

Scotts®: the technical term for excellence

Globe Australia, NSW

As a result of the growing range of turf and greens-grade fertilizers on the market, making the most appropriate selection can be a technical undertaking, particularly when you consider homogeneity, particle uniformity and shape, flowability, release mechanisms of fertiliser, the pivotal importance of correct application, the list goes on. However, the success, or otherwise, of these considerations is always abundantly clear.

Scotts has committed years of research and technology towards producing the most appropriate fertilisers for specific needs. This has resulted in two strands of fertiliser: one uniform-homogeneous, and the other, uniform-blended.

Scotts Sierraform, with Contec technology, is an homogeneous fertiliser, expressly formulated for use on greens. It combines fast-working nitrogen with slow-release methylene urea in a single tiny granule. Each prill contains exactly the same proportion of nitrogen (N), phosphate (P) and potassium (K). This guarantees an even and constant supply of nutrients.

Sierrablen, however, is categorised as a 'uniform-blended' fertiliser. Sierrablen is a complete range of controlled-release fertilisers for fine-medium mown turf, sportsfields, tees, fairways, parks and recreational turf.

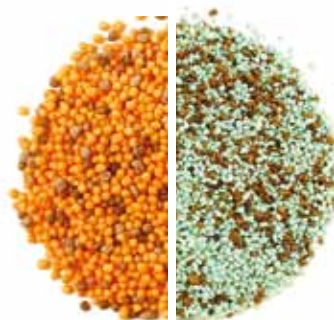
Common to both products is the uniformity of both particle size and shape, allowing even placement. Scotts uniform prill is also key to ensuring smooth hopper flow, and eliminating severe funnel-flow, rat holing, and bridging.

On the other hand, non-uniform sized prills invite segregation (layering) in the hopper and bags. In a commercial bag of non-uniform fertiliser, this segregation can occur as a result of shipping or day-to-day handling.



Scotts Sierraform
Greens Complete 22+2+8

The small homogeneous granules are of uniform size and shape allowing even placement within a highly balanced spreading pattern. In contrast, competitor blended products that are not uniform in size result in uneven placement and segregation.



Scotts Sierrablen Mini 25+2+10

This uniform-blended product, comprising prills of uniform size and shape, ensures smooth hopper flow, and balanced and even placement. The small prill size makes it a useful product for fine turf. In contrast, the competitor blended product shown has a larger prill size.

Uniformity and homogeneity together result in a highly balanced spreading pattern. Tests have shown that Sierraform ensures the grass surface receives a uniform dose of NPK. The result is minimal streaking and speckling.

While Sierraform has been developed as a greens-grade product, Scotts uniform-blended fertiliser, Sierrablen, is specifically recommended for use on fine to medium turf. As the particles maintain their all important uniformity, it is also highly effective when it comes to reducing speckling and streaking.

Further, the small size of Scotts fertiliser particles minimizes the visual effect on the turf's surface. This, in turn, correlates with a reduction in spotting and the potential for mower pick-up.