

HydroFLOW Product Evaluation - Municipal Golf Course in Texas

Updated on January 1, 2022



Background

The Customer

The Golf Club sits on part of what was once a 1,236 acre ranch which was originally home to one of the world's largest and best herds of Jersey dairy cattle.

The Challenge

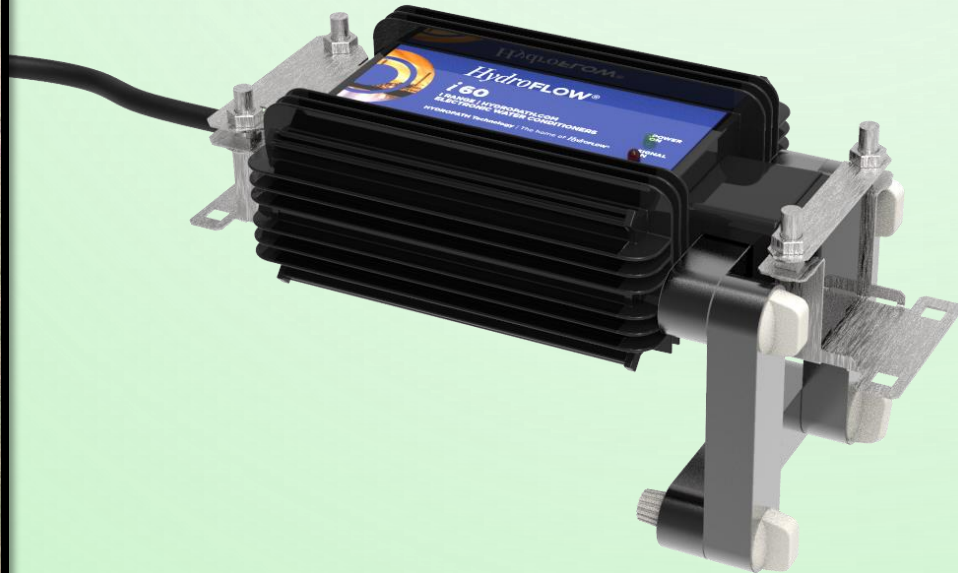
- Poorly maintained greens.
- Signs of heavy damage due to TARR (take-all root rot).
- A core sample on the greens was performed and revealed maximum root depth 1.5 inches.

More About TARR

TARR is caused by the fungus *Gaeumannomyces graminis* var. *graminis*. The fungus forms dark-brown to black runner hyphae on roots, stolons, and rhizomes of hosts. Penetration into the plant and infection are initiated from surface-anchoring structures called hyphopodia. These diagnostic fungal structures can be easily seen under a dissecting microscope on roots, stolons, and rhizomes.

Purpose of the Product Evaluation

The 3-month evaluation began during April 2018. It was conducted on an isolated practice green with an independent water supply. A *HydroFLOW* i60 model was used. During the three-month evaluation, the watering and fertilizing regimes remained the same as all other greens throughout the course. The goal of the evaluation was to increase the overall health of the grass.



Results

- The isolated practice green was lush and green in color.
- It was the only green on the course that no longer suffered from root rot.
- Core samples showed the roots had an average depth of over 5 inches (up from 1.5 inches).
- Lab testing showed the practice green retained 50% more nutrients compared to other greens.

Supplemental Notes

Reduced water usage was not evaluated but it was estimated that a 20-30% reduction in water consumption can be achieved with *HydroFLOW*. In addition, fertilizing and maintenance costs can be reduced.

