UCRTRAC Accumulative Research Summary Section C: Unbiased Product Testing (fertilizers, pesticides, equipment, etc.) Project 12

Title: 1998 Agrium Slow-Release Nitrogen Product Trial on Bonsai Tall Fescue.

Objective: To evaluate the nitrogen performance and release, in terms of visual turfgrass color ratings and clipping yields, of seven nitrogen fertilizers applied only once at either 1.0 or 3.0 lb N/1000 ft². The fertilizers that were evaluated included three Agrium experimental slow-release N products, Urea, Trikote, Nutralene, and Polyon.

Location: a mature plot of Bonsai tall fescue located at the UCR Turfgrass Field Research Facility.

Duration: 16 weeks (application date = June 24, 1998)

Funding Source: Agrium, Inc.

Findings:

- Visual turfgrass color ratings were only significantly different among fertilizers for 8 to 9 weeks following application for both the 1.0 and 3.0 lb N rate. At 8 weeks following application, the results for the 1.0 lb N treatment were Nutralene < all other fertilizers (the later group had a similar rating), and the results for the 3.0 lb N treatment were Nutralene and Urea < all other fertilizers (the later group had a similar rating).
- For the initial 9 weeks, the average visual turfgrass color rating for all fertilizers applied at the 1.0 and 3.0 lb N rate was 5.6 and 6.2, respectively (1 to 9 scale with 9 = best tall fescue color).
- During the entire study, the average accumulative clipping yield for all fertilizers applied at the 1.0 and 3.0 lb N rate was 49.0 and 71.0 g/7.44 ft² for seven collection dates, respectively.

Status: A 16-week study was completed and a Final Report was prepared. It should be noted that these data are preliminary and additional evaluations should be conducted.