

Commission Memo
Commission Meeting: 8/9/2010
RE: **Golf Course Turf**

August 5, 2010

The Honorable Mayor
and
Members of City Commission

The commission requested an update on a turf problem at the Royal Oak Golf Course. Some type of turf disease was observed on 7/7/2010. It was later identified as pythium root rot, a soil born root disease not very common in Michigan. In addition to fungicide applications, the contractor has also been aerifying and vertical mowing the greens and tees, as well as sodding and seeding throughout this process to help with the recovery efforts.

The following is the timeline for the action taken by the golf course contractor. We are already seeing improvements on the greens.

First notice some type of disease activity 7/7/2010: Sprayed Biweekly fungicide and nutrients application 7/8/2010

Fungicide [chlorothalonil] @ 3.2/m, this rate should stop anthracnose and 6 other turf diseases.

Still activity 7/12: Sprayed for melting out disease 7/12/2010

Fungicide [propiconazole] @ 2.5/m, this rate should stop melting out and 12 other turf diseases

Still activity 7/13: Sprayed for all patch diseases 7/14/2010

Fungicides [thiophonate-methyl] [iprodione] @ 2.5/m, this rate should stop all patch and spot diseases.

Still activity 7/15/2010: sent in sample to lab for testing

Aerified sick areas with solid tines

Still activity 7/16/2010: Lab results diagnose pythium root rot a soil born root disease not very common in Michigan.

Sprayed recommended fungicide [Banol]

Disease in check 7/19/2010

Visible recovery 7/21/2010

Sprayed biweekly fungicide and nutrient program 7/21/2010

Spray preventative fungicides [banol] and a new fungicide called stellar for pythium root rot protection throughout the rest of the year and for the future seasons to come.

If you have any questions please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,



Greg Russell

Director Recreation and Public Service



Donald E. Johnson
City Manager