

## Smart Fertilizer vs. Industry Leader Comparison: A Cost-Saving Opportunity

When it comes to maintaining a pristine golf course, choosing the right fertilizer can significantly impact your budget, labor efficiency, and course quality. Below is a side-by-side comparison between **DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer (15-5-15)** and the industry-leading **Contact DG (15-0-15)**, as observed by a highly respected golf course superintendent. The results speak for themselves—DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer offers superior benefits while cutting costs.

### Cost & Application Comparison

#### Contact DG (15-0-15)

- **Bag Size:** 40 pounds
- **Cost per Bag:** \$70.00
- **Cost per Pound:** \$1.75
- **Application Rate:** 5 pounds of material per 1,000 sq. ft. (for  $\frac{3}{4}$  pound N rate)
- **Area Coverage:** 4 acres of greens (174,000 sq. ft.)
- **Material Needed:** 871 pounds per application
- **Cost of Material per Application:** \$1,525.00
- **Labor per Application:** \$200.00 (10 hours at \$20/hour)
- **Total Cost per Application:** \$1,725.00
- **Application Frequency:** Every 21 days
- **Total Cost over 90 Days:** \$6,900.00 (4 applications)
- **Additional Costs:** This does not include extra expenses for regulators, wetting agents, or foliar applications needed for color and thatch control.

#### DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer (15-5-15)

- **Bag Size:** 44 pounds
- **Cost per Bag:** \$5.68 per pound
- **Application Rate:** 5 pounds of material per 1,000 sq. ft. (for  $\frac{3}{4}$  pound N rate)
- **Area Coverage:** 4 acres of greens (174,000 sq. ft.)
- **Material Needed:** 871 pounds per application
- **Cost of Material per Application:** \$4,947.00
- **Labor per Application:** \$200.00 (10 hours at \$20/hour)
- **Total Cost per Application:** \$5,147.00
- **Application Frequency:** Every 90 days
- **Total Cost over 90 Days:** \$5,147.00 (1 application)
- **Additional Costs:** None. Smart Fertilizer does not require additional regulators, wetting agents, or foliar applications.

### Key Benefits of DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer

1. **Fewer Applications, Lower Labor Costs:**

With Smart Fertilizer, one application lasts for 90 days, compared to four applications of Contact DG over the same period. This translates to significant labor savings, reducing application time from 40 hours per 90 days to just 10 hours—cutting labor costs by 75%.

2. **Cost Efficiency:**

While the initial cost of material for DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer appears higher, the savings are substantial when factoring in the reduction of labor and additional products. Contact DG requires regulators, wetting agents, and foliar treatments, all adding to the total expense. DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer requires no additional treatments, making it a more cost-effective solution over time.

3. **Environmentally Friendly:**

Smart Fertilizer's controlled-release technology ensures nutrients are efficiently delivered to the turf when needed, preventing leaching and runoff. This environmentally friendly approach results in healthier greens and fewer chemicals in the ecosystem.

4. **Simplified Maintenance:**

By eliminating the need for multiple applications and supplemental products, DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer reduces the complexity of maintaining healthy turf. Course superintendents can achieve superior results with fewer products and less effort, all while ensuring the best conditions for play.

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## **Conclusion: Make the Smart Choice**

Switching to DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer offers long-term savings on labor, materials, and additional products. The 90-day application cycle not only improves efficiency but also enhances turf health by ensuring a steady nutrient release over time. Ready to simplify your golf course maintenance while reducing costs? Choose DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer today and experience the difference for yourself.