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Ted Woehrle



elected GCSAA Vice-President

Ted Woehrle, Golf Course Superintendent of Oakland Hills Country Club, was elected Vice President of the 5,000 member Golf Course Superintendents Association of America at their recent Conference and Show held in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Woehrle, has been Superintendent of Oakland Hills C.C. for the past 8 years after serving at Beverly C.C., Chicago and Point O'Woods C.C., Benton Harbor. He has untiringly served as Director of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America for four years, chairing such significant committees as Education and Editorial.

Locally, Ted is a Past President of the Michigan & Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association and a past director of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation. He is editor of "The Patch of Green", the MBCGCSA magazine.

Ted is married and has four children and resides in Troy.

GCSAA Delegates' Report

Presented herewith are some of the more important actions resulting at the 47th GCSAA International Turfgrass Conference & Show held in Minneapolis the week of February 8-13.

The dues increase (from \$65 to \$90) was passed unanimously by members present.

The following amendments to GCSAA by-laws passed (number of votes cast in parenthesis). Amendment

I (2335-236), Amendment II (2361-214), Amendment III (2389-182), and Amendment V (1977-549). Amendment IV was defeated by lack of 2/3 majority required (1486-1041).

Richard W. Malpass was elected President by acclamation. Theodore W. Woehrle was elected Vice-President (2069). Other candidates for this office were George W. Cleaver (189) and Gordon C. Witteveen (266). Three Directors were elected as follows: Melvin B. Lucas, Jr. (1938), Charles H. Tadge (1754), and David C. Holler (1197). Other candidates for Director were Michael R. Bavier (780), Hobart T. Burgan (881) and Roger A. Larson (296).

Jim Timmerman
Voting Delegate

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Legislation Extends Deadline for Applicator Certification

from Agri-News, January, 1976

Important changes in the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) have been made in recent months. Acting quickly, Congress had to meet a November 15 deadline to continue funding 1972's amended FIFRA which included regulations for pesticide registration, classification and applicator certification.

One significant change came under the applicator certification amendment, allowing farmers to certify themselves to apply restricted-use pesticides by signing a self-certification form. This will let growers buy and use all pesticides without affecting any product or market at the farmer level. Although the intent of Congress is to make farmer certification as easy as possible, federal guidelines give individual states the option of imposing stricter farmer certification requirements.

Deadlines Postponed

Also, all deadlines for certification, registration and classification of pesticides were postponed to October, 1977. This allows EPA an additional year for reregistering and classifying the 32,500 pesticides currently registered. States are gearing up to train and certify custom applicators, dealers and others who will apply restricted-use pesticides. Even with the deadline extended to 1977, many states will start programs next year.

Additional amendments to FIFRA include procedures allowing the Secretary of Agriculture to comment on EPA actions before they take effect. To do this, EPA will send proposed regulations and cancellations to the secretary 60 days prior to action. He then has 30 days to respond and

publish his comments with the EPA proposal in the *Federal Register*.

As for pesticide cancellations, the EPA administrator must consider the impact on prices and production of agricultural commodities, retail food prices and the agricultural community. Also, he must publish his analysis in the *Federal Register*.

Allows Public Debate

Furthermore, proposed cancellations must be submitted to a Scientific Advisory Panel. This panel will comment on health and environmental repercussions relative to the proposed cancellation within 30 days. This represents a dramatic change from present policy by allowing public debate centered around the secretary's comments and the proposed EPA action prior to final disposition.

Finally, under the new legislation, funding is extended to March 31, 1977 at \$71.4 million. In view of the controversies generated by EPA actions, the bill limited the funding extension to 18 months to allow Congress the opportunity to continue overseeing EPA operations.

Ciba-Geigy has several certification training aids available through its sales representatives. These include a film on proper pesticide application, two brochures on aerial application and one on ground application and a slide presentation explaining certification regulations.

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AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE 46TH ANNUAL M.S.U. TURFGRASS CONFERENCE



James Standish III presents a check, in the amount of \$2,000, from the Golf Association of Michigan and the Michigan Seniors Golf Association to the Directors of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation to aid turfgrass research at Michigan State University. Pictured from left to right are Michigan Turfgrass Foundation Directors: James Timmerman, Gordon LaFontaine, Ted Woehle, George Prieskorn, and James Standish III, Executive Director of the Golf Association of Michigan.



George Prieskorn (center), President of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, presents a plaque with a \$100 scholarship to two students at the Michigan State Turfgrass Conference held January 21, 1976. Pictured on the left is Carl P. Jacobs, recipient of the Outstanding Student Award of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation. On the right is James Rickley, recipient of the foundation's Norman W. Kramer Outstanding Scholarship Award.



Henry C. Lyon presents two scholarships from the TUCO Division of The Upjohn Company at the Michigan State University Turfgrass Conference January 21, 1976. Recipients of the awards are Wayne W. Ertel and William J. Kotenko.



Recipients of Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Scholarship awards at Michigan State University presented by Ted Woehrle, Board of Directors GCSAA. The presentation was made at the MSU Turfgrass Conference January 21, 1976. From the left are Jeff Sack, Scott Eicher, Ted Woehrle, and Robert Murphy.

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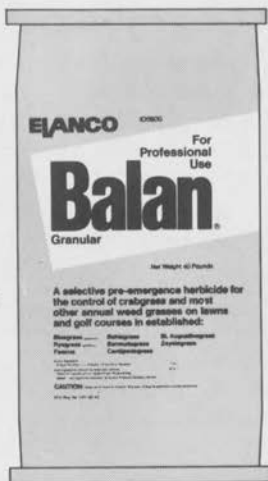
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O'Brien Expresses Regulatory Concerns

from Agri-News, January, 1976

Editor's Note: On October 29, Ciba-Geigy Agricultural Division President Charlie O'Brien, on behalf of the National Agricultural Chemicals Association, addressed the U.S. Senate's Subcommittee on Agricultural Research and General Legislation Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. The following is excerpted from the summary of his statement and expresses the concern the agricultural industry feels toward the administration of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

While we favor FIFRA, we are concerned with its administration. An annual average of only 5.4 new active ingredients for agricultural uses was registered during the years 1970 through 1974. Registrations for DDT, aldrin and dieldrin have been cancelled.

According to USDA figures for 1971, 20 insecticides accounted for 90.9 per cent of the farm acreage treated with insecticides. Thus, if you assume chlordane and heptachlor will be cancelled, EPA, in three short years will have removed as agricultural tools, 25 per cent of all important agricultural insecticides.

Where will this end? If farmers are to produce and consumers are to enjoy an abundance of food and fiber, the law must be administered in a manner that will encourage the development and use, under proper safeguards, of the pesticide the farmer needs.

Risk-benefit formula - FIFRA requires the administrator, in evaluating a pesticide, to take "into account the economic, social and environmental cost and benefit of the use of" the pesticide. The administrator has departed from this precept by (a) over-emphasizing risks through

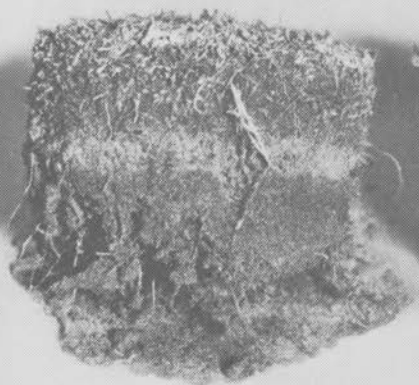
the creation of "rebuttable presumptions;" (b) giving undue weight to a single tumor-causing effect in any test animal; (c) failing to evaluate the inflationary impact of his regulations; (d) adopting certain principles of carcinogenicity which cannot be scientifically supported, and (e) continuing to impose new and additional data requirements in a late stage of the registration process with the result that new pesticides are prevented from reaching the market for periods of one, two or three years after research previously required was completed.

Adjudicatory hearings - FIFRA sought to assure affected persons of their day in court - with opportunity to present evidence at a full adjudicatory hearing - by providing for review in the courts of appeals on the record where there had been public hearings - and review in the district courts where there had not been public hearings. The agency has thwarted the congressional intent in this regard by administratively providing for limited public hearings in connection with many of its actions, thereby throwing review of these actions into the courts of appeals with an inadequate record and no opportunity for full hearings.

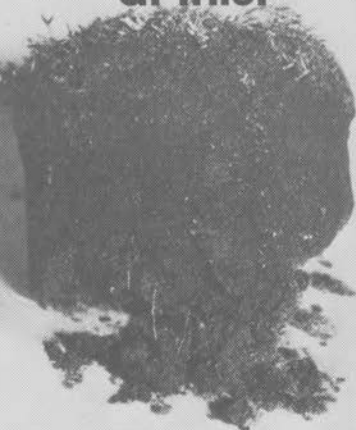
Agency's definition of "use" - The agency in its regulations issued on July 3, 1975, has extended the term "use" to include sale, storage and disposal of pesticides and pesticide containers. We think "use" was meant to describe the international application for pesticidal purposes. We hope that the term cannot be extended to result in penalties for accidents or mishaps in storage, disposal or for any other purpose.

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Relationship Between Superintendent and Green Committee Chairman

Midwest. Association of Golf Course Superintendents
23rd Annual Turf Clinic
December 3, 1975

This subject matter has to do with the relationship between the Golf Course Superintendent and the Club's Green Committee Chairman. Another way of saying this is their responsibilities to each other. I suppose I was chosen to discuss this because I have been Green Committee Chairman at Medinah since 1964, and if proper relationships haven't been established in that time - it's a hopeless case!

One thing about those 12 years is that it certainly provided continuity which is so important in long range programs. There is, of course, with this long tenure, the danger of becoming complacent, a possible lack of new ideas, a sameness of emphasis, and so forth.

Ted says 'Thanks'

To the members of the Michigan and Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association:

I would like to thank all of the members of our great chapter for your support and hard work in helping me get elected as the Vice President of the GCSAA.

It was a great effort that resulted in an *overwhelming* victory. I will always be proud of my membership in this association. You have impressed the entire country with your well organized campaign.

Thanks, also, to the Western Michigan Chapter and the Northern Turf Managers Association for their support.

Ted Woehrlé
Vice President, GCSAA

I hope there is no evidence of that out on our Golf Courses!

I must say, too, that there have been times when I wonder if things wouldn't go along just as well without a Green Committee. I'll bet there are quite a few of you out there cheering that little idea!

Seriously, however, overall, I do believe a Green Committee and its Chairman can perform a valuable service to a Club and be of use to the Golf Course Superintendent.

The relationship between the Golf Course Superintendent and the Green Committee Chairman is dependent on many factors, including such basic things as the Club's by-laws and organizational structure. It depends, too, on how much time the Chairman has or will devote to his committee work. In my case, I see John Jackman quite often and we talk on the phone once, twice and often three times a week. I would like it better if I could get out on the grounds more often.

The most important ingredients of a meaningful relationship, in my opinion, is to make sure there is understanding on common problems and goals, the establishment of trust in each other and good two-way communications on current conditions, problems and actions being taken.

If the Green Committee and Chairman function properly, they provide a means of communication between Superintendent and membership, which can be anywhere from 200 to 1,000 people. Without liaison, the Golf Course Superintendent conceivably could have these 200 to

Continued on Page 15

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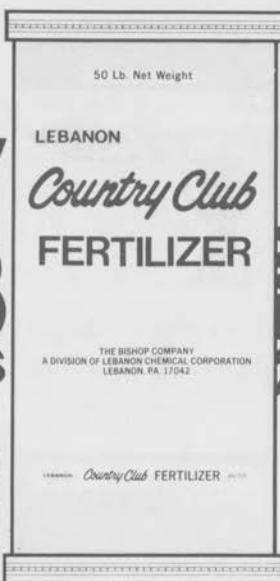
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Relationship Cont.

1,000 individuals as bosses - a horrible thought - and a fate possibly worse than death. The Golf Course Superintendent should ideally answer only to one club member - the Green Committee Chairman. To me, this is one of the Chairman's prime responsibilities - to act as a "buffer" between club members and the Superintendent. Except as casual conversation, I see no reason why a Superintendent needs to explain to a member why certain things were or were not done or why conditions are one way or another. Now, I'm not so naive as to think that the Superintendent will clam up or not respond to the Club President or other members on occasion but those are the exceptions we must accept. Explaining to the general membership is the duty of the Green Committee and its Chairman; although the Golf Course Superintendent should be provided a means of communication directly to the membership if he so desires. This can be in the form of letters, articles in the club periodical, bulletin board notices, etc.

The Chairman and Superintendent should make every effort to inform the membership of construction plans or work that may interfere with play ahead of time. It's best to avoid surprises.

The Green Committee Chairman can be of help to the Golf Course Superintendent by being alert to the

comments of members relative to golf course maintenance. He can be observant himself as he plays his course and other courses and inform the Superintendent of things he has noted or heard. These observances can then be evaluated by the Superintendent. This type of communication by the Chairman must be done in a constructive manner - not nit-picking or in the form of complaints.

The Green Committee has the great responsibility of serving fellow members, by seeing to it that the type of golf course and grounds the members want, is maintained. This is often difficult to ascertain. The big pitfall here is that too many Green Chairmen try to rebuild the course the way they want it. As a member I would hardly appreciate the idea of some 18 handicapper using my dues to change a 40 year old golf course to suit his game. The ideas of a 2 handicapper might be just as bad. I believe this is an area where the Superintendents can and should help the club membership by stopping members and committeemen from doing anything silly, which could spoil a good golf course.

Golf Course alterations should be planned and done by experts, with the best interests of the total membership in mind. The Golf Committee, Green Committee, Golf Course Superintendent, Golf Professional and, most important, a competent Golf Course

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Relationship Cont.

Architect should be involved when a course design change is being considered. The Golf Course Superintendent should welcome this help and support since he can always have a shot at altering the plan to accommodate maintenance or changes based on his local knowledge of conditions. One thing I can guarantee - no alteration is accepted by 100% of the membership!

Another pertinent duty of the Chairman in establishing a proper relationship, is to see to it that the Golf Course Superintendent and only the Superintendent, runs the grass-growing operation and everything related to it. This must be done in both a business-like way and a friendly, firm fashion. However, the Green Committee Chairman has the right to be informed so that he can again effectively act as liaison between the Superintendent and the membership.

Here at Medinah, John Jackman attends all our monthly Green Committee meetings, and is invited to participate occasionally at Financial Committee and Building Committee meetings as well as at Board of Directors meetings. His input is valued highly and is an example of good communications.

The Golf Course Superintendent must be supported fully by the Green

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Relationship Cont.

Committee Chairman and his committee. The Green Committee Chairman should see to it that the Superintendent has the support of all officers and directors of the club. This support is needed, for example, when it is necessary, in the judgement of the Superintendent, to close the course, establish temporary greens or tees, restrict the use of golf cars, or any other action that affects normal play. To place this authority in hands other than the man directly responsible destroys the proper line of authority and may cause costly damage. This does not mean that the Superintendent does not consult the Golf Professional and Club Manager or committee members, but the final decision must be his.

In still another area, the Green Committee Chairman must thoroughly understand the equipment and supply needs of the Superintendent. Normally,

the only way a Superintendent can get the things he needs to properly do his job is through the Green Committee Chairman. This includes the securing of money, ideally through establishment of sound and reasonable budgets.

It must be the responsibility of the Golf Course Superintendent to develop and propose the course maintenance and capital budget.

Budgeting must be a mutual effort, with equal consideration given to the Superintendent's problems and desires of the membership. I suppose a Superintendent can produce almost any grade of golf course quality dependent on the amount of money available. We'll have to allow some leeway for weather conditions.

Working closely with the Green Committee Chairman a logical reason or argument must be formulated for each expenditure or cost center. This is necessary to defend the proposed

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Relationship Cont.

budget to the finance committee, the Board of Directors and finally to the membership. Here is where you determine the quality golf course the membership is going to get. Here, too, is one of the real tests a Golf Course Superintendent must undergo. To me, budget preparation, and then the big task of living within that budget, is the name of the game.

The Green Committee Chairman must recognize the Golf Course Superintendent as a real professional. Not only is he a turf-grower, but an agronomist, mechanical engineer, chemist, supervisor and business manager. We must do all we can to increase his skills in each of these areas.

The Chairman must insist that the Superintendent be allowed and encouraged to attend, at club expense, seminars and meetings of various associations to which Golf Course Superintendents and country clubs belong. The Superintendent should take advantage of the U.S.G.A. services and the beneficial programs of universities and demonstrations by suppliers.

The Green Committee should be alert to golf course news found in golf magazines, trade journals and publications. Contact with instructive and informative agencies is an essential adjunct to successful planning.

The Green Committee Chairman

has other responsibilities in maintaining a good relationship with his Golf Course Superintendent. For instance; the Chairman, in my opinion, should not ask other Golf Course Superintendents opinions or advice on correcting problems at the Chairman's golf course. This obviously creates an awkward situation for everyone and probably should be met with stoney silence!

The same goes for calling in consultants. This must only be done with the approval of the Superintendent, or better yet, at the Superintendent's recommendation.

Oddly enough, many club members are impressed with the use of consultants or experts in various fields.

It might be a political gambit, but maybe Golf Course Superintendents should consider using such services more often. I wonder how many club members know that Golf Course Superintendents get together and discuss common problems! They should be told this. They should know about this very Clinic here today.

Another policy the Green Committee Chairman must observe is to deal only with the Golf Course Superintendent. He must avoid the pitfall of ordering anyone in the grounds crew to do anything. This is an organizational no-no, since it dilutes the authority of the Superintendent and lowers morale.

Continued on Page 20



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Relationship Cont.

Finally, the Chairman should make every possible effort to see to it that the Superintendent is fairly compensated and recognized for his work.

I've talked quite a bit about the Green Committee Chairman's responsibilities to the Superintendent. Let's go the other way a bit.

Aside from the normal turf growing function, a good relationship should foster a condition where the Superintendent readily accepts the responsibility for attaining certain goals. I'm referring to such things as constant cost reduction through mechanization, better equ

better equipment, use of his own turf and tree nurseries, his own small scale experimentation on turf, chemicals, seeds, fertilizers, etc. I'd expect him to surround himself with competent workmen with high morale and capable of withstanding unionization.

The individual crew member should be trained to do several jobs so that there is back-up available at all times. The Superintendent and the Green Committee Chairman must be concerned about the safety and general well-being of the crew including such items as lodging, wash-up facilities, food, hours of work, rates of pay, vacations, and every other working condition and fringe benefit.

Later today, you're going to hear John Jackman give an interesting talk on his experiences relative to Medinah's hosting of the U.S. Open so I will say very little about that event.

From my point of view, however, the holding of this tournament strengthens the case for everything I've said about our relationship. It was a very busy and interesting period what with two years of pre-

Continued on Next Page

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Relationship Cont.

paration and tending to hundreds of little details and several large projects. I wouldn't trade that experience for the world.

At the beginning I mentioned that good relationships mean a sense of responsibility to each other, trust in each other, an understanding of common goals and problems and good communication. In closing I'd just like to add one more and that is - that both parties use good old-fashioned horse-sense

D. F. Johnson

Ed. Note - Donald Johnson has been Green Chairman at Medinah C.C. for the past twelve years. Really a remarkable record.

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whisper -
Its cold stillness scaling a dispirited
ring -
Welcoming even the missing Dog's
eerie whimper -
This day; - or any Bird's flapping
wing -
To awaken the ghostly silence in the
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pelting the Barn's shingle remain -
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Octopus-like, in quiet repose.
To find the "Super" toiling on 135
Acres of grass is not a stone's
fling -
But lost today is the friendly chat to
enjoy in a warmly renewing sling.
Drenched, the Car ignited tardily,
blackening the snow-covered flakes
Skidding, drunken-like, - squealing
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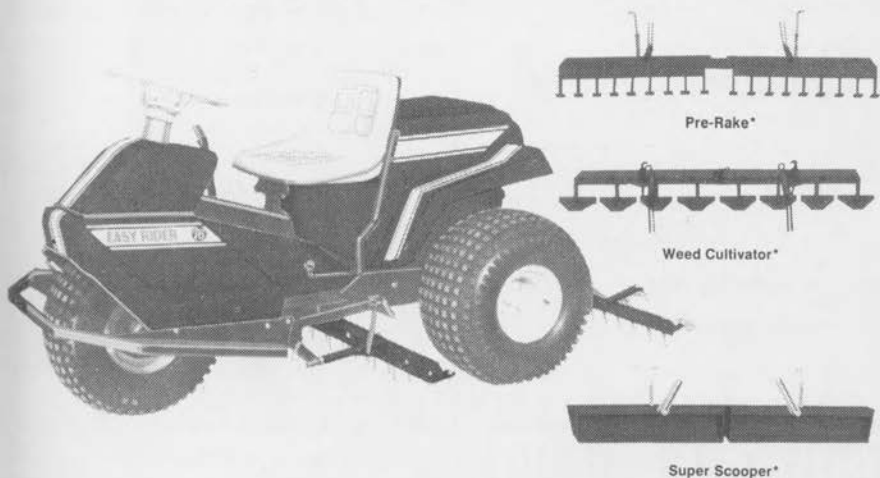
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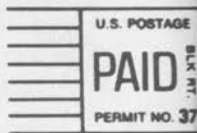
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