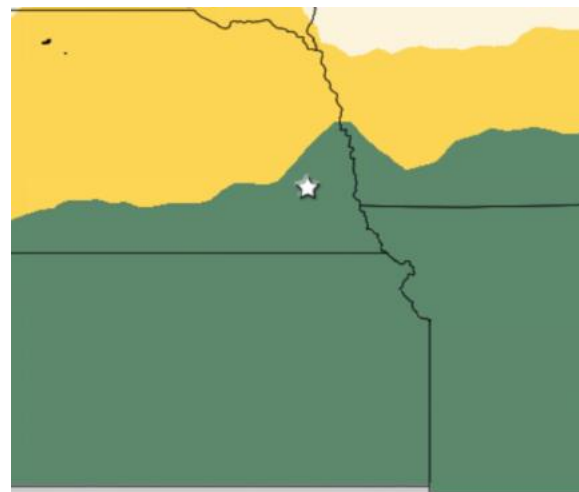


Crabgrass has emerged in Lincoln April 24, 2017

Crabgrass emerged in bare spots and along sidewalks last week in Lincoln, especially in areas with southern exposure (Figure 1). Soil temperatures in these areas are similar to those collected under bare soil, warmer than in a dense lawn, and lead to earlier crabgrass emergence. For this reason, there may still be time to use a preemergence herbicide (PRE) to control crabgrass this year if you act quickly. Alternatively, you can use dithiopyr, which controls crabgrass both pre- and postemergence (up to one tiller).

The Michigan State growing degree-day (GDD) tracker website (Figure 1; www.gddtracker.net) we've discussed in previous *Turf iNfos* very accurately predicted crabgrass emergence in Lincoln this year. The crabgrass germination model uses a warmer base temperature (50°F) than the crabgrass PRE timing model (32°F), which was a bit premature recommending PRE for our region this year.

Remember, if you have dense turf and mow as high as is practical, a preemergence herbicide may not be necessary. Simply control the few crabgrass plants that emerge in thinner areas by hand weeding or by spot treating with a postemergence herbicide.



251 (Base 50) through Thu, Apr. 20, 2017

Lincoln, NE 68505

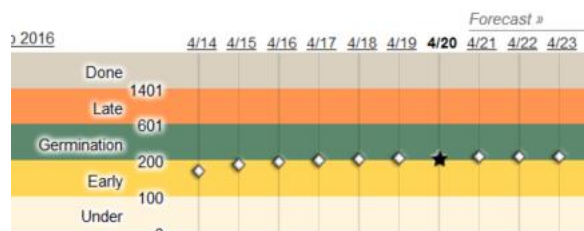


Figure 1. Crabgrass seedling (*top*) and the Michigan State University growing degree-day model for crabgrass germination available at gddtracker.net (*bottom*).

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