ANT CONTROL BULLETIN

Keep your course free of ants and grubs

Use Scimitar® GC insecticide and Meridian® 25WG insecticide for immediate knockdown and long-term control of ants and white grubs.

Background
- The turfgrass ant (Lasius neoniger) and golf course playing surfaces don’t mix. Mounds created by ants can disrupt ball roll, smother turf, and dull mower blades.
- Ants are a social insect that work in interconnected burrows 10–15 inches deep.
- Colony grows as temperatures increase.

Recommendations
- Timing applications when colonies are small or weak and food sources are limited (early spring & late fall) tends to have greater success rates of colony collapse and control.
- Early spring ant spray applications can be timed in unison with your grub control.
- Mounds found on short cut turf are often satellite (sub-nest) mounds created by the worker ants of the colonies. Therefore, it is imperative to treat both the playing surface (i.e. tee, green, or fairway) and outside the affected area well off the playing surface and into the rough.

• Controlling ants with Scimitar GC OR Meridian 25WG insecticides
  – Rate: 8–10 oz of Scimitar GC per acre
  – Timing: Apply when mounds are first observed
    • Immediate knockdown for 10–14 days
    • Effectively kills surface worker ants
    • Applications may coincide with controlling other insects (cutworms, billbugs, webworms, chinch bugs)
  – Rate: 17 oz of Meridian 25WG per acre
  – Timing: Varies by geography (mid-May–June). Apply when mounds are first observed
    • Can provide control up to 8–12 weeks depending on timing and soil type
    • Gradual control, may take as long as 4 weeks to see results

• Controlling ants with Scimitar GC AND Meridian 25WG
  – Rate: 10 oz of Scimitar GC per acre + 17 oz Meridian 25WG per acre
  – Timing: Varies by geography (mid-May–June). Apply when mounds are first observed
    • Using both Scimitar GC and Meridian 25WG offers immediate knockdown and long-term control of ants and white grubs
    • Proper treatment should include a buffer zone application of approximately 30 feet outside of the target site
  – Spray Volume: 65 gals per acre
    • Application should be watered in once spray solution has dried on the foliage
Table 1. Season-long efficacy of golf course fairway ant mounds. Ohio State, 2000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Rate/Acre</th>
<th>1 WAT</th>
<th>2 WAT</th>
<th>4 WAT</th>
<th>8 WAT</th>
<th>12 WAT</th>
<th>21 WAT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Check</td>
<td></td>
<td>14.8 a</td>
<td>13.4 ab</td>
<td>14.3 a</td>
<td>8.0 bc</td>
<td>6.4 b</td>
<td>6.0 a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meridian 25WG</td>
<td>17 oz</td>
<td>5.6 de(60)</td>
<td>3.0 de(78)</td>
<td>0.8 c (95)</td>
<td>0.1 d (98)</td>
<td>0.1 d (98)</td>
<td>2.0 b (67)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meridian 25WG + Scimitar GC</td>
<td>17 oz + 10 fl oz</td>
<td>0.4 f (98)</td>
<td>0.0 e (100)</td>
<td>1.4 bc (90)</td>
<td>0.5 d (90)</td>
<td>0.6 d (94)</td>
<td>1.3 b (79)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different according to LSD P<0.5.

Table 2. Control of Mound Building Ants in Turf

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days After Treatment</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>31</th>
<th>81</th>
<th>102</th>
<th>115</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Untreated</td>
<td>27.3a</td>
<td>30.3a</td>
<td>27.7a</td>
<td>27.0a</td>
<td>20.3a</td>
<td>18.3a</td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meridian 25WG 12 + 5 oz/A</td>
<td>21.3ab</td>
<td>9.3b</td>
<td>6.7c</td>
<td>8.3b</td>
<td>2.3b</td>
<td>2.0b</td>
<td>1.0b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meridian 25WG 17 oz/A</td>
<td>8.7c</td>
<td>3.3c</td>
<td>5.3c</td>
<td>5.0b</td>
<td>1.0b</td>
<td>1.0b</td>
<td>0.7b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talstar P 32.7 fl oz/A</td>
<td>5.0c</td>
<td>7.0c</td>
<td>7.3bc</td>
<td>15.0ab</td>
<td>15.7a</td>
<td>13.0a</td>
<td>14.0a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Williamson, University of Wisconsin. 2010. Treatments applied May 25 and July 29 (5 oz/A only).