CLAIMS

1. A method for controlling or suppressing abiotic stress in warm-season turfgrass, comprising applying to the turfgrass or to the locus of the turfgrass, a turf quality improving amount of acibenzolar-S-methyl at a rate between about 32 and 96 g/ha.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the warm season turfgrass is Bermudagrass.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the warm-season turfgrass is Zoysiagrass.

4. The method of any one of claims 1 to 3, using a composition comprising acibenzolar-S-methyl.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the composition further comprises adjuvants, solvents, carrier, surfactants or extenders.

6. The method according to claim 5, wherein the composition comprises from 0.01 to 90% by weight of the acibenzolar-S-methyl, from 10 to 99.99% of a carrier and from 0 to 20% of a surfactant.

7. The method of any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein acibenzolar-S-methyl is applied at the rate of from 32 to 64 g/ha.

8. The method of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein acibenzolar-S-methyl is applied between about two and 18 times, at intervals of from 5 to 21 days during the turf growing season.

9. The method of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein acibenzolar-S-methyl is applied between about three and four times, at intervals of from 14 to 21 days during the turf growing season.

10. The method according any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the abiotic stress relates to drought conditions.

11. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the method further comprising applying trinexapac-ethyl to said warm-season turfgrass.