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Groundbreaking Scientific News Regarding Calcium Sulfate

(El Segundo, California) — Garn Wallace Ph.D., a leading soil scientist and chief chemist at Wallace Laboratories in El Segundo, California has released the results of extensive new testing relating to the dissolution rate and efficacy in sodium management of various forms of gypsum and calcium sulfate combinations.

In 2009 simple testing was performed by a California based turf consulting company relating to the solubility of dihydrate gypsum and Cal-CM Plus™ (a combination of gypsum and anhydrite calcium sulfate). Both substrates were dissolved in distilled water, and gypsum was found to initially solubilize at a faster rate. This led to their recommendation that the Cal-CM Plus combination product was not effective in remediating sodium laden soils. Dr. Wallace questioned, "How do tests performed in distilled water relate to soil salt remediation in a true golf course setting?"

The supposition that the Cal-CM Plus combination product was not effective has not only been disproven by actual golf course soil and water testing and analysis, but in fact Dr. Wallace's testing has shown the reverse to be the case. Cal-CM Plus dramatically outperforms standard pelletized gypsum products in both sodic, sandy soils typically found in greens, as well as the heavier soils normally found in fairways and roughs.

Here is how it works. Actual lab testing was performed on a sodic soil using reclaimed irrigation water in conjunction with the staff at Pelican Hill in Newport Beach California. Wallace proved that in sandy soils and greens with low cation exchange capacity (CEC), that although gypsum dissolved more quickly initially, its efficacy lasted little more than a week. The Cal-CM Plus dissolved less quickly in the first few days but provided more than ample dissolved calcium for sodium leaching and soil remediation. But, the unique blend of calcium sulfates in Cal-CM Plus continued to deliver soluble calcium in meaningful amounts for continued sodium remediation for up to 3 times as long.

In heavier sodic soils such as fairways and roughs with a higher CEC, the solubility of both gypsum and Cal-CM Plus dissolve at virtually the exact same rate. The difference here is that Cal-CM Plus has more calcium sulfate than any commercially prilled gypsum product, so less is needed to achieve the same results.

Wallace has proven that application in both sandy and heavy soils dramatically changes the dissolution rate of calcium sulfate, and that solubility tests performed in purified water without soil have no statistical relevance whatsoever relating to efficacy on the golf course or in the field.

The evaluations of soil amendments used to condition and improve soil need to consider multiple interactions and effects of exchangeable sodium and other soil properties, not just rely on the rate of solubilization of gypsum. The effects of a calcium "sink" and release of sodium "source" from soil have been noted in scientific literature.

Complete test results are posted to the Art Wilson website at <http://www.calcmplus.com>

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