

Hitting the ground running in Pylex Season

Technical Bulletin, March 2024



While some Australian turf managers are still dealing with Summer specific plant stressors, varying in severity and nature, given their location over the past couple of months, the most organised and strategic are planning their next move. Autumn. With the change of seasons upon us, earlier than expected in some parts of the country, we are already in conversations around key timing to kick off Pylex applications.

As BASF's new National Business Development Manager for Turf, there's no better time for me to connect again with you all (after a short break) to refresh your Pylex knowledge, reminding you of what is perhaps the most important application dates and intervals on your greens weed management calendar. I'll be sharing these bulletins regularly to shed some light on key strategies in the toolbox, how our research drives unmatched performance, and a few sneak peaks of what we have in the pipeline!

What we know:

Autumn will bring the slowing up of warm season grasses, noticeable by growth rate and clipping yield decline. Cooler temperatures overnight will become apparent and commence the slow decline of soil temperature gradually into winter dormancy.

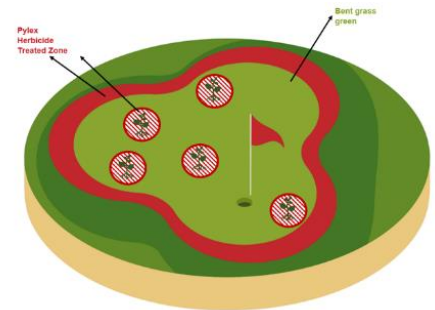
The vast and diverse nature of the Australian turf market see's these typical Autumn conditions vary across climates. Turf managers should be observing changes in weather, plant growth and soil temperature on their sites, allowing them to gauge when **their** Autumn has arrived.

Kicking off YOUR Pylex Season

At this point, your Pylex Herbicide applications commence. Pylex gives turf managers a registered chemistry for Bentgrass golf greens and managing the encroachment of the warm season grasses – the only solution on the market for this. This new chemistry to the Australian market has seen significant uptake in its first year on the shelves with turf managers confidently looking to this solution for a second year in a row. As we enter the upcoming season, Pylex will be a vital tool for turf managers looking to control the invasive nature of Couch and Kikuyu grasses, a go to option for Crowsfoot, Summer grass and a long list of Broadleaf weeds (refer to the label for the full list of susceptible weed species).

Application specifics

In its first year, we have seen Pylex applied across entire greens, around inner green perimeters, and as spot spray treatments with great results. While our pre-measured syringes are ideally sized for perimeter treatments, the Pylex use pattern is more flexible than this. Irrespective of the application method or treated area, for our Bent grass greens the application rate is **0.375ml/100m²** – **one syringe, in 4-6L water, with an MSO.**



Considering Factors for Success

Not dissimilar to most herbicide applications, we have factors that maximise success when applying Pylex. Given the persistent nature of the target weeds it is critical to nail the application strategy in Autumn with focused effort.

				
Oils such as Hasten (or other high quality MSO type oils) are essential to achieve consistent/reliable control.	Early encroachment and actively growing weeds are more susceptible than more advanced growth stages.	Good coverage of the target weed is essential to achieving reliable control.	Conditions conducive to maximum photosynthesis (moist, warm, bright sunshine) are ideal.	Cool weather can reduce the speed of activity.

Applying 2-3 consecutive treatments in the Autumn period will assist with management of established weeds which can be more challenging to control compared to young runners. Additional applications of Pylex in a Spring program will maximise results across the year when the encroaching targets are active but well before they reach their invasive peak in the summer.

I encourage you to work closely with your region networks leveraging your familiarity with seasonal weather patterns locally. We can no longer look at Autumn and Spring as dates on the calendar!

Pylex at a glance

For those who may be unfamiliar with this product, listed below are the features that make Pylex a unique addition to the turf market. Please refer to the label for directions for use, susceptible and tolerant species.

- 337g/L Topramezone
- Group 27 Herbicide
- Bent grass label rate - 0.375mL /100m² in 4-6L of water
- Packed in a pre-measured 0.375ml syringe for easy handling



Stewardship and technical information

I am excited to share the first of our turf product specific stewardship videos which are viewable on our website. We will be rolling these out as part of a library of resources complimentary to our fact sheets and tech notes. This video introduces Pylex Herbicide for those who might be using the product for the first time and is a great refresher for everyone ahead of our second application season!

[Introduction to Pylex - Click here](#)

Connect with our team!

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