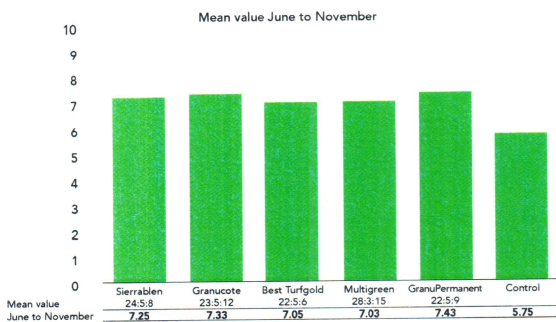




Turf growth response rated on a 1-10 scale



Treatment effect on turf growth response rated on a scale of 1 to 10. Data are mean values for June to November 2016. Bars indicate 95% confidence intervals.

► specialty fertilisers who is active in over 30 (mainly European) countries for more than 10 years. Besides their watersoluble fertilisers Granusol WSF and their lines of fine turf fertilisers Granuform SRF and Granusports SRF, they produce CRF's for golf, sportpitches and landscaping by using their patented unique Duration coating technology. This coating is 100% polymer without any Sulphur or metals in the coating and works on the osmosis principle. Therefore the temperature is the factor that determines the release of the nitrogen.

Sierrablen 24-5-8, Best Turf Gold 22-5-6, Granucote 23-5-12, MultiGreen 28-3-15 and Granupermanent Universal 22-5-9 were applied late May 2016. All fertilisers were applied at a rate of 30 g/m² on the fairway that has been kept in normal use and

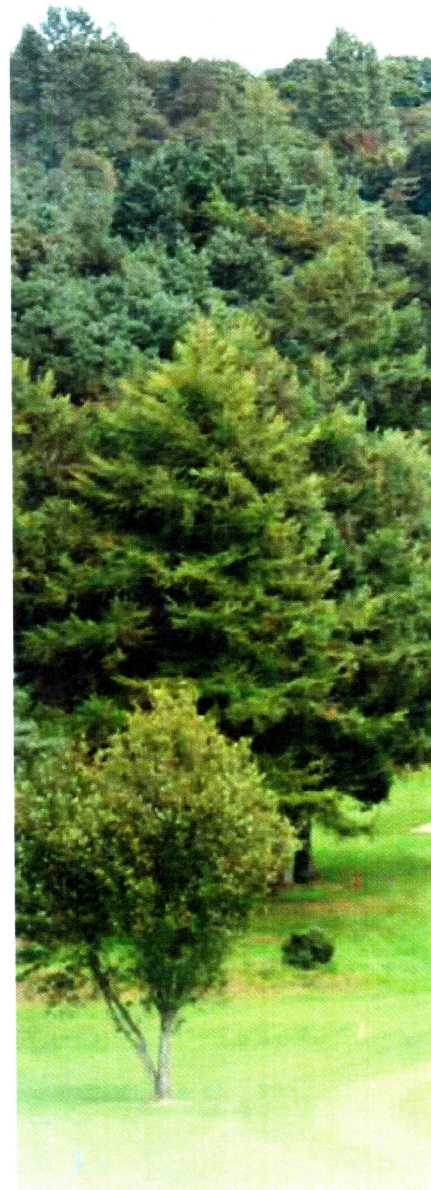
under standard maintenance practice (apart from fertilising obviously). The fairway is established on a sandy/loam soil, pH7.1 with mixed grass species (Poa annua, Lolium perenne, Agrostis spp. and some Festuca), which was cut at 12 mm height.

Climatically the region is defined as a temperate oceanic climate, being mild, moist and changeable with rainfall annual mean of 754 mm and average air temperature of 9.80 degrees Celsius. This type of climate gives rise to ideal conditions for turfgrass growth, almost throughout the entire year.

On a bi-weekly base the turf colour, growth and quality was assessed by independent assessors who did not have knowledge about which fertiliser was used on which block. These results were collected and analysed monthly using SPSS statistical software.

Fertiliser effect on turf colour was rapid and all treated plots responded with increased colour within a week of application. Colour in all treated plots remained excellent for the months of June, July, August and September with a drop-off during October and a further drop in colour at the start of November. Data analyses determined no significant differences between treatments, however, the mean values for both Mivena products for the full trial period achieved the highest ratings, 8.16 for the Granucote and 8.33 for the GranuPermanent, these data were only observed following the outcome of the full analysis.

Treatment effect of turf quality produced similar results as the colour assessments, in that for the overall trial period the mean



data showed quality in all treated plots was significantly better than the un-fertilised controls, with no significant differences between treatments. However, as with the turf colour analysis, while there were no significant differences between treatments the mean values for both Mivena products achieved the highest ratings, 7.53 for the Granucote and 7.47 for the GranuPermanent. Monthly data analyses did determine some statistical differences between fertiliser treatments in October with the Granucote treatment significantly better than the MultiGreen and controls and while not statistically better than the other treatments it did achieve the highest rating, not only for October but for November

Dr John Dempsey, graduate researcher at the University of the West of England and Superintendent of Royal Curragh Golf Club

