

## **Fact Sheet**

## **Tips to Prevent Sulfonyl Urea Herbicide Movement in Turf**

## **Background**

Sulfonyl urea (SU) herbicides are widely used in turf. Most cool-season grass species are sensitive to SU's and drift, lateral movement or tracking of these products from treated warm-season turf to cool-season turf should be avoided. Since most of the SU herbicides are very toxic to cool-season turf, care should be taken to reduce spray drift.

## Follow these practical ideas for best results:

- 1. SU's are prone to move laterally under saturated soil conditions. Do not apply when soils are **excessively wet** or heavy rainfall is expected soon after application.
- 2. It is better **not to irrigate** before application of SU herbicides since the lateral movement of the herbicides is markedly reduced under unsaturated soil conditions.
- 3. To prevent lateral movement, these products should not be applied **up-slope and in close proximity** to cool-season turf.
- 4. SU herbicides adsorb on the soil more under acidic soil conditions than basic.
- 5. Avoid spraying turf and weed foliage that is wet at time of application.
- 6. To prevent tracking, these products should be applied after golfers and equipment have left for the day. In addition, because dew can re-suspend the herbicide overnight, a light irrigation is recommended prior to golf or equipment traffic the following day.

Always read and follow label directions. The applicable labeling for all products must be in the possession of the user at the time of herbicide application. It is a violation of federal law to use any registered pesticide product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.