

IDM Golf

especialistas en greenkeeping



Centro Nacional de Golf: RFEG

**Visit Report: JM Vargas Jr.
(Turfgass Consultant)**

September 9, 2008

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1. REMOVING ORGANIC MATTER

The Graden has been used on the greens, tees and fairways to remove the organic matter. The left by the Graden have been backed filled with sand. It has resulted in the firming up of these areas. One advantage the Graden has over conventional hollow tine aerification is it removes more organic matter. The Graden removes about 20 % of the organic matter in a green compared to 5 % with 6mm tine on 5 cm spacing.



Because you are removing such large amounts of organic matter with the Graden the cultural maintenance program on the green can be changed. The cultural program for the greens should be changed from hollow tine aerifying 4 times a year to Graden once in the mid spring and once in the late summer. Solid tinning in late spring and mid summer can replace hollow tine since you are removing so much organic matter with the Graden.



The Graden will remove sufficient organic matter and the solid tinning will help relieve compaction and allow for carbon dioxide to escape from the root zone and oxygen to enter the root zone for better root growth. This same program will also work well for the tees and fairways.



2. UNIFORMITY OF THE FAIRWAYS

The use of the Graden on the fairways and back filling with sand has firmed up the fairways. However, the most impressive thing about the fairways is the uniformity of the surface. The fairways at Spanish Golf Federation Course are a mixture of perennial ryegrass, *Poa annua*, and *Poa trivialis* all of which have different vertical growth rates. This resulted in an uneven surface on the fairways with the perennial ryegrass having a faster vertical growth rate than the *Poa annua* and the *Poa trivialis*. This resulted in a very uneven fairway surface from which to hit a shot. Through the use of the plant growth regulator paclobutazole you have been able to provide a uniform playing surface which is also aesthetically beautiful.



3. POA ANNUA IN GREENS

The greens are still predominately creeping bentgrass. To try and keep them predominantly creeping bentgrass for as long as possible they should be put on a plant growth regulating program using paclobutazole. Paclobutazole differentially suppresses *Poa annua* more than creeping bentgrass allowing the creeping bentgrass to gain a competitive advantage. The *Poa annua* seedlings will be emerging shortly with the arrival of the cooler weather.

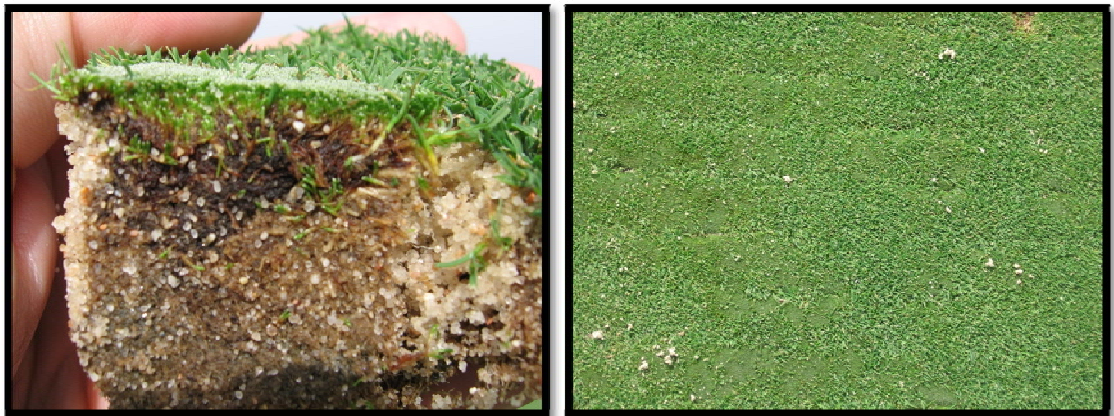
Paclobutazole is especially suppressive on new *Poa annua* seedlings and often kills them as they are emerging. The small patches of *Poa annua* on the greens has a lot of creeping bentgrass mixed in with it. So by selectively suppressing the *Poa annua* with paclobutazole, it should allow the creeping bentgrass to crowd out the *Poa annua*.

4. INTERSEEDING PENN A-4

Paclobutazole will also suppress young creeping bentgrass seedlings. So you should delay starting the program until one month after the interseeding program with Penn A-4. The paclobutazole should be applied to the greens at a 0.6 liters per ha rate on a bi-weekly basis until the warm weather of the summer arrives.

5. Moss

Number 16 green has moss in it which should be killed with Mogeton. Moss may also be appearing on other greens with the arrival of the cooler weather and the rainy season. It should be killed immediately as moss can spread very rapidly.



Mogeton is an excellent product for the control of moss. It is the best product I have ever seen, but even it still takes about 3 years to totally eradicate moss from a green. It appears that moss control products mainly kill the tops of the moss plant but not the rhizoids. These rhizoids then produce new plants that have to be treated until the moss finally runs out of energy.

6. CHEMICAL AND FERTILITY PROGRAMS

Your fertilizer and fungicide programs are working very well and do not need any adjustment.

7. PRACTICE RANGE

You did a great job of applying drainage to the practice range. As you know every winter the bermudagrass dies in the low areas from the accumulation of water. The drainage system you put in should prevent the bermudagrass from dying this winter.

8. FOLLOW UP

I recommend a follow up visit to be performed in spring, in order to review the course after the cold winter and prior to entering the stress period of the summer.

9. VISIT DETAILS

Date	September 9, 2008
Attendees	Real Federación Española de Golf ▪ Mr. David Gómez (Head Greenkeeper) ▪ Mr. Julián Zulueta (Manager) IDM Golf ▪ Dr. Joseph Vargas ▪ Félix Melgar (Technical Director) ▪ Daniel Basco (Project Coordinator)

Dr. JM Vargas Jr.:

Signature
