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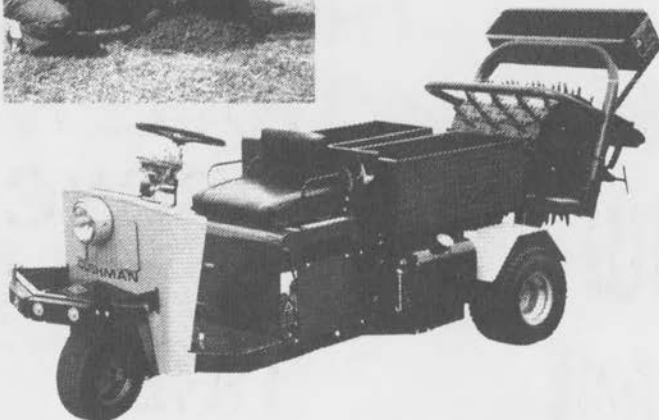
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**'A PATCH OF GREEN'**

*Published monthly by the*  
**MICHIGAN AND BORDER CITIES GOLF  
COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION**

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# USGA Regional Conference

## ... A Huge Success

Tuesday, March 21, 1978, at the Detroit Golf Club was the date and place of a most successful joint effort of the USGA - GAM and the Michigan and Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association.

This was the first attempt at the concepts of Regional Conferences conducted by the USGA. These meetings were so successful that we can expect to see them repeated next year in other locations. Meetings of this kind are helpful in establishing good relationships between the Superintendents and his Club Officials. We thank all the participants and, of course, Carl and his crew for planning this meeting here in Detroit.



Conference Chairman, Carl Swartzkopf, Director Mid-Continent Region USGA Green Section.



Panel Moderator, Jim Timmerman, conducting discussions with panel members on minimizing turfgrass maintenance problems in the future. Left to right: Mike Edgerton, Don Ratcliff, Chris Meyer, Jay DeICamp.



Chas. Wilson of the Milwaukee Sewerage Comm.



Dr. Harry Niemczyk from the Ohio Agricultural Research Development Center.

# A Review of Protective Measures

By J. R. WATSON, Vice President, The Toro Company

Techniques and procedures that protect, avoid and correct the damage that occurs in late winter-early spring are well known to and understood by the golf course superintendent. For the most part, protective measures relate to production of a healthy vigorous grass and to the control, to the extent possible, of the soil-plant environment. When these factors are adversely impacted by anomalous conditions of weather, poor construction or inadequate equipment and supplies, the responsibility for loss of turfgrass must be shared.

## I. To Protect Against Temperature Variations

1. Apply sound cultural practices in the fall of the year. This would include properly timed application of balanced fertilizer; cultivation of compacted areas and of such areas as slopes where water infiltration is poor; controlled application of water - to ensure satisfactory soil moisture, mowing in accordance with growth requirements - raise height of cut on areas known to be susceptible to desiccation; implementation of disease control programs at the proper

time - fall and spring. (Programs to control or eliminate insects, weeds and thatch would have been implemented at earlier date.)

2. Control traffic, especially during critical periods.
3. Use mulches or covers if warranted.
4. If late winter-early spring play is anticipated, cut cups in the fall and fill with newspaper.
5. Cut temporary greens if needed.
6. Work toward elimination of Poa annua.
7. Develop programs to introduce new improved grasses as they become available. Seed greens lightly each fall to help eliminate Poa annua.
8. Avoid practices that stimulate excessive early growth or that produce soft succulent growth in early spring.
9. Apply fungicides as needed.

## II. To Protect Against Traffic

1. Develop programs to control traffic during critical times and on critical sites.
2. Enlist support of all golfers.
3. Take pictures of damage and

Continued on next page



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### Protective Measures Cont.

make presentation to greens committee and membership.

### III. To Protect Against Ice Sheets and Ponded Water

1. Improve drainage.
2. Redesign and rebuild if necessary.
3. Leave snow as insulator as long as possible.
4. Apply dark material (Milor-ganite) to ice sheets to make them porous.
5. Mechanically break up solid (non-porous) ice sheets if temperatures range into 50's or greater for extended periods.
6. Apply fungicides as needed.

### IV. To Protect Against Limited Soil Water

1. Water in the fall as late as is

needed to ensure good fall and winter supply of soil moisture.

2. Use covers and mulches to protect vulnerable sites.
3. Plant superior permanent grasses.
4. Apply those cultural practices needed to ensure adequate storage of food reserves and that develop deep rooted, extensively branched grass plants.
5. Apply water to counteract desiccating conditions - haul if necessary.
6. Apply fungicides as needed.
7. Avoid all practices that stimulate early excessive growth or that produce soft, succulent growth.

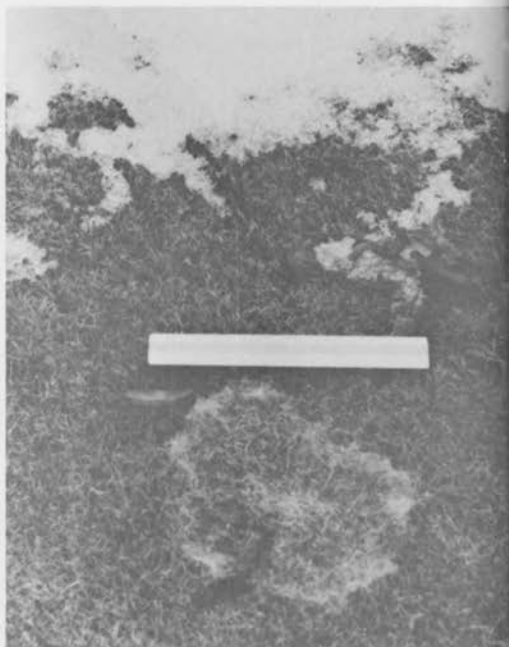
## The Winter of 1977-78 Ice Sheet Damage

Now that we have had time to review the effects of the weather of last winter on our golf course turf, we realize that it was one of our worst winters in recent years. First indications were encouraging. Deep snow during the severe cold seemed to afford protection and the turf looked alive and healthy.

As the snow melted, it became obvious that a layer of ice had developed during the winter. It was hidden by the deep snow and few knew of its existence.

Many golf courses lost large areas of turf due to "ice sheet damage."

Continued on page 10



Snow mold

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### Ice Sheet Damage Cont.

The last time such extensive damage occurred was in 1962. This was the old black stinky damage that has never been duplicated under laboratory conditions. It appears to be an anaerobic condition. Recovery is slow but should be complete by mid July.

Right: Heavy snow mold damage — all superficial.

Below: Ice damage and snow mold.



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NAME OF INTERESTED PERSON \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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Or you may contact the next golf course supplier who calls on you and give him the information needed for application.

## Flower Show results

Once again, we have managed to pay for our main prize with the proceeds from the ticket sales at the annual Home & Garden Show. Captains of the booth for the week the Flower Show were:

Fritz McMullen  
Ted Woehrle  
George Prieskorn  
Chris Meyers  
Mike Edgerton  
Roger Gill  
Don LaFond  
Bruce Wolfrom  
Walt Trombley

Gross income was \$2,527.25. All tickets have now been distributed to the entire membership. You are expected to sell \$30.00 worth of tickets. A small request for what you gain in return.



### Softball League



The organization of this year's softball league is beginning. Letters have been sent out and the schedules should be out soon.

Last year's champs Meadowbrook, who competed in the playoffs with Oakland Hills, Birmingham, Plum Hollow and Farmington, will be back at it again this year.

If you are interested and did not receive an entry letter, feel free to call the shop at Meadowbrook 313-349-3608.

Hope the second year is as much fun as the first.

Pete Talbot (MCC)

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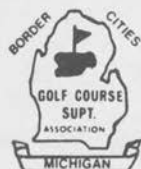
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## MEETING SCHEDULE for 1978

- JULY 11 - Oakland University  
Course. Noon meeting  
at Silver Dome  
AUG. 1 - Travis Pointe  
AUG. 22 - Burroughs Farms -  
Picnic  
AUG. 31 - Bay Pointe G.C.  
SEPT. 7 - GOLF DAY  
SEPT. 13 - M.S.U. FIELD DAY  
Traverse City C.C.  
OCT. 3 - Maple Lane Golf Club  
OCT. 24 - Grosse Ile G. & C.C.

- Chairman Bruce Wolfrom

## Control for Ataenius Beetle cleared for Ohio turfgrass

Research by Ohio entomologists has resulted in the granting of a state special use label permitting Ohio golf course Superintendents to use diazinon to control the adult stage of the ataenius beetle. Dr. Harry Niemczyk has sent us the following information:

### DIRECTIONS FOR USE

It is a violation of federal law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.

*Ataenius spretulus* ("ataenius beetle") adults. Apply 6 qts. per acre (4.4 fl. oz. per 1,000 sq. ft.) in sufficient water for good distribution. Water grass lightly (about 5 minutes) immediately after application.

*Note:* Apply in late April-early May when ataenius beetles begin laying eggs in the turf (*when black locust trees are in full bloom.*)

Diazinon trademark of CIBA-GEIGY  
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EPA SLN NO. OH-780002

Richard L. Feulner  
Manager, Product Registration  
January 25, 1978

Approved by Ohio Dept. Agriculture,  
Oren W. Spilker March 20, 1978 - HDM

Several Michigan Superintendents have applied recommended rates at various spring dates. We will all be watching the results.

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## Biography of Paula M. Dietz



Originally from Garden City, Michigan, a suburb of Detroit. Began attending Michigan State University in 1973, majoring in Crop and Soil Sciences - Turfgrass Management. In March of 1975, left MSU for a professional internship in Turf and Ornamentals at the Wayne County Cooperative Extension Service in Wayne, Michigan. Returned to MSU in 1976 to finish Bachelor of Science degree in Crop and Soils - Turfgrass Management. Upon returning accepted the Part-time job with MSU as the Turfgrass Extension Associate, dealing primarily with homeowner lawn problems.

Other turf related job experience includes member of the grounds crew at a Brooklane golf course in Northville, Michigan, June 1974 - August 1974 and the gardener for a family in East Lansing, Michigan, September 76-March 78.

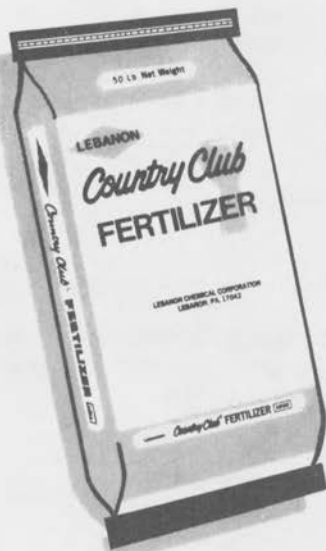
As a Senior in Turfgrass Management was the recipient of the Burt Bradshaw Award for the outstanding student in Turfgrass Management sponsored by Lawn Equipment, Inc. Royal Oak, Michigan. In June, 1978 upon graduation will become a full-time staff member in the Crop and Soil Sciences Department at Michigan

Continued on next page

## MICHIGAN TURFGRASS NORTHERN FIELD DAY

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## Cecil Kerr joins Mallinckrodt

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Mr. Kerr will be located at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and will have sales responsibility for the North Central states. A key part of Mr. Kerr's duties will be to represent Mallinckrodt nationally at turf trade shows, golf course superintendents' meetings, and university turf conferences. Mr. Kerr brings to Mallinckrodt twenty-five years of management and chemical sales experience in the turf industry,

and is widely known as a speaker at turf meetings and conferences.

Mr. Kerr has a BS in Agriculture and an MA in Agricultural Education, minoring in Soil Chemistry and Plant Physiology, from Michigan State University.

### Paula M. Dietz Cont.

State University, as the Specialist in Turfgrass Management. Hobbies include golf, sewing, drawing, painting and gardening.

### Business Address:

Dept. of Crop & Soil Sciences  
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East Lansing, MI 48824  
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## The Wilkie Company announces a \$1,200,000 expansion

To anchor its move into the manufacturing business The Wilkie Company recently acquired Economy Tool and Machine Company and The Stamping Division, Inc. from retired Muskegon industrialist John E. Mendendorp.

Since both companies will be operated as wholly owned subsidiaries of The Wilkie Company, Walter J. Wilkie, its president, said that the company has purchased a site from The Greater Muskegon Industrial Fund where they will break ground for a sixty thousand square foot facility, giving them the needed to expand their existing business base while still providing for the additional growth that will be staged into the companies operations as they make the additional investments required to vertically integrate and bring in-house many of those operations currently being vended on the outside.

## Dr. Clay Switzer visits Texas A&M University

Dr. Clay Switzer, Dean, College of Agriculture at the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, visited the Turfgrass Project in the Department of Soil & Crop Sciences at Texas A&M University during the February-March period.

He attended lectures in the turfgrass and weed control areas plus observing the on-going research program. Dr. Switzer is very active in Canada in the areas of turfgrass weed control and growth regulation.

He is the newly elected chairman of the International Turfgrass Society and will be involved as host for this organization's conference in Canada in 1981.

— Dr. James B. Beard  
Texas A&M University  
College of Agriculture

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— Calif. Divot News

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### A PATCH OF GREEN

31823 Utica Road  
Fraser, Michigan 48026

## Northrup King Professional Turf Department adds Barkhurst

Northrup King Co. has announced that Mark Barkhurst has joined its staff as a Turf Specialist for the Professional Turf Products Department. He recently graduated from Ohio State University where he received a B.S. degree in agronomy.



Based in Columbus, Ohio, Barkhurst covers the Ohio and Michigan sales territory, representing Northrup King's complete line of professional turf products, including straight varieties, custom and special mixes and pre-formulated mixtures.

## WHAT IS HAPPINESS?



Golf is happiness for  
happiness is achievement  
The father of achievement is motivation  
The mother is encouragement  
The fine golf swing is truly achievement  
Man may lie, cheat, and steal for gain  
But, these will never gain the golf swing  
To gain the golf swing man must work  
Yet it is work without toil  
It is exercise without boredom  
It is intoxication without the hangover  
It is stimulation without pills  
It is failure yet its successes shine even  
more brightly  
It is frustration yet it nourishes patience  
It irritates yet its soothing is far greater  
It is futility yet it nurtures hope  
It is defeating yet it generates courage  
It is humbling yet it ennobles the human spirit  
It is dignity yet it rejects arrogance  
Its price is high yet its rewards are richer  
Some may say it is a boy's pastime yet it  
builds men  
It is a buffer for the stresses of today's living  
It cleanses the mind and rejuvenates the body  
It is these things and many more for those of  
us who know and love it.  
GOLF IS TRULY HAPPINESS

# Don't be TRAPPED...Use the **EASY RIDER '76** TRAP MAINTENANCE SYSTEM

Why does Easy Rider '76 do the BEST job maintaining your sand traps?

Because Easy Rider '76 is not just another trap rake. The Easy Rider is a complete TRAP MAINTENANCE SYSTEM specially designed to maintain sand traps. The simplified finishing rake provides ultra-fine top layer raking, superior to a hand raked finish.

In addition to the rear mounted finishing rake, there are THREE INTERCHANGEABLE ATTACHMENTS: The *Weed Cultivator*, a *Super Scooper* and, for 1976, a *Pre-Rake*, all of which can be operated independently or simultaneously with the rear mounted finishing rake.

The entire body of Easy Rider is molded fiberglass, mounted on a steel chassis. The rear engine hood and fender section is hinged for easy maintenance.

**The Pre-Rake\***—Uniformly scarifies tightly packed sand where a softer, deeper raked surface is desired.

**The Weed Cultivator\***—Knocks out weeds and loosens deep, hard packed sand. The operator controls the cultivating depth.

**The Super Scooper\***—Picks up eroded sand in low spots and transports it back to the desired high locations. The operator controlled hand lever spreads and feathers the sand to a level finish in one easy operation.



## SMITHCO

\*Patent Pending



**LAWN EQUIPMENT CORPORATION**

520 W. 11 MILE ROAD ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN 48068  
TELEPHONE: 313: 398-3636



## The E-Z-GO Maintenance Machine.

The E-Z-GO GT-7 Truck is a vital part of any efficient maintenance system.

The GT-7 is engineered for versatility and durability.

Its all-steel construction takes on the tough jobs longer.

# E-Z-GO

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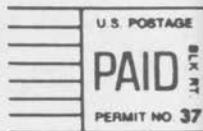
# W.F. Miller

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Equipment Company

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