

**Late season crabgrass or goosegrass control**

August 11, 2014

Though crabgrass and goosegrass are nearing the end of its life cycle, it is still highly visible and may require control in some cases. Regardless of the type of turf area, larger crabgrass or goosegrass is tougher to control than younger plants, and thus requires higher rates increasing risk of damage to desired turf. In most cases, it makes sense to just wait for the cooler temperatures to kill these weeds. If you must attempt control now, here are some suggestions:

**Lawns and sports turf:**

Drive and other quinclorac-containing products will control larger crabgrass as long as the appropriate spray adjuvant is include (usually methylated seed oil [MSO] and multiple applications are used. Tenacity, Acclaim (fenoxaprop), NuFarm's latest herbicide Last Call (fenoxaprop + fluroxypyr), or BASF's Pylex will control crabgrass. Be sure to check the label for specific species, rates, and precautions (including overseeding limits).

**Greens:**

There are no products labelled for crabgrass or goosegrass control in greens and spring PRE applications of dithiopyr or bensulide are the only practical options. However, the winter damage in greens prevented many from applying the PRE's and thus courses may now have crabgrass problems in greens where none previously existed. Though I have seen or heard of some superintendents experimenting with a wide range of postemergence products, there are very few instances of acceptable control. Cutting crabgrass or goosegrass out with knives is the only viable option currently.

**Fairways and roughs:**

Drive and other quinclorac-containing products will still control larger crabgrass, but will again require inclusion of the MSO adjuvant and multiple applications. Tenacity will also control crabgrass, Acclaim, Last Call, or Pylex will control both crabgrass and goosegrass. We have also shown that Speedzone will control goosegrass (<http://turf.unl.edu/extpresentationspdf/NE%20Turf%20conference%20goosegrass1.pdf>) . Be sure to check the all labels for specific species, rates and precautions.

**Zac Reicher, Professor of Turfgrass Science, [zreicher2@unl.edu](mailto:zreicher2@unl.edu)**



***Late-season crabgrass control is difficult in any turf area because of the size of the plants, but is even more difficult on greens where no POST herbicides are labelled.***