## Introducing Fort E Soil Surfactant

There have been numerous soil surfactant products introduced to the turfgrass market over the past couple of decades claiming to be new. Unfortunately these technology advances have mostly been a shuffling of existing surfactant materials that resurface as new products. Forté is truly different. It does contain a conventional surfactant similar to the others. That is where the similarities leave off. The surfactant in Forté is coupled with another component that dramatically increases the activity of the surfactant. In laboratory trials the magnitude of activity boost is

more than twelve fold that of just the surfactant alone. For example, in a test on extremely hydrophobic USGA specified root zone mix, water would not penetrate the surface over a 4 hour period. Other surfactants were able to provide water penetration in 25 to 30 seconds. Forte enabled the water to penetrate in 2 seconds.

The technology in Forté holds numerous U.S. and international patents for its unique chemical properties and ability to perform an array of functions including biofilm reduction. This may be a key factor in managing biofilm (organic acid compounds) buildup on soil particles. The primary role of Forte however is to accelerate penetration of water into the soil and reestablish hydration uniformly



Forté will not diminish turf quality that other products are known to cause initially after application. Application can be made in the morning then watered thoroughly (0.6 to 1.25 cm of water) in the evening though it is strongly recommended to provide an additional light irrigation cycle upon application. The purpose is to wash the product from the leaves into the canopy where it has greater protection from destructive ultraviolet light.

## Simplot SurfPack® Forté is a safe and effective soil surfactant designed for use on fine turfgrass. Once in the rootzone, Forte alleviates soil water repellency, the cause of localized dry spot. Forte enhances the infiltration and overall movement of water in the rootzone to provide enhanced turf performance. J. R. Simplot Company | P.O. Box 198, Lathrop, CA 95330 | www.simplot.com

Since the product has an elevated activity level the rates of application are very low. It only takes 12 ml per 100 m<sup>2</sup> in 8 Lt of water (1.2 Lt / Ha in 800 Lt of water) every 30 days. Higher rates up to 24 ml per 100 m<sup>2</sup> may be required in extremely hydrophobic areas. **During periods of heavy rain fall applications** in the 4-6 ml per 100 m<sup>2</sup> range will help move excessive water through the soil profile.

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