

Summer holiday stress management - Building a foundation of plant health

Technical Bulletin, December 2024

This is the final Technical Bulletin of 2024. What better topic than to focus on the development of an **easy-to-follow yet thorough disease management program** for turf managers in summer. We know that from December turf managers find themselves in a challenging period of curation with high environmental stress, high member traffic and, like the rest of us, balance their time to enjoy the festive season with their families.

In this edition I will outline the key rotations of our fungicide portfolio, including how to utilise these chemistries to the fullest, resulting in unmatched plant protection during the Australian summer period.

The BASF Summer Holiday Spray Program is your key to creating championship conditions for both cool- and warm-season turfgrass throughout the summer. Designed around a strong foundation of plant health, this spray program uses our summer calendar months to guide your fungicide applications, **helping you to prevent or control disease, conquer stress on your greens and provide relief to your fairways and tees during this key time of the year.**

Set yourself up for a stress-free summer with a simple strategy designed to deliver exceptional turf under the toughest conditions.

What we know



Putting green surfaces are a priority. Given their low heights of cut and intense management, summer stress can be significant. Protecting these surfaces from disease, optimising their health, and ability to respond to stress either side of Christmas is paramount.



Collars and tees see traffic. Golf club and cart damage, often worsened by shade and/or profile issues render these areas vulnerable. Alleviating the vulnerability and ensuring these areas thrive through the heat of summer ensures that the aesthetics and appeal of the golf hole is maximised, and the overall experience of the golfer is heightened.



Fairways, being higher cut, often see less management. Often omitted from a preventative disease program, fairways are left without lasting protection. With the temperatures climbing and the amount of irrigation increasing, the likelihood of a disease outbreak increases dramatically.

Having confidence in some reliable chemistry options to apply across the broader turf surfaces will ensure that the whole golf hole, from tee to green is presented to your members and visitors over the holiday period, in its greatest condition.

BASF unmatched chemistry

The BASF Fungicide portfolio is unmatched in its formulations and innovative approach to disease management. For further reading, the stewardship links below will take you through an in-depth look into these chemistries. Click on the product name for more information, or head to our training page [here](#) for video refreshers with our team!

Whether your interest is in:

- ✓ **Maxtima®** - a DMI fungicide with **no plant growth regulation** effect
- ✓ **Lexicon®** - the **dual active** fungicide with plant protection
- ✓ **Xzemplar®** - our **workhorse**, with an incredible environment profile

Our fungicide portfolio has your foundational program covered!

Fungicides at a glance:

	Chemistry Group	Active Ingredient	Key Diseases	Key Benefits
Maxtima® Fungicide	3 (DMI)	400g/L Mefenfluproconazole	Dollar spot Spring dead spot Anthracnose Take-all root rot Take-all patch Brown Patch, Large Patch, Brown Ring Patch	Advanced turfgrass safety Unrivalled broad spectrum disease control Unique DMI for use throughout the seasons Powerful, lasting residual
Xzemplar® Fungicide	7 (SDHI)	300g/L Fluxapyroxad	Dollar spot Brown patch Fairy ring <i>Helminthosporium</i> complex Leaf and sheath spots	Efficacy even at a low use rate Broad spectrum disease control Curative and preventative control Quick knockdown with powerful, lasting residual
Lexicon® Intrinsic® Brand Fungicide	7 (SDHI) & 11 (Strobilurin)	167g/L Fluxapyroxad + 333g/L Pyraclostrobin	Anthracnose <i>Curvularia</i> spp. <i>Helminthosporium</i> complex Rust Dollar spot Brown patch Pythium Take-all Patch Take-all Root Rot Fairy ring Spring Dead Spot Take-all Patch Brown Patch or Large Patch (<i>Rhizoctonia solani</i>) Fusarium patch <i>Lepista</i> spp. Pythium blight Pythium root dysfunction	Broad spectrum control of 9+ diseases Long residual of up to 28 days Advanced plant health benefits Foundational product for greens



Find out more about the trio fungicides [here](#)

Connect with our team!



Summer Holiday Programs



GREENS – Key goals:

- ✓ Enhance stress tolerance of highly managed turf
- ✓ Optimise plant health and prevent key summer diseases
- ✓ Maintain long-lasting protection and promote rapid recovery from member and visitor traffic



Proposed Summer Holiday Program

Timing	Product (MOA Group)
Early Dec	Lexicon (7&11)
Mid Dec	
Late Dec	
Early Jan	Lexicon (7&11)
Mid Jan	Maxtima (3)
Late Jan	
Early Feb	Lexicon (7&11)
Mid Feb	Maxtima (3)
Late Feb	

Summer Holiday Programs



FAIRWAYS & TEES – Key goals:

- ✓ Management of turf damage
- ✓ Prepare for increasing disease pressure from irrigation and summer humidity, especially patch diseases
- ✓ Maintain long-lasting protection and promote rapid recovery from member and visitor traffic

December

Lexicon or
Maxtima + Xzemplar

Ideal for enhancing stress tolerance of turf and broad-spectrum protection

January

Xzemplar

Ideal for rapid control of emerging disease and broad hectare application

February

Maxtima or
Maxtima + Xzemplar

Ideal for summer anthracnose and patch disease prevention



Proposed Summer Holiday Program

Timing	Tees, Collars, Surrounds	Fairways
	Product (MOA Group)	
December	Lexicon (7&11)	Xzemplar (7) or Xzemplar (7) + Maxtima (3)
January	Lexicon (7&11) or Maxtima (3)	Xzemplar (7) or Xzemplar (7) + Maxtima (3)
February	Lexicon (7&11) or Maxtima (3)	Maxtima (3)



Tailoring the Summer Holiday Program

Ideal application strategies for fungicides should consider **local factors including weather, disease history and cultural practices or challenges**. Each technology offers reliable, long-lasting control, however, programs should be tailored to the specific situation by varying the application rate or re-application interval depending on disease development or persistence of symptoms.

- ✓ Where possible implement a preventative program
- ✓ Rotate chemistry groups to manage resistance and maximise control of pathogens
- ✓ Tailor a program to suit your specific needs, calendar and site
- ✓ Refresh your knowledge via our stewardship online or reach out to your local representative for support in designing a program

Connect with our team:

Please connect with and contact our team directly [here](#)

The team at BASF Turf & Ornamentals Australia wishes you all the very best for your Christmas and New Year. Enjoy your festivities and be safe, we look forward to seeing you all in 2025 for another amazing year of solutions for the turf industry.

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) – BASF Turf & Ornamentals Australia – to stay up to date on news and events.

 **BASF**
We create chemistry