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January 2010

GOLF CASE STUDIES ON CROWN III FROM AROUND ENGLAND

Crown III is a specially graded rubber granule produced from scrap tyres with the textile and steel removed. When added to grass and tined into the surface it provides resistance to wear, good drainage and aeration, improvement in stability and adds resilience to the ground.

At publication nearly 600 golf clubs in the UK & Ireland are using Crown III and of "Golf Worlds" list of the top 100 courses 54 have Crown III on the course.

Latest comments in bold blue type.

SOUTH

Broadstone Used in 2000 on returf pathway in early spring, this area has never lasted more than a season, reported in Oct 2001 still had 90% cover. Started by surface dressing and obtained an improvement, in May 2004 they are hollow tining all the treated areas and they agree this has shown further progress. By March 2006 they are going over to use a verti drain to apply the Crown III. March 2007 very satisfied with results. March 2008 still getting good results.

Maidenhead Golf Club used the 1-3mm grade in the winter 98/99, they renovated a range of worn areas, including, pathways across the carry, tee banks and walk off areas from the green to tee. All were returned to 100% grass cover before application of the Crown III with a drop spreader. Six kilos/sq/m was used in the spring and at the end of the playing season they still had 100% grass. Normally these areas have been reduced to 60/70% grass cover by October. Feb 2003 continues to work well has nearly eliminated the necessity to re-turf. Oct 2006 now using verti drain technique, only wear areas are those that they have not had time to treat. March 2007 would recommend. **Nov 2009 still very effective in limiting wear on Tees and pathways**

Beaconsfield Golf Club started to use Crown III 1-3mm in 1999 as a top dressing this worked well on a variety of application, but did show on the surface in summer. Converted to tining in 2001 and has recognized the improvement obtained. Feb 2003 re-turfing vastly reduced, continues to do well.; Nov 2003 used on path ends, these are showing great improvement. April 2006 Have eliminated returfing on the majority of the course. March 2008 still working very effectively is part of maintenance regime. **June 2009 very effective on all heavy wear areas**

Tadmerton Heath July 2009 Verti drain and turfing technique now used They have very much better cover and are hardly needing to returf. The most effective treatment for wear they have employed.

Newbury & Crockham have used for several years on pathways and on some tees. **Dec 2009 further application this year to top up areas treated three years ago. Has shown dramatic improved in sward density and endurance.**

Wellington College GC has used since 2007 and find it very effective at reducing wear. **Nov 2009 will be using more in the spring and hopes to eliminate wear in next few years.**

NORTH WEST

Burnley Golf Club Rob Harker has used Crown III every year since 2001 on this high moorland course, and has now eliminated his main wear areas so that he does not have to returf. He uses a Terra spike and has employed 6 kilos per s. m. on pathways, walk offs and between bunkers. March 2005 is now concentrating around the witer tee mats. April 2006 virtually no returfing for wear is now necessary. **Dec 2009 using around the tee mats at present**

Ringway Golf Club is a parkland course south of Manchester they first tried 1-3mm grade on a hollow cored pathway in the winter of 98 where they only had 70% grass cover. After restricting its use during the winter it recovered to 100% and has gone through the summer in the same condition. Jim Granger is now applying the same grade to new turf and will use at least four dressings to build up to 7 kilos per sq. metre. March 2001 Now working on carry pathways, walk offs from tees, and on tee surface. June 2004 reports 70% of the course has been completed and they now have grass cover instead of bare areas. April 2007 still very effective particularly in winter as it improves drainage. **Sept 2009 just need to top up carry paths and walk offs.**

Fairhaven Golf Club this Heathland course have reported great results. Fairhaven have used Crown III since 1998 on path ends and other wear areas. In 99 they started to use it on the green surrounds on all four short holes. Tommy Lyons the deputy says "All the surrounds are good, but the 17th is better than it has ever been. March 2004

Now using solid tine prior to drop spreading and employing the finer grade 0.5-1.5mm. April 2007 have very few wear areas, just need to top up with the 3kilos/sq/m on areas that were treated 3 years ago. **Sept 2009 have very few wear areas left, tops up every three years, which keeps the sward in good condition.**

West Lancs have been using consistently for 9 years and have very few wear areas left, **Sept 2009 now employing on Tee rebuilds by rotovating into the root zone and over turfing**

Sandiway Sept 2009 Course Manager says “**Fantastic, has made a great difference at the side of the first Tee which was bare at end of every winter now has 80% cover.**

Wallasey Golf Club, Rossendale, Ormskirk and many others would recommend Crown III

LONDON AREA

Hadley Wood GC August 2008 have used for 4 years on bridge crossings and weak areas of sward, has noticed vast improvement in the density of sward where ever it has been used. **Dec 2009 continues to use on any wear areas that appear as it prevents areas turning to mud.**

Sundridge Park Bromley have used Crown III regularly since 2004, applying with verti drain and using 6K/sq/m on all new areas. It is part of the maintenance program and in 2008 has reduced surface turfing to minimal amounts. **Sept 2009 has been very effective in the main wear areas.**

Hankley Common May 2007 used on grass paths with great success Tined into the surface at 6k/sq/m **Sept 2009 working well**

Chislehurst , Richmond, Fulwell and many others would recommend Crown III

YORKSHIRE, EASTERN & NORTH EASTERN COUNTIES.

Sherringham on the Norfolk coast, have had pathway problems for years, their agronomist suggested they look at Crown III and they applied two dressings of 3.5 kilos in June 99, to turf that had been laid over the previous winter and was still in good condition.. The rubber crumb went into the surface quickly and members were using them in July, by October when they would normally have needed further work still had 100% grass cover. March 2001 very impressed with results. Oct 2007 after 5 years still being employed on further wear areas. They say it is very effective.

Brancepeth Castle in Durham have used Crown III on the 15th since 2001. The Greenkeeper says “ We never had grass on this pathway at the end of the season, I had to returf every year. Now I have not returfed since 2001” reporting in Nov. 2004. .March 2006 is now using verti drain technique, very successful on the 15th extending to other holes. Oct 2007 has kept previously worn areas dry through the winter. **March 2009 working well hardly any wear areas.**

Morpeth GC First purchased in early 2007 for bridge crossings, treated one and left the other with usual maintenance. August 2008 the treated crossing has grass the other is worn out. Tined in with verti-drain 6k/sq/m. **Jan 2009 continues to be effective in prevention of wear.**

Northumberland Golf Club Aug 2008 have used for three years and find it will keep the grass for at least two years would recommend to others. **Oct 2009 has had problems with growth before using Crown III. Now good cover will buy in Spring**

Alnmouth have used for several years and find it excellent at preventing wear on parhways and Tees. **Sept 2009 will continue with work on the tees in the spring**

Wath Has used since 2003 around greens and tees to eliminate the wear on walk offs and entrances. Uses the verti drain technique, with 6 kilos/sq/m. This works without fail. **Nov 2009 would recommend to anyone with grass wear problems**

MIDLANDS

Erewash have used on pathways since 2003 with success in improving drain and wear April 2007 continuing to apply to worn areas gradually eliminating necessity to returf.

Hallows Have used since 2004 on wear areas, since using verti drain and 6 kilos/sq/m has been very effective at maintain good grass cover in difficult areas **March 2009 extending it use as finances allow.**

THE USE OF RUBBER CRUMB ON GRASS IS SUBJECT TO A PATENT IN EUROPE AND THE LICENSED PRODUCT FOR THIS PURPOSE IS CROWN III