

- 6.3 Fertiliser programme.** Complete the planned programme for 2008. Over winter 2008/9 apply iron sulphate at 2g/m<sup>2</sup> as a spray, at monthly intervals October-March. If the greens need an extra boost from time to time to help uniformity and appearance, use a humic acid product such as Activate from Rigby Taylor or equivalent. For 2009, start off the growing year with an application of Lawn Sand at 50g/m<sup>2</sup> in late March or early April, then follow on with foliar feeding using nitrogen only to supply no more than 1g/m<sup>2</sup> of nitrogen per application, at monthly intervals to September. Complement foliar feeding with nitrogen with further applications of humic acid, again at monthly intervals.
- 6.4 Nematode control.** Until we are in a position to see the extent of Nematode problems following further testing, continue to apply Blade from Scott's as per current programme. What will be necessary beyond that can only be advised following the receipt of further analysis figures. This may be no treatments at all, or it could be spot work using Biomass from green to green, over a protracted period.
- 6.5 Axis.** Introductions of Axis may be another line in the management of Annual Meadowgrass. If appropriate, carry out local spiking in October and November, and work in Axis to fill the tine holes. Repeat in February/March. This can be a localised programme carried out on an ongoing basis. As to wetting agent.
- 6.6 Winter wetting agent.** Use a penetrant in winter as part of the programme for the future, using a product as indicated in 4.9 above, on 3-4 occasions October-February.
- 6.7 Disease control.** The materials routinely used for disease control in the recent past have come off the market. As alternatives I suggest you use Banner Maxx during the growing season and either Chipco Green or Daconil in the depths of winter.
- 6.8 Mowing.** I strongly recommend you regard 4.0mm as a minimum mowing height for routine cutting during the growing season, and that you bring this up to 5.5-6.0mm for the winter. During the summer you can cut a little closer for a few days at a time for special events, but on average if you mow beneath 4.0mm as routine you will add to the stress problems on greens, you will highlight the deficiencies of the irrigation system in dry weather, you will intensify your risk of damaging disease with lingering scars, and you will place a big limitation to the chances of success from the turf improvement programme suggested above.

## **7.0 NEXT VISIT**

- 7.1** This recent visit took place when the greens were at their best. I suggest it will be valuable to have a follow up visit to look at the greens again at the low point in their growth cycle, in February or March. If the Club agrees this is a good idea, please let me know in due course.

**D M STANSFIELD**  
**6 August 2008**