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POSTERITY: A Game Changer for Dollar Spot Control

For many years, Bristol, Ind.'s Elcona Country Club encountered a variety of challenges with dollar spot because of its older Penncross bentgrass fairways. September and October have been particularly difficult, as the club's budgeted applications typically have been used up by then.

Recently, Ryan Cummings, Elcona's superintendent since 2014, heard about the success of Posterity fungicide in research trials, particularly for controlling dollar spot. Those rumors were verified by Troy Rippy, a Syngenta territory manager, along with Luke Baker of Turf Ventures. Both described Posterity as a



“game changer” for late-season dollar spot suppression.

After hearing this, Cummings decided to try the SDHI fungicide and witness the results firsthand. In preparation for northern Indiana's early-fall dollar spot season, he applied 7 fl. oz. per acre of Posterity on his fairways



The 16th fairway at Elcona Country Club.

and tees on Sept. 5, shortly after Labor Day. At the time, he wanted to determine the product's effects and expose it to the wide range of weather conditions in September and October.

“I thought I'd be making a second application to keep our bentgrass surfaces clean for the remainder of the season,” Cummings says. “But I was proven wrong.”

In fact, the conditioning of Elcona's tees and fairways was better than it had been in years. No additional preventive application was required to control dollar spot the rest of the season.

“I was simply amazed at the longevity and performance of Posterity,” he states. “It allowed us to meet and exceed our membership's expectations for playability and aesthetics throughout a busy fall season.”

The overall performance of Posterity was so positive—and the tees' and fairways' turf health were so apparent and long-lasting—that Cummings was able to eliminate two additional fungicide applications and reallocate those resources toward other aspects of Elcona's operation.

“Going forward, Posterity will be our go-to plant protectant for prime, late-season playing conditions,” he stresses.

Although Cummings chose to apply Posterity at 7 fl. oz. per acre, superintendents can apply it at various rates (7 to 14 fl. oz. per acre) and intervals (14 to 28 days). For broader-spectrum disease control, superintendents can rotate or tank-mix it with a contact fungicide like Secure Action, which Cummings uses to enhance turf recovery and combat anthracnose, brown patch and dollar spot.

Much like Posterity, Secure Action—along with Acelepryn insecticide and Velista fungicide—has ensured that Elcona Country Club members' demands for playing conditions, fungicide performance, disease control and protection, and turf recovery consistently are exceeded.

“Syngenta continues to add new tools to my toolbox,” Cummings adds. “I'm looking forward to its future innovations.”

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