

**MINNESOTA TURF SEED GROWERS NEWSLETTER**  
**June 15, 2010**

**RYEGRASS GROWING DEGREE DAYS (GDD)**

Ryegrass GDD will be tracked for the 2010 growing season with comparisons to the last four years. A base temp of 32 degrees F will be used for ryegrass (T-Base = 32 F). The GDD information presented in Table 1 is March to June in 2006 - 2009 and March, April, May and June 1 - 13 in 2010.

Table 1. Growing degree days (GDD) for March - June in 2006 - 2009 and March, April, May and June 1-13 in 2010 at Roseau MN.

<b>Year</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2010 vs. 09</b>
March	137	30	6	90	53	+107
April	476	247	202	322	529	+229
May	707	515	501	746	730	+192
June		860	870	990	943	
June 1-13	363					
Total	1,683	1,652	1,579	2,148	2,255	

Last week we accumulated an average of 25.6 GDD/day. The cloudy, wet weather the last few weeks have helped to moderate the growth and development of ryegrass. For the most part, area ryegrass fields look excellent!

**GENERAL CROP CONDITION**

Ryegrass

Area ryegrass fields are beginning to shed pollen. Ryegrass typically sheds pollen in mid-morning and pollen can be observed moving across ryegrass fields.

Bluegrass

Recent rains have caused bluegrass fields to lodge. This usually is a sign of good seed set.

**PEST MANAGEMENT**

Ryegrass

The USDA-ARS tracks rust development and movement from the Gulf of Mexico to the northern plain states. As of the second week of June, leaf rust was observed in winter wheat in southern Minnesota (Lamberton) and crown rust in oats (St. Paul). Rust spores are blown into the area on southerly winds and rust spores deposited on plant tissue. In the last few weeks, rust has been moving steadily north. Field scouting will be critical in the next few weeks to document the incidence and severity of rust in area crops. For additional information see the link below for The Cereal Rust Bulletin. The link to this site:

[\(http://www.ars.usda.gov/mwa/cdl/\)](http://www.ars.usda.gov/mwa/cdl/)

**CROP MANAGEMENT**

Ryegrass

With ryegrass heading and shedding pollen a common questions asked, is to too late to apply Apogee? The data in Table 2 is from a trial conducted at the Magnusson research farm in 2009. Apogee was applied to headed ryegrass that was up to 16 inches tall.

Table 2. Fungicides and Growth Regulator Applied to 'Arctic Green' Perennial Ryegrass (Magnusson Research Farm) in 2009.

<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Rate (oz/A)</b>	<b>Calendar Date</b>	<b>Seed Yield (#/A)</b>
Quilt	10	7/7	1207
Quilt/Quilt	8+8	6/25&7/13	1133
Apogee/Quilt	6+10	6/24/7/7	1584
Apogee/Absolute	6+6	6/24/7/7	1234
Apogee/Folicur	6+5	6/24/7/7	1308
Apogee/Headline/Tilt	6/4/3	6/24/6/25/7/13	1180
Untreated			1109
Apogee+Folicur	6+5	6/24	1231
Apogee+Tilt	6+10	6/24	1332
Apogee	6	6/24	1433
Apogee+Quilt/Tilt	6/8/3	6/24/6/25/7/13	1451
LSD (5%)			361

Ryegrass was 12 to 16 inches tall and was in the early heading stage at the June 24<sup>th</sup> application date. Ryegrass was fully headed and shedding pollen on the July 7 and 13<sup>th</sup> application dates. The first six treatments are sequential applications of various combinations of fungicides and Apogee. The last four treatments are Apogee alone and tankmixes.

Observations from this trial:

- Limited rust pressure at this site
- Average seed yield from all Apogee treatments = 1344 pounds/acre
- Average seed yield from fungicide only treatments = 1171/pounds/acre
- The average seed yield from all Apogee treatments 1344 compared to the untreated 1109 (235#/acre)

Grass Seed Research Results are now available on the web. Research reports from 1967 to the present are available at the web address below.

[http://www.mnturfseed.org/html/progress\\_reports.html](http://www.mnturfseed.org/html/progress_reports.html)

### **SUMMER GRASS SEED FIELD TOUR**

The annual grass seed field tour has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 23. Field tour will begin at 5:00 pm at the Magnusson Research Farm. Directions to the Magnusson Research Farm from the intersection of Hwy 11 and 89 travel approximately 2 miles north on Hwy 310, turn left (west) off Hwy 310 onto Roseau County 16 and travel for approximately 3 miles. The farm is located on the north side of Hwy 16. Bluegrass, ryegrass and fescue variety trials will be included at this stop. In addition, weed control research in bluegrass and ryegrass, fertility rate and timing in ryegrass, ryegrass date of planting, ryegrass growth regulators and fungicides and other research will be included on this tour.

The next edition of this newsletter will be released on June 22, 2010.