

TURF AND ORNAMENTAL WINTERIZATION: PROTECT PLANTS AND GAIN LATE SEASON INCOME WITH ECOLOGEL TECHNOLOGY



The fall and winter seasons can bring a variety of challenges to the green industry. Turf and ornamentals may be damaged or wiped out completely, leaving nothing but brown grass and landscape skeletons once spring emerges. Most commonly, damage is caused by desiccation or the drying of plant tissue. Historically the fall and winter months also represent a time when the workload decreases and applicators seek options to boost revenue. Ecologel provides several technologies that can help protect plants while providing late season income for applicators in both northern and southern climates.

Winter Desiccation or “Winter Burn”

Desiccation is a type of injury caused when the amount of moisture lost by the foliage exceeds the amount of water taken in by plant roots. In the winter months, desiccation commonly occurs in frozen or dry soils or areas affected by strong winds. By converting soil moisture vapor into plant usable droplets, Hydretain helps to replace the moisture lost to desiccating forces and protects plants from drying out during the harsh winter months.

Scenarios where winter desiccation may be prevalent, and where Hydretain may be particularly effective:

- Plants with compromised root systems or those that are damaged from summer stress
- Evergreens or other ornamentals that are particularly wind sensitive
- Turf with little or no snow cover for protection from drying winds
- Areas of late season aerification not able to heal before dormancy
- Hillsides and sloped areas that are chronically dry
- New plantings or shallow rooted ornamentals
- Localized dry spots

Seeding/Sodding/New Plantings

Hydretain has proven to increase seed germination and improve the establishment of seed, sod and sprigs, as well as newly planted trees, and ornamentals.

Late Season Heat Wave

Hydretain can help protect landscapes from drying out during late season heat waves after irrigation systems have been blown out and shut down for the winter.

Improved Recovery and Spring Green-Up

By protecting plants through the winter months, Hydretain improves emergence from winter dormancy.

Southern “Dry Season” and Winter Watering Restrictions

In southern climates, Hydretain provides ideal protection against winter drought stress and helps landscapes endure seasonal water restrictions.



Other Ecologel winterization solutions can be used or combined with Hydretain for optimal results.



The BioPro® Liquid Fertilizers

This line consists of both slow release as well as readily available fertilizers, complex and specialty micronutrients, soil conditioners and unique technologies to address specific turf and ornamental challenges.

- Phosphorus sources for improved root development prior to the winter season
- Reduction in soil salinity and damage caused by ice melt compounds
- Soil conditioners to improve water and nutrient holding capacity
- Slow release nitrogen sources for improved spring green-up
- Thatch reduction and improved soil microbial activity
- Acidifying fertilizers for soils inherently high in pH
- Late season and dormant nitrogen applications



Cytogro® Hormone Biostimulant

An EPA registered seaweed extract biostimulant consisting of cytokinins and auxins engineered to promote root growth and root mass development for turf and ornamentals. Benefits include:

- Protection from frost damage
- Increased root mass before winter dormancy for better carbohydrate reserve storage
- Improved color and vigor following the break of dormancy



For additional information or specific application questions, please contact our agronomic experts.