



COMPARING PSA AND POROUS CERAMICS

There are significant differences between PSA and porous ceramics when used in golf green soil modification and maintenance. These differences can be summarized in the following categories:

1. Porosity
2. Moisture Release
3. CEC
4. Algae Suppression and Seed Bed Preparation
5. Cost

Porosity

Quantity: PSA is 82% porous vs. 74% for the porous ceramics. You add soil amendments to increase porosity in the root zone, so it makes sense to add the one with the greatest non-compactable porosity.

Quality: Because of the open-ended pores of the diatom, more of the pore space in PSA is open-ended compared to the closed-end pores of the layered clay material from which porous ceramics are made. Open-end pores mean more of the water retained by PSA is plant-available.

Moisture Release

PSA stores more water at saturation and releases it over a greater range. What this means is that PSA is more effective in taking out the soggy conditions in wet conditions and it is more effective in helping eliminate hydrophobic conditions and LDS. Much of the water held in porous ceramics is not plant-available when the turf needs it the most.

CEC

Independent university testing by both Texas A&M and the University of Arkansas confirmed that PSA has a CEC that is almost twice that of porous ceramics (47.3 vs. 23.9). What this means is that PSA is more effective in increasing nutrient holding capacity.

Algae Suppression and Seedbed Preparation

Independent research by Mississippi State University confirmed that PSA is very effective in algae suppression because it helps limit the environmental conditions that allow algae to thrive. Porous ceramics are less effective because they are less porous.

Cost

PSA is generally the least expensive inorganic soil amendment available to golf course superintendents. Soil amendments are applied by volume, and PSA's bulk density is 33% less than that of porous ceramics. What this means is that a 33.33-lb bag of PSA+ contains the same volume as a 50-lb bag of porous ceramics, and application rates are 33% less for PSA than for porous ceramics.



GOLF VENTURES

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New products and news from Golf Ventures and Helena...

19-0-23 with 1% Ronstar, from the introducers of the "hot melt" process of impregnating Ronstar on fertilizer for the safest application possible, we now offer the ultimate combination product.

Utilizing Mesop (methylene urea coated sulfate of potash) Helena and Golf Ventures offers pre-emergent weed control, controlled release potassium and controlled release nitrogen in one SGN 145 particle. This product provides 9.5% controlled release nitrogen and 11.87% controlled release potassium along with the unsurpassed pre-emergent control of Ronstar. Finally there is a product that matches length of weed control with duration of available nutrition all in one particle.

15-0-15 with .069% Talstar, control ants (including imported fire ants), mole crickets and other listed pests around the clubhouse, common areas and other landscaped areas. Application rates are 3.33 to 6.66 lbs /1000 sq ft

Grigg Brothers GreenSpec homogeneous fertilizers developed in response to customers request for dry fertilizer that would compliment the use of high quality foliar programs. GreenSpec fertilizers contain no waste products, there are no fillers, no manures and all components have a purpose as a plant nutrient or as an ingredient for soil improvement. Available analysis are greens grades 16-4-8 and 7-7-7 with 7% iron and 7% calcium.

White Gold Manufactured by Magic Green is a new line now being carried by Golf Ventures. Products available are White Gold Greens Grade SGN 120, White Gold Mini SGN 55, White Gold Dry Flowable Powder SGN 55, White Gold Complete SGN 55, Salt Exit Regular SGN 140 and Salt Exit Mini SGN 55.

Cary Lewis receives Pacesetter award.....

Cary Lewis, Territory Manager with Golf Ventures was recently honored by Jacobsen as a Pacesetter for the 2004 Calendar Year. Cary received this award at Jacobsen's Total Golf Solutions Event held at Hard Rock Live Concert Hall, Universal Studios City Walk during the Golf Industry Show. Cary received one of only 5 Pacesetter awards given out nationwide and the only Pacesetter award for the Southeastern United States.

Cary has been with Golf Ventures since 2001 as Territory Manager for both Equipment and Turf and Ornamental sales. Cary has over 28 years experience in the golf course industry and is a former superintendent and past president of the FGCSA, Florida West Coast GCSA, Everglades GCSA and a USGA Greens Selections advisor for 10 years. Cary, Congratulations on your achievement!

Golf Ventures website update.....

Golf Ventures will be launching a new and updated website that will offer our customers more opportunities than ever before. We will feature a quote system for Jacobsen Equipment and equipment options that we have not been able to offer before. There will be new sections for specials and new products so you can review the latest and greatest. Come visit our website soon and take advantage of all the new possibilities!!!!

Golf Ventures sponsors Jeff Hayden Memorial Envirotron Golf Classic.....

Golf Ventures is proud to again be the Champion Sponsor for the 2005 Jeff Hayden Memorial Envirotron Golf Classic to be held on Monday, April 18, 2005 at World Woods Golf Club. This tournament is one of the main research fundraisers for the Florida Turfgrass association and is presented by the Seven Rivers Chapter of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association.



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