

Summary of Research on Selective *Poa trivialis* Control

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Objective

To find a selective control for *Poa trivialis* in creeping bentgrass and Kentucky bluegrass.

Rationale

Poa trivialis has become a widespread weed in creeping bentgrass fairways, and Kentucky bluegrass lawns and athletic fields across Indiana and the Midwest. There are no selective pesticides that will control *Poa trivialis* currently available, nor do cultural controls provide satisfactory results. We have been working with various products over the years in an attempt to identify commercially available herbicides that may have the potential to control *Poa trivialis*.

What we know so far

- Following are products that we have tested in the past that do not work and/or are not safe to creeping bentgrass or Kentucky bluegrass:

Acclaim Extra	Turflon Ester 4L	TranXit	Finale
Prograss	Sentinel 40WG	Velocity	
Drive	Primo	MSMA	
- Monsanto has recently labeled sulfosulfuron as Certainty, formerly known as Batallion or MON 44951
- October and November applications of MON 44951 cause significant phytotoxicity to fairway height creeping bentgrass and lawn height Kentucky bluegrass. The phytotoxicity on Kentucky bluegrass is relatively short-lived, but long-term damage occurs on creeping bentgrass.
- MON 44951 has the potential for selective bentgrass control when applied in October.
- MON 44951 has few agronomically significant effects on *Poa annua*.
- For control of *Poa trivialis*, up to 3 applications of MON 44951 should be applied at 2 to 4 week intervals at rates from 0.25 oz/A to 0.50 oz/A. Applications should begin in June.
- Depending on response of *Poa trivialis* and desired turf, rate and timing of sequential applications should be adjusted.
- We suspect differential tolerances to MON 44951 in both *Poa trivialis* cultivars as well as creeping bentgrass cultivars. Not all areas on a golf course or athletic field will respond identically.
- Stressful conditions for *Poa trivialis* (hot and humid or hot and dry) will increase efficacy.
- Reseeding limitations with creeping bentgrass:
 - Seeding 3 weeks after application of MON 44951 at 0.20 oz/A is safe
 - Do not apply within 3 weeks after emergence of creeping bentgrass
- Reseeding limitations on Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass:
 - No field studies have been completed, but greenhouse studies indicate similar tolerances as creeping bentgrass.