

Fast Facts: A Wise Investment-How Resilia® and Indemnify® Paid Dividends in a Study at Pinehurst No. 2.

by the Green Solutions Team

Last summer, we conducted a research trial to test the effects of Resilia on a practice putting green at Pinehurst No. 2. The green had a history of low-level nematode populations, and we were eager to explore whether Resilia applications could provide visible improvements in turf quality at this iconic location. We applied treatments from April to July 2023 with the hope that differences would emerge by the end of the season.

However, despite our best efforts, no visible differences were apparent when the trial concluded in July 2023 (see left drone image below). We chalked it up to a case of inconclusive results and moved on.



Fast forward to June 2024, during the US Open at Pinehurst No. 2. Cameron Smith, an Envu area sales manager, was attending the event and happened to visit a concession stand located on the very green where we had conducted our Resilia trial the previous year. To his surprise, he noticed a distinct checkerboard pattern on the turf, with alternating green and yellow rectangles, and immediately sent a photo to the Green Solutions Team (top photo). Intrigued we decided to cross-reference this image along with another drone image taken later that day (below right) with our trial plot map-and to our amazement, the green rectangles perfectly corresponded to areas treated with Resilia and Indemnify in 2023.





Left: No visible treatment differences in the trial during 2023 due optimal growing conditions-a "bull market" for turf health. Right: Treatment differences appeared in June 2024 during a stressful "bear market" for turfgrass.

The most surprising aspect of this discovery was the delayed effect. It took nearly a year for the treatment to manifest visibly, much like a wise investment that doesn't immediately pay off. In 2023, the green enjoyed near-ideal conditions for bermudagrass growth: optimal fertilization, watering, and low traffic-akin to a "bull market" for turf health. But by 2024, the green was under considerable stress. Heavy foot traffic, minimal irrigation, low fertilization, and unusually hot, dry weather had all taken a toll-what we might call a "bear market" for turfgrass.

What we discovered is that Resilia acted like a long-term investment, protecting the roots and helping the turf withstand the agronomic "bear market" of 2024. The treated areas were significantly more resilient to the compounded stresses than their untreated counterparts, providing a valuable lesson in turf management. Proactive applications can pay dividends, especially during periods of stress, helping to maintain acceptable turf quality when it's needed most.

This trial underscored the importance of long-term planning in turf management. A year may seem like a long time for visible results, but the protection and resilience offered by Resilia can make all the difference when conditions become less than ideal.



Resilia and Indemnify plots were still visible on August 23rd, 2024. Treatments were applied four times from April through July 2023.