



Bayer

Dr. Colin Mumford talks technical support from Bayer

The sports turf industry is experiencing a rapidly changing regulatory environment. Active ingredients that have been a routine part of the turf manager's armoury, such as chlorpyrifos, have been removed from the market with very short notice. What's right, what's wrong, what can and what can't be used are all pertinent questions in this fast paced area of the turf industry.

My role at Bayer is to supply the answers to these questions, but when I meet greenkeepers and groundsman for the first time I'm often met with suspicion and get asked what experience do I have, and what qualifies me to give advice? This is a fair question as on initial appearances I have blister free hands and a slight paunch, suggesting I haven't done anything harder than push a pen around a piece of paper. So you could argue that the scepticism is well founded, based on my appearance.

What does qualify me to give advice?

I've worked in the amenity sector in some capacity since 1987 where my first introduction to turf maintenance was clearing trees from Chingford Golf Club, after the storms of 1987. Since then I've worked at a number of golf courses gaining industry qualifications, including BASIS, along the way. When I hit the big three-o I decided to become a mature student to improve my turf management qualifications. Over an extended period of study I achieved graduate and post graduate qualifications in turf management and since gaining these qualifications I've had various posts within the industry. Including technical officer for the New Zealand Sports Turf Institute, and technical manager for artificial surface specialists Sweepfast.

My current role at Bayer means I can use my experience to effectively communicate regulatory changes to turf managers as I understand the industry changes that are going on and can therefore offer advice to professionals on best practice and integrated pest and disease management.

So, if you have an issue or question regarding turf management please get in touch and I'll be able to offer you comprehensive technical support: e: colin.mumford@bayer.com t: 01223 226638

