August 2025 Newsletter

Renovations

Preparing for renovation

In the life-cycle of the grass plant, the leaves become dormant in late Winter (July/August) and the leaf growth ceases. In the meantime, the roots are still active storing up “FOOD” (Carbohydrates) in the stems and larger roots.

In early September leaf growth is again initiated while the roots retract and “die back” from mid-September till about end of October. During this period the leaves are active and now dependent for their nutrition on the carbohydrates stored in the stems. It would therefore be inadvisable for a Greenkeeper to attempt any aggressive scarifying during the period of “Root Die Back”.

Prior to the start of a green’s renovation, arrange to take soil and borehole water samples, and sent them off to be analysed. We would recommend making use of Dr. Gavin Cooper, to study the soil and water samples analysis and prepare a comprehensive fertiliser management report. His contact details are as follows:

cell: 073 872 1879

email: rodcamoo@gmail.com

If not already done, arrange to take Levels, since these will be essential in assisting the Greenkeeper correct any uneven areas present on the green.

Remove all visible weeds by spraying with Versus using a mixture of 250 ml of versus mixed with 50 litres of water per green. Do not forget to spray the banks as well, and a mixture of 50 ml of Versus mixed with 10 litres of water should be sufficient to treat all four banks of a green.

Check for shadows on the green from trees, hedges etc. and remove them or trim them back aggressively.

Order topdressing, which should ideally consist of a mixture of 70% sand (approximately 3 mm in size) and 30% compost (no more than 4 mm in size).

For further information regarding the renovation process, visit the website, using the following link

https://greenscare.wpbowls.co.za/greens-renovation/

WP GreensCare Standing Committee August 2025