



Bermudagrass Renovation

Overview

Bermudagrass is an aggressive warm-season turfgrass that can invade both cool- and warm-season lawns, athletic fields, golf courses, and landscape areas. Complete renovation is often required when converting to new improved bermudagrass varieties or when bermudagrass populations become excessive and negatively impact turf quality, uniformity, and playability. A common renovation strategy uses a combination of glyphosate and Vendra™ II (fluazifop-P-butyl) to control and eliminate existing bermudagrass prior to reseeding or resodding. Multiple applications are typically necessary because bermudagrass spreads via stolons and rhizomes, allowing regrowth from underground plant structures even after initial herbicide applications.

Herbicide Roles

Glyphosate

- Non-selective systemic herbicide that is absorbed through the plant leaves and transported to the roots, where it interferes with essential metabolic processes, leading to plant death.

Vendra II

- Selective postemergence grass herbicide that enhances bermudagrass control when tank-mixed with glyphosate.



Best Management Practices

Before Treatment

- Most effective when bermudagrass is actively growing (when soil temps are consistently above 65°F) and not under drought stress.
- Mow 5–7 days before application to allow sufficient regrowth.

Application

- Apply 64-96 fl oz glyphosate (41%)/A + 24 fl oz Vendra II/A + 0.25% v/v non-ionic surfactant (NIS) + 8.5 lb ammonium sulfate (AMS)/100 gal.
- Maintain good spray coverage for maximum herbicide uptake.
- Avoid mowing for several days following treatment to maximize translocation.

Monitoring and Follow-Up

- Evaluate treated areas every 3-4 weeks for surviving bermudagrass.
- University researchers recommend a total of three applications to ensure complete control.
- Wait at least 30 days after the final herbicide application before seeding or sodding.

Key Takeaway

Successful bermudagrass renovation requires a program utilizing sequential applications of glyphosate plus Vendra II. Combined with proper timing and follow-up monitoring, this tank-mix provides the greatest opportunity for effective bermudagrass removal and establishment of the desired turfgrass species.