

## **Transitioning from Warm-Season to Cool-Season Grass: Optimizing with DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer**

As turf professionals, we know the complexities of managing the transition between warm-season and cool-season grasses. The seasonal shift, particularly in regions like Arizona, demands precise nutrient management to ensure a smooth transition, promoting strong establishment of cool-season grasses while maintaining the health of warm-season turf. DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer's technology offers a highly efficient solution, reducing labor and additional inputs while optimizing nutrient delivery throughout this critical period.

Here's a fully vetted protocol from a respected golf course superintendent currently transitioning his course in Arizona.

### **Recommended Transition Protocol**

#### **Greens, Tees, and Fairways**

For transitioning from warm-season grass (such as Bermuda) to cool-season grass (such as Rye), follow these application protocols for consistent nutrient release over a 90-day period:

- **Greens (1mm pellets):**  
Apply **5 pounds per 1,000 sq ft** at the overseeding stage to ensure even nutrient release and promote rapid establishment of cool-season turf.
- **Tees & Fairways (2mm pellets):**  
Apply **5 pounds per 1,000 sq ft** during the overseeding process. This ensures the warm-season grass retains enough nutrients to stay healthy while cool-season grass is establishing. DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer releases nutrients consistently throughout the growth cycle.

#### **General Lawn and Open Area Applications:**

- **For transitioning larger open areas:**  
Apply between **2.33 and 5 pounds per 1,000 sq ft**. This application supports the overall nutrient needs for the transition period, ensuring that both warm- and cool-season grasses receive the balanced nutrients they require without leaching or flushing.

### **The DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer Advantage**

#### **90-Day Steady Nutrient Release:**

The transition period can be demanding on turf systems, and maintaining nutrient levels without over-application is key. With DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer's patented slow-release technology, nutrients are released consistently over 90 days, giving the new cool-season grass the foundation it needs while supporting the remaining warm-season turf.

#### **Reduced Labor and Input Costs:**

During the transition, most courses rely on multiple applications of conventional fertilizers, along

with regulators, wetting agents, and foliar products. With DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer, you'll need only **one application** per 90-day period, drastically cutting down on labor and additional product costs. This is particularly critical during the high-demand overseeding phase, where qualified labor shortages are common.

#### **Efficient Nutrient Utilization:**

After watering for 3-4 days, the unique swelling process of DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer begins. By **day 6**, you'll see evidence of nutrient uptake as the cool-season grass starts to establish. The formula ensures that nutrients are available exactly when the plant needs them, without wasteful leaching into the soil.

#### **Maximize Results with Organic REV:**

For optimal transition results, apply **DAKOTA REV** at **3 ounces per 1,000 sq ft** on a monthly basis. This combination provides a superior nutrient foundation that reduces or eliminates the need for other products like foliar nutrients, wetting agents, or fungicides.

#### **Proven Results for Seasonal Transition**

By following this protocol, turf managers will:

- **Strengthen cool-season turf establishment** while maintaining the integrity of warm-season grass.
- **Reduce the number of applications** needed during the overseeding process, cutting down labor and material costs.
- **Improve turf quality** by maintaining consistent nutrient levels and reducing the need for additional inputs such as fungicides or regulators.

#### **Conclusion: Take Control of Your Seasonal Transition**

The transition from warm-season to cool-season turf is a critical period for any golf course, and DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer offers an innovative, efficient, and cost-effective solution. This fully vetted protocol, tested and proven by a respected course superintendent, ensures you can optimize nutrient delivery during the transition phase with fewer applications and less stress on your budget.

Make the smart choice for your golf course by integrating DAKOTA Smart Fertilizer into your seasonal transition program today.