

Soil and Water Science Department Seminar

Speaker: Tracey Wasylik
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Title: Effect of Nitrogen Release Rates on St. Augustinegrass Performance throughout the Year with Emphasis on a No-Fertilization Summer Blackout Period



Date: Monday, June 1st

Time: 3:15 pm

Location: McCarty Hall A Room G186

The purpose of this study is to compare the effect of reduced Nitrogen rates of Polymer Coated Urea (PCU) products on a mature stand of 'Floritam' St. Augustinegrass (*Stenotaphrum secundatum* [Walt.] Kuntze). Two separate trials were initiated for this study consisting of 4 treatments, PCU 44.5, PCU 43, PCU 42, PCU 41, and untreated control. Trial 1 evaluated 49 kg/ha-1 rates applied 4 times for a total of 196 kg/ha-1. Trial 2 examined a single 98 kg/ha-1 rate prior the summer blackout period and 49 kg/ha-1 subsequently for a total of 147 kg/ha-1. Both trials looked at N longevity through the blackout period. PCU 42 and PCU 43 performed more consistently throughout the blackout period as compared to PCU 41 and PCU 44.5. During the blackout period, Trial 2 had visual results that were consistent with Trial 1, however clipping yields were relatively higher. The PCU's releases were consistent with manufacturer's reported rates. Greater N uptake from slow/controlled-release products suggests a positive environmental benefit.

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