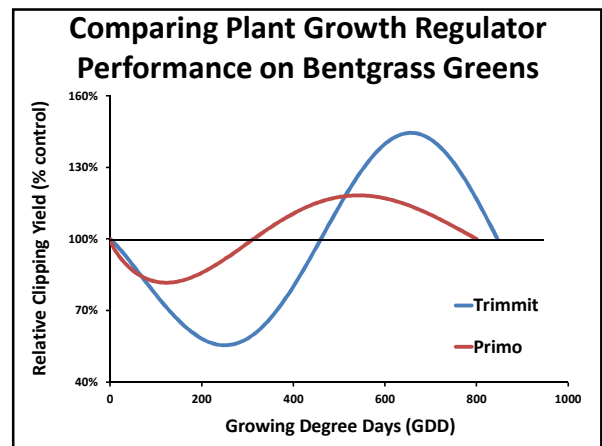
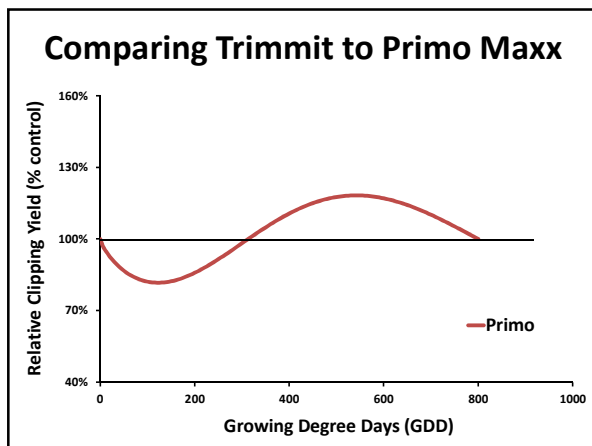
- Legacy (flurprimidol + TE)
- Musketter (paclobutrazol + flurprimidol + TE)
- DYI mixtures

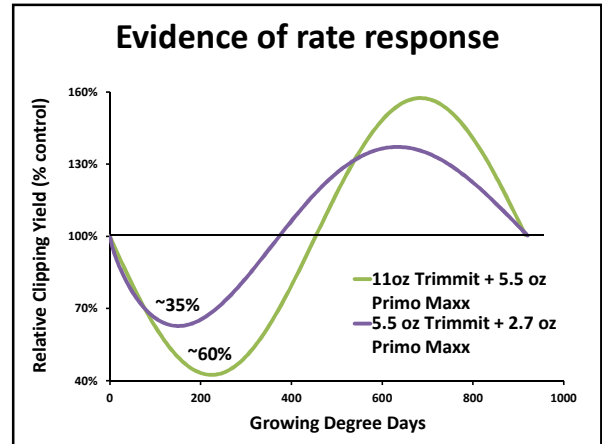
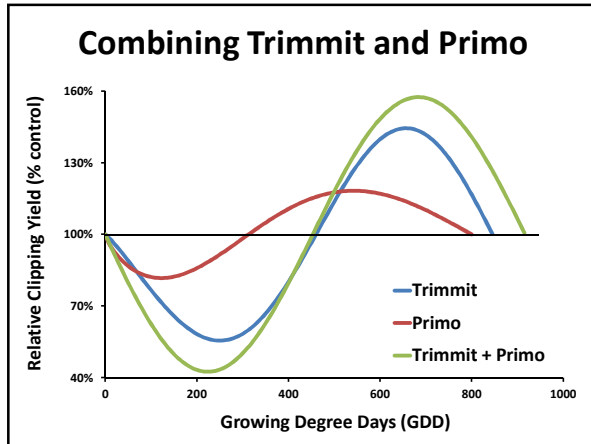
- ### Goal: Develop GDD models for all PGRs
- Questions:**
- Can root absorbed Class B PGRs be modeled?
 - Do Class B PGRs have a strong rebound?
 - Can mixing PGRs improve control?
- Objective:**
Create GDD models for Class B PGRs

- ### Methods: Locations and Treatments
- Locations:**
- 2009 – Penncross green in Madison, WI
 - 2014 – L-93 green in Mead, NE
- Treatments (3 replicates)**
- Non-treated control
 - Paclobutrazol (Trimmit 2SC)
 - 0.19 kg a.i. ha⁻¹ (11 oz acre⁻¹)
 - 1000 GDD
 - 400 GDD (2009) & 300 GDD (2014)



- ### GDDs predicted paclobutrazol performance on bentgrass greens
- GDD models highly correlated to clipping yield
 - Small year/cultivar interaction
 - 250 to 300 GDD re-application window
 - Still question about rate, species, mowing height





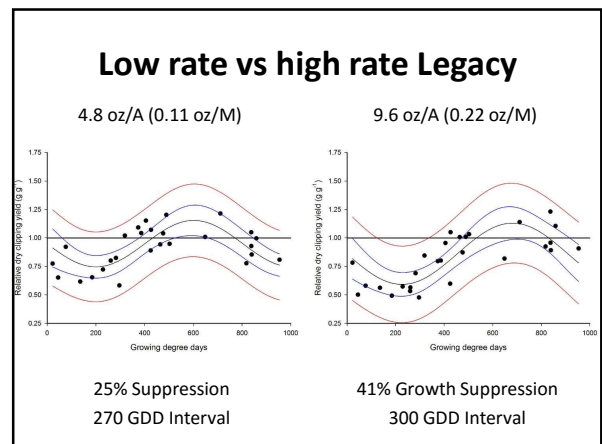
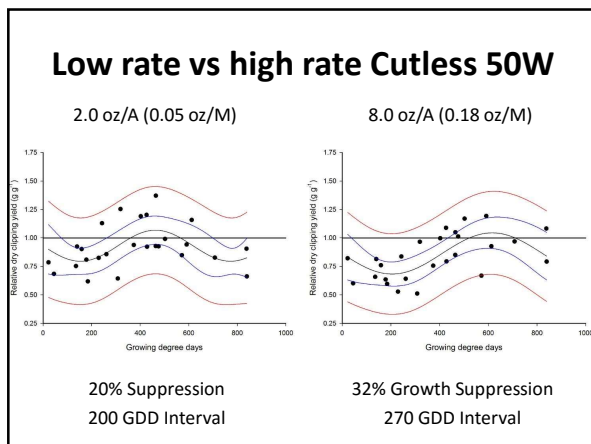
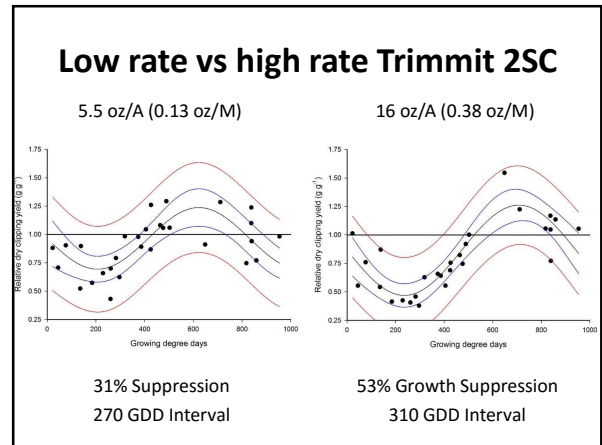
Multiple PGRs studied in 2015

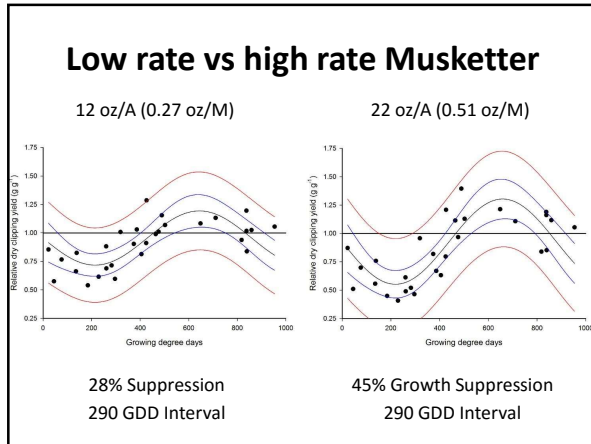
Nebraska, Texas Tech, Arkansas

- Trimmit, Cutless, Legacy, Musketeer
- Variable rates in Nebraska
 - 2 to 3 rates (lowest label to highest label)

Quick Results

Still strongly correlated
 Evidence of rate response
 Sometimes the model is not symmetrical

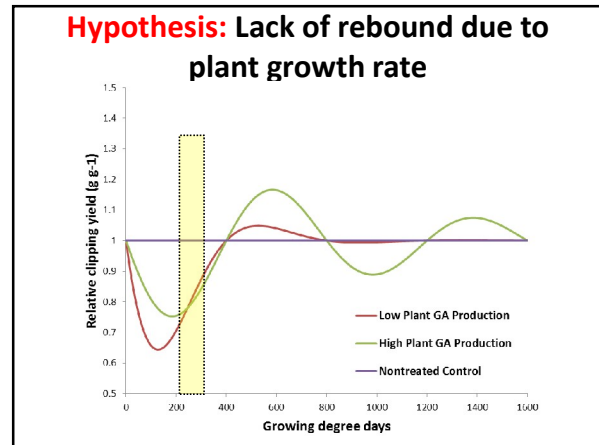
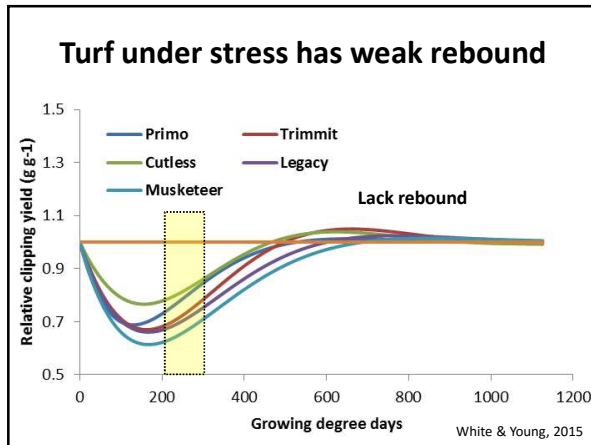




Comparing PGR Performance

Active Ingredient	Common Name	Growth Suppression	Duration of Effect	Ideal GDD
Trinexapac-ethyl	Primo Maxx	20%	800 GDD	230 GDD
Paclobutrazol	Trimmit	30-50%*	850-950 GDD*	280-310 GDD*
Flurprimidol	Cutless	20-30%*	600-800 GDD*	210-270 GDD*
Anew	Prohexadione-Ca	25%	840 GDD	280 GDD
Flurprimidol + Trinexapac-ethyl	Legacy	20-35%*	810-910 GDD*	270-300 GDD*
Flurprimidol + Paclobutrazol + Trinexapac-ethyl	Musketeer	25-40%*	880 GDD	290

* Range from low to high application rate



- ### Today's Road Map
- PGR Introductions
 - Modeling PGR performance with GDDs
 - Primo Maxx
 - Anew
 - Class B PGRs and their combinations
 - Why even use PGRs?
 - Wrap-up

- ### What's the benefit of using PGR?
- Increased color, quality and density
 - Increased water use efficiency
 - Slightly lower ET (King et al., 1997; Marcum and Jiang, 1998; Ervin and Koski, 2001)
 - Increase salinity tolerance and improved dry down (Jiang and Fry, 1998; Pesarakli et al., 2006)
 - Improved heat stress tolerance
 - More stress hormones and antioxidants (Ervin and Zhang, 2003)
 - Increase sod storage life in heat (Heckman et al., 2001 & 2002)
 - Increased non-structural carbohydrates
 - During suppression phase (Han et al., 1998 & 2004; Richie 2001; and Ervin and Zhang, 2007)

Positive Side-Effects

Morphology & Physiology

TE increases cell density and chlorophyll

Table 1: Effects of trinexapac-ethyl (TE) (0.27 kg-ha⁻¹ (a.i.) on mesophyll cells and chlorophyll concentration of Kentucky bluegrass.

Observation	Control	Treated	P	cv (%)
<i>Mesophyll cells (4 wk)</i>				
No./mm ²	550	750	0.003	22.4
Length (µm)	56	45	0.001	13.5
Width (µm)	32	30	0.160	11.7
<i>Chlorophyll content (mg g⁻¹ FW)</i>				
2 WAT - a	2.71	2.94	0.170	13.0
b	1.31	1.60	0.001	11.3
Total	4.02	4.55	0.004	8.4
4 WAT - a	2.76	2.65	0.010	3.3
b	0.62	1.10	0.033	53.3
Total	3.39	3.74	0.110	13.3

Ervin and Koski. 1998. HortSci. 33(7):1200-1202.

Primo increases Tiller

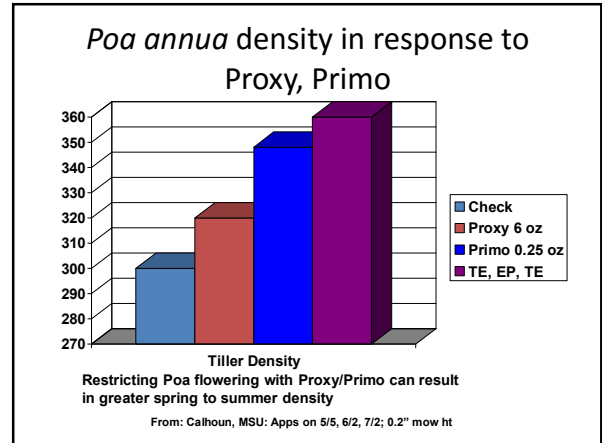
419 bermuda

Ervin, HortSci. 1998; Crop Sci. 2001; HortSci. 2001

Species	Tillers per 4 inch plug	
	Primo	No Primo
Perennial ryegrass	341	203
Kentucky bluegrass	266	233
Zoysia	338	301

untreated Primo

Class B's also increase tiller density of C3 & C4 turfgrasses



Primo: Rooting increase for C3?

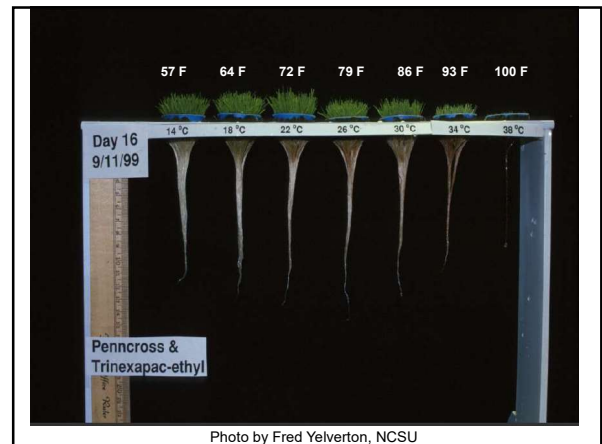
Colorado (Ervin)
 PR: no effect
 KBG: no effect

Auburn (Walker, Guertal)
 CB: no effect

Virginia Tech (Schmidt, Zhang)
 CB: no effect

Iowa State (Christians)
 CB: no effect

Kansas State (Fry, Marcum)
 PR: no effect
 TF: no effect



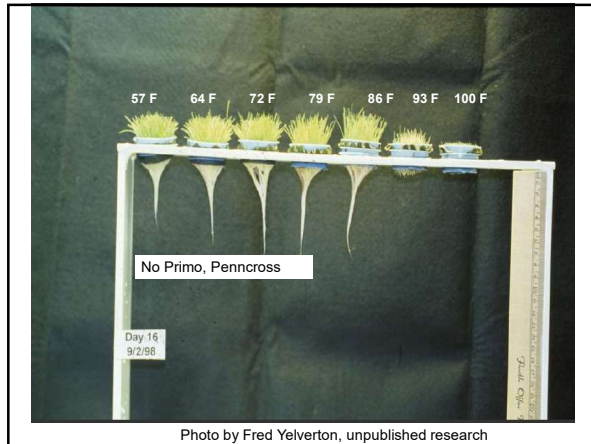


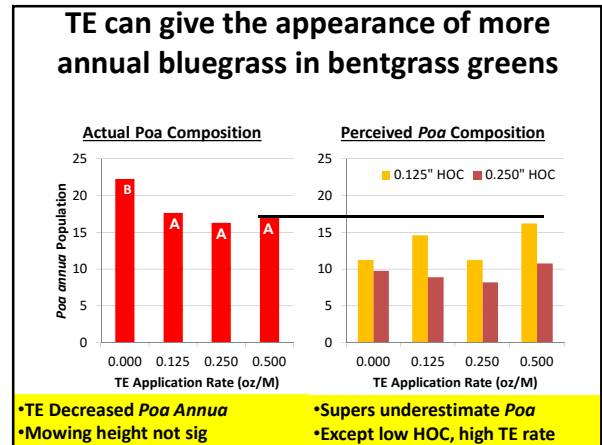
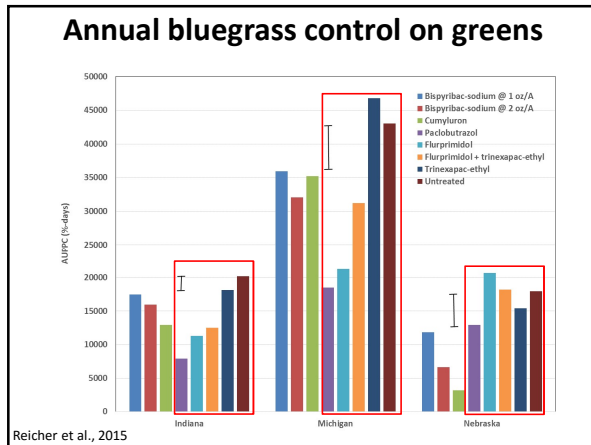
Photo by Fred Yelverton, unpublished research

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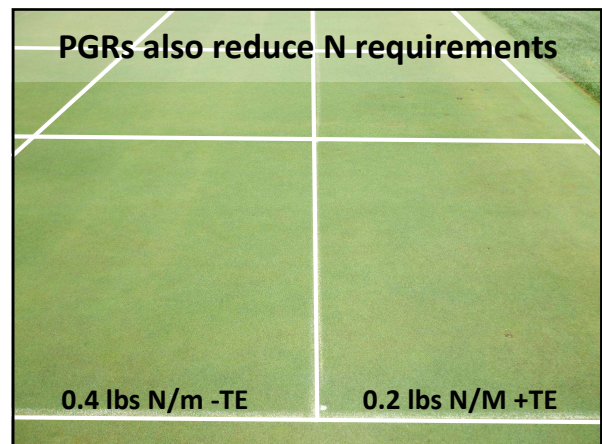
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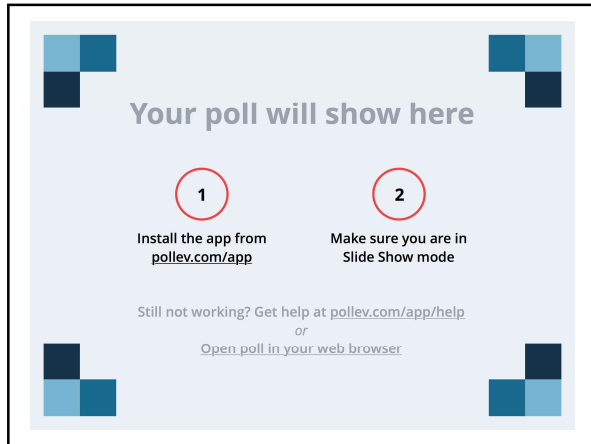
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TE Increases Visual Contrast of *Poa annua* in bentgrass

- Differences in Color Response
 - Poa = Lighter Green
 - Bent = Darker Green
- Grass Species Segregate Out
 - Less Leaf Inter-mixing



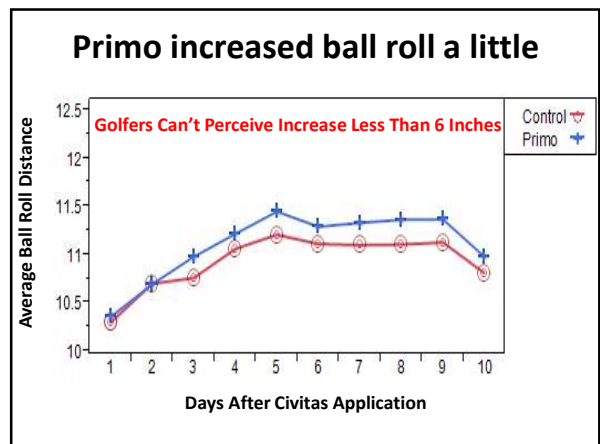
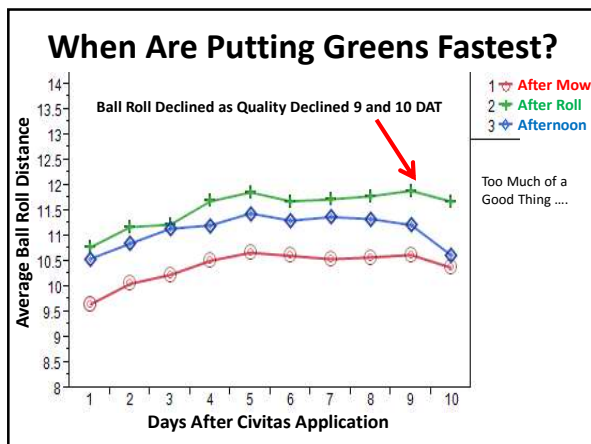
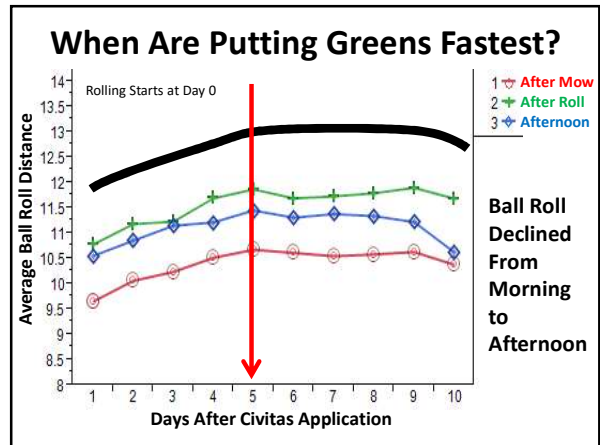


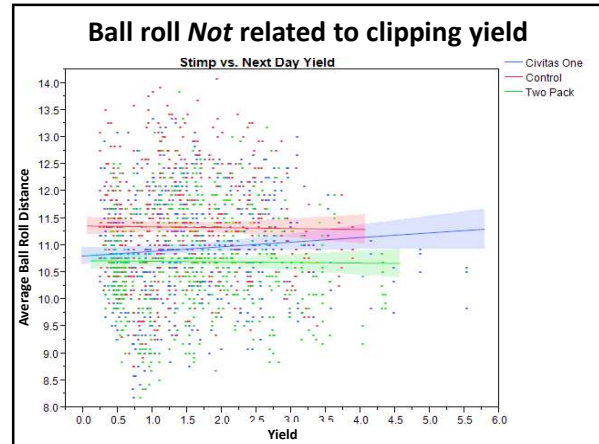
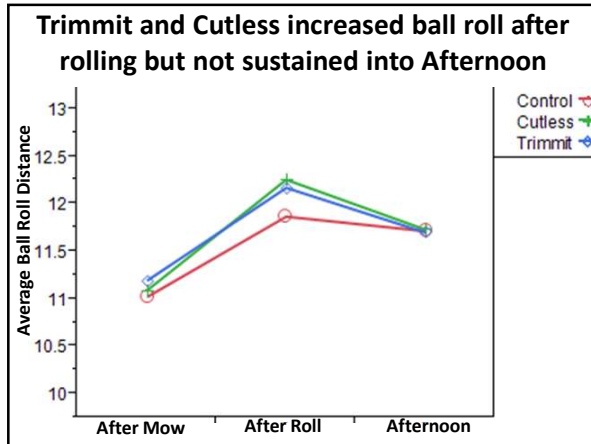
Studied PGRs Effect on Ball Roll

- **Research Questions & Objectives**
 1. When are putting greens fastest?
 1. Within a day?
 2. Over the course of 10 days?
 3. Does Clipping Yield influence Ball Roll Distance?

Details of the Experiment

- Bent/Poa Putting Green
- Treatments
 - Primo (0.125 oz/M @ 200GDD)
 - Trimit & Cutless (0.25 oz/M @ 300GDD)
- Measured
 - Clipping Yield Daily
 - Ball Roll After Mowing, After Rolling, Afternoon





- ### Ball Roll Summary.....
- Ball roll greatest 4 to 5 days after daily rolling
 - As quality declined, ball roll declines
 - PGRs had a small benefit on ball roll distance
 - Ball roll not directly related to clipping yield
 - Management Strategies:
 - Grow healthy turfgrass
 - Roll once daily prior to an event
 - Use PGRs to increase plant health despite variable effect on ball roll

- ### Today's Road Map
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 - Class B PGRs and their combinations
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 - **Wrap-up**

- ### Effective PGR Use on Cool-Season Turf
- All PGR can be modeled with GDDs
 - Calendar-based intervals inefficient
 - Rate impacts magnitude much more than duration
 - Higher mowed turf more susceptible
 - PGR benefits are real when suppression phase maintained
 - Green speed benefits are minimal
 - Download our Excel Tracker Version 2.2015
 - Watch for the launch of our GreenKeeper app

Download the newest version of our PGR Excel Tracker (version 3.0)

Date	Observed High Temperature	Observed Low Temperature	PGR Applied	Daily GDD	Cumulative GDD	Approximate Relative Yield	Required Action	Forecasted Temp High	Forecasted Temp Low
4/15/2015	75.0	60.0	No PGR Applied	19.7	19.7	93%	None		
4/16/2015	80.0	65.0	No PGR Applied	22.5	42.2	88%	None		
4/17/2015	78.0	66.0	PGR Applied Today	22.2	64.4	92%	None		
4/18/2015	74.0	61.0	No PGR Applied	19.7	84.1	88%	None		
4/19/2015	75.0	58.0	No PGR Applied	19.2	103.3	85%	None		
4/20/2015	72.0	60.0	No PGR Applied	18.9	122.2	83%	None		
4/21/2015	68.0	63.0	No PGR Applied	18.6	140.8	82%	None		
4/22/2015	80.0	60.0	No PGR Applied	21.1	161.9	82%	None		
4/23/2015	84.0	67.0	No PGR Applied	24.2	186.1	82%	None		
4/24/2015	85.0	65.0	No PGR Applied	23.9	210.0	83%	None		
4/25/2015	88.0	69.0	No PGR Applied	25.8	235.8	85%	None		
4/26/2015	90.0	71.0	No PGR Applied	26.9	262.7	88%	Re-apply PGR		
4/27/2015	94.0	73.0	PGR Applied Today	28.6	291.3	91%	None		
4/28/2015			No PGR Applied			100%	None		
4/29/2015			No PGR Applied			100%	None		

Available at turf.unl.edu under "Tools and Links"

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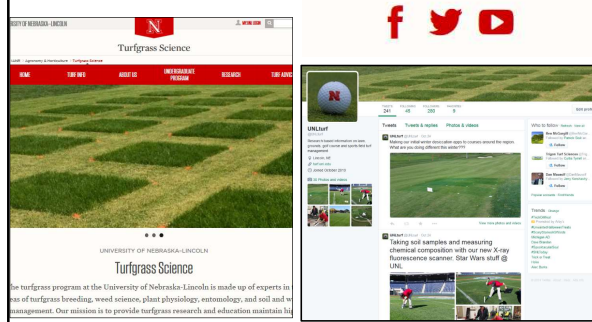
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The image shows a screenshot of the Turfgrass Science website on the left and a social media post from UNLTurf on the right. The website features a green and white checkered pattern and the text 'TURFGRASS SCIENCE' and 'UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN'. The social media post includes a video thumbnail and the text 'Taking soil samples and measuring chemical composition with our new X-ray fluorescence scanner: Star Wars stuff @ UNL'.

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wkreuser2@unl.edu
<http://turf.unl.edu/>



The image features the 'Hawkeyes' logo of the University of Nebraska, which consists of a large red 'N' with the word 'Hawkeyes' written in a stylized font across it.