



Photos by E. Guertal

Adding Inorganic Amendments to a Poorly Performing Green

*Elizabeth Guertal, Ph.D.,
Auburn University
(guertea@auburn.edu)
and Clint Waltz, Ph.D.,
University of Georgia*

Objective

Examine the impact of common inorganic soil amendments on bermudagrass putting green performance when amendments used as part of a drill-and-fill greens renovation project.

Summary

The incorporation of inorganic soil amendments in aerification holes created in a poorly performing putting green has been suggested as means to improve the performance of the green with rebuilding. Little research has been conducted to examine the use of inorganic soil amendments in this manner.

A poorly performing push-up Tifdwarf bermudagrass green was used for the three year experiment. Three inorganic soil amendments, sand, and no amendment control were applied using a commercial drilling and injection machine.

Results

- Three years of cumulative amendment incorporation did not result in a substantial improvement in infiltration, nutrient-holding capacity or turf performance (shoot density, root mass).
- Turf quality, turf color, spring green-up and fall color retention were not affected by the addition of amendments.
- In this study, incorporation of amendments in aerification holes showed no benefits.



Funded by



Published in GCM, May 2008, pages 133-137.