

Intercept 480SL Turf Growth Regulator

Product Benefits

- Wintergrass Contraceptive treatment
- Stops wintergrass seedhead emergence
- Eliminates next generation of *Poa annua*
- Approved for tank mix with Primo MAXX
- Use with SHORTstop and Primo in *Poa* control strategy
- Safe to use on all turf surfaces
- Liquid form for spray application
- Developed and manufactured in Australia.

MATCHplay Intercept 480SL is a powerful means of preventing the population explosion that results from the annual flush of wintergrass (*Poa annua*) seed. When used in a program fashion with MATCHplay SHORTstop and Primo, a robust wintergrass control strategy starts to take shape.

Wintergrass is a prolific weed of cool season turf, especially bentgrass golf greens. While the vegetative growth stage of wintergrass produces a highly desirable turf sward, the onset of seedhead causes a lank and open habit, the proliferation of seed stalk and an unsightly frosting of viable seed.

The shallow rooted habit of wintergrass often requires heightened inputs to resist the stresses caused by the disease and drought in summer. Often the increased presence of wintergrass in a field or golf green can increase the need to significantly renovate or rebuild, in turn increasing running costs for golf and sporting clubs.

The adaptive ability of wintergrass means that a complete eradication strategy has remained elusive. Its ability to sport various biotypes within a population makes generic control strategies difficult to develop and therefore situation specific management is the norm.

Products such as SHORTstop 200SC and Primo MAXX have been used to influence population dynamics and suppress wintergrass in favour of desirable species. Seedhead has however remained the greatest challenge. Until now that is - until the introduction of Intercept 480SL.



Product Information

Composition

Suspension Liquid
480 g/L Ethephon

Volume

5 Litres

Mixing

Half fill the spray tank with water, add the required amount of product, then the remainder of water and mix well. DO NOT use alkaline water.

Equipment

This product is corrosive to metals. Mix only the quantity of spray required for immediate use and do not allow to stand in metal containers for more than 2 hours. Flush equipment thoroughly with water after use.

General Information

As day length increases in Spring, a physiological process is triggered in wintergrass (*Poa annua*) that reduces the production of a naturally derived hormone called 'ethylene'.

When ethylene concentrations are depleted wintergrass enters a growth phase called the 'boot stage', where seed initiation begins as a swelling of the crown on the wintergrass plant. Thereafter the seed stalk emerges and the inflorescence is thrust high above the leaves to allow distribution of seed by various means.

Intercept 480SL works by artificially raising ethylene levels in the wintergrass plant, so that the boot stage is prevented and therefore seedhead emergence is eliminated.

Apply Intercept 480SL at least 21 days ahead of expected seedhead emergence for best results. Additionally a series of repeat applications will keep ethylene levels sufficiently high to prevent the risk of emergence for an entire season.

Intercept is compatible as a tank mix with Primo MAXX so that a growth regulation and seedhead prevention can be achieved simultaneously with one treatment.

For a program recommendation about how Intercept fits within a framework of wintergrass suppression and control, contact your MATCHplay distributor.

Additional Product Information

- Intercept is a liquid formulation for spray application after dilution with water. Apply to dry or wet turf and leave to dry on foliage for a minimum of 4 hours.
- Application 21 days prior to *Poa annua* seedhead emergence will stop its formulation completely. Repeat applications 3 weeks apart (depending on rate) is required to maintain seedhead prevention.
- Wintergrass growth rate, defoliation and biotype all influence the longevity that can be achieved with a single application..

Intercept - Directions for us

CROP	PEST	RATE	CRITICAL COMMENTS
Golf Course Greens	Wintergrass (<i>Poa annua</i>) seedhead suppression	7-10L in 400-500L of water per hectare	<p>Make initial application prior to the emergence of new seedheads in Spring and Autumn. A period of 2 - 3 weeks after application is required for maximum seed head suppression performance. A repeat application is required in 14 - 21 days.</p> <p>Tank mixtures of Intercept and Primo Maxx at 400mL/ha can be used to promote seed head suppression as well as turfgrass quality. Application of this mixture during frost periods may cause temporary turf discolouration.</p>



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