



Galway Bay First to use Dryject

With the course being closed during the remodelling period of 18 months, Course Superintendent at Galway Bay Golf Resort, Jason Podris was very aggressive in his aerifications. 'We used many different techniques and finally we used the Dryject.'



The Dryject machine is similar to the hydroject in that it injects water down into the rootzone creating a channel. In the channel, created by this burst of water, a dry material is pulled down into the rootzone. 'We have used a few different materials during the three visits from Dryject. The greens have had Profile, Axis and kiln dried sand injected into them. Depending on the green, we have injected the materials individually or mixed the sand with the Profile or Axis,' says Jason.

The course opened to members in August of 2007 with all 18 greens playing consistent. This past May the Dryjects came back and did all 18 greens and the putting green. The contractor comes up from Portugal and

brings 3-4 machines as well as operators. The club supplies the material and a member of staff per machine to keep the machine filled with whatever material(s) is being injected. Once a green is completed it is allowed to dry for about thirty minutes before brushing any of the excess material into the turf canopy. Following that, the greens are rolled and then watered to help take some of the shock away from the brushing and rolling. Each green is clean and back in play within about 90 minutes.

The most recent test conducted for the percolation rate on the old greens was

at 111.9mm per hour (compared to 6.8mm per hour prior to the Dryject). 'The greens are firm and consistent with members talking about the trueness of the greens and the speed of the process. The population of moss has declined as well as diseases such as fusarium' added Jason.

The Dryject is used twice a year at Galway Bay, once in late Spring right before the summer stresses are about to come, giving the plant a chance to develop strong roots and then again in the Autumn to get more channels opened up in the rootzone before the winter wet season.

Renowned Turf Professor Will Oversee Floratine Research Protocol

Floratine Products Group announced its relationship with Dr. Tom Watschke, professor emeritus of turfgrass science at Penn State University. Dr. Watschke will join Floratine as a consultant, specifically in the area of university research protocol.

Dr. Watschke is an expert in turf growth regulation and has spent much of his career studying and evaluating biostimulants and plant growth regulators and their effects on turfgrass development and management. 'Floratine's strong, superintendent-based background reinforced my decision to work with them,' said Dr. Watschke. 'There is a need for support and education for superintendents and what they can do with plant stress management.

When golfers want to golf in the northern latitudes, it's basically tropical weather for the cool-season grasses that

are most commonly used on the course,' he continued. 'Floratine takes a proactive approach to nutrition and stress management, because once the grass is stressed, there's no antidote.'

Dr. Watschke holds a Ph. D. in agronomy from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va. He has been a professor at Penn State University since 1970.

'Dr. Watschke brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to Floratine,' said Kevin Cavanaugh, president and CEO of Floratine. 'Our dedication to proactive plant nutrition, combined with his knowledge and insight into how the plants use that nutrition, will serve to strengthen and grow Floratine's product offerings and educational abilities, all in support of our customer, the golf superintendent.'