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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kevin Dushane
Golf Course Superintendent
Bloomfield Hills Country Club

What is Regulation #637? Do you know what a material safety data sheet is? What are hazardous wastes? These are questions every golf course superintendent should be able to answer because these issues will have a definite impact on pesticide applications to your golf course in the near future.

About nine years ago the state of Michigan instituted a law that required applicators of pesticides to be certified in order to purchase and apply restricted pesticides and how to properly handle and store the materials. This law affects everyone, from home lawn sprayers to golf course superintendents. Now, stricter laws are being placed on pesticide applicators due to Regulation #637, which recently passed legislative approval. This regulation is commonly referred to as the Right to Know Bill and will be in effect sometime in early 1987.

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The Industrial Relations Committee chaired by Ken DeBusscher is now in the process of preparing information concerning the Right to Know Bill. This information will be sent by mail to the general membership in the near future to assist you in understanding the new legislative regulations concerning pesticide applications.

Early in March a small group of superintendents met with most of the suppliers associated with our organization. The discussion focused on the distribution and use of pesticides and other materials that require proper handling. There is a mutual concern among us as to the best way to distribute and use the products on the golf course. We must continue to keep our profession above reproach as public awareness concerning pesticides is beginning to broaden.

Just a few weeks ago the headline on the front page of the *Oakland Press* read, "Perilous Cargoes Ride Unchecked in Oakland". Alongside the headline were two signs, one reading "Dangerous", the other showing a skull and crossbones with the word "Poison" underneath the very descriptive picture. The article went on to describe how hazardous wastes are being carried on public roadways and the potential dangers involved. The point I am trying to bring out is that the public reads stories like these in the papers or sees them on television and some people may become very concerned about pesticide use. Those same people may be members at your golf course. This is why it is extremely important that we maintain a highly professional manner in applying pesticides to turf. Read the labels and use only as specified by the label. Do not spray when it is too windy. Be sure applicators are properly clothed and take all precautions during applications to avoid any unfavorable effects to the environment and man. If pesticides and other chemical compounds are applied and used in a proper and safe manner the risk of any potential problem can be significantly reduced, if not eliminated.

At one of our educational meetings this summer we intend to have a representative of the Department of Agriculture explain in layman's terms the meanings of the new laws and how it affects us. Please try to attend this very important meeting as it can only benefit you. Also, we will try to keep you informed of any developments in the new Right to Know Bill.

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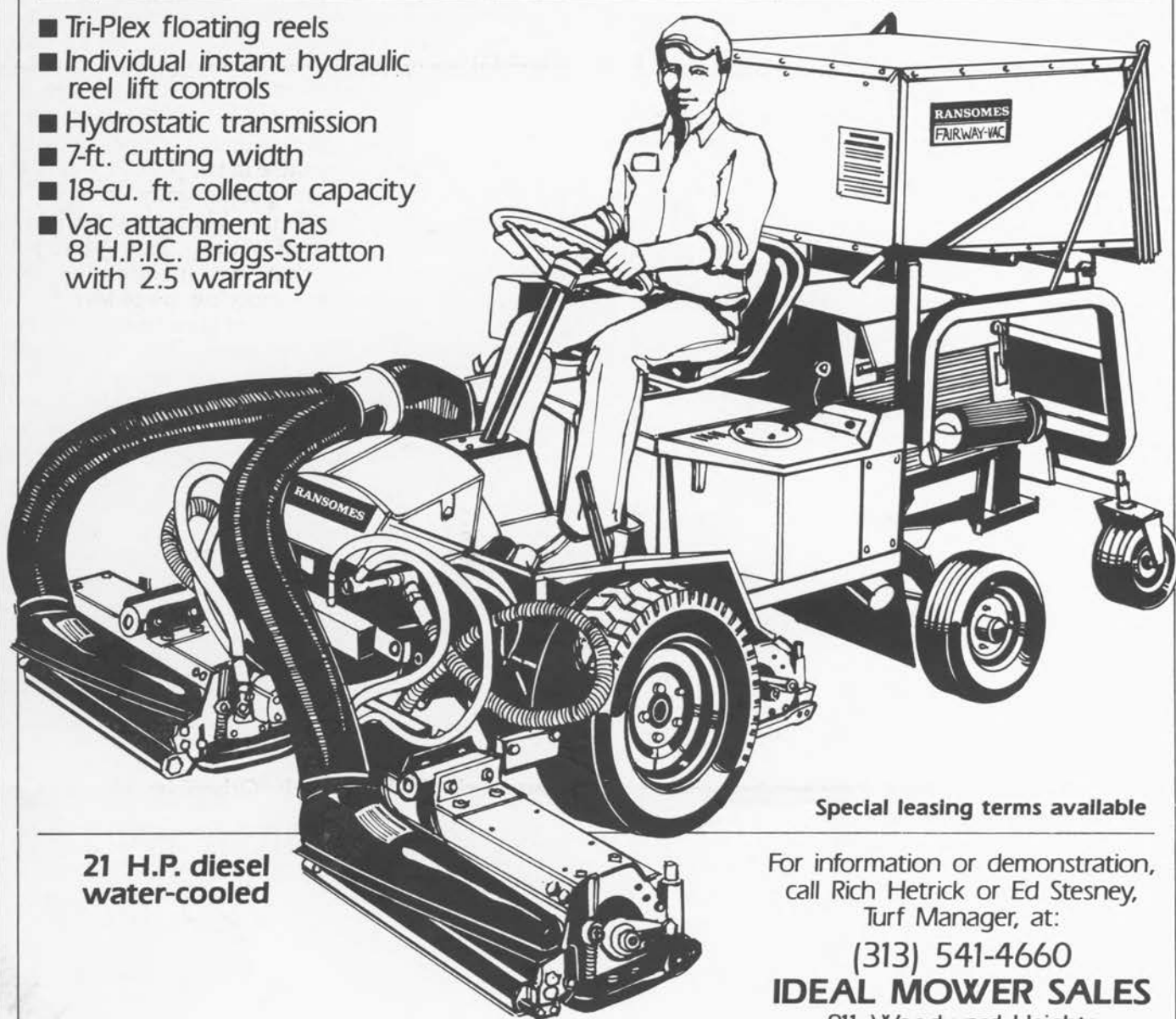
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Rubigan ³	.5 oz.	11.0
Daconil 2787 4F ⁴	6 fl. oz.	4.6
Untreated	—	26.5

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P. H. Dermiden, J. D. Fry
Dept. of Agronomy, University of Maryland

ANTHRACNOSE CONTROL Michigan State University 1982
Glen Gary Golf Club, Sylvania, Ohio

Treatment	Rate/ 1,000 Sq. Ft.	Application Interval	Disease Rating % Plot Infected 8/5	8/17
TERSAN® 1991	1 oz.	21 days	8.3	0.7
Bayleton	2 oz.	30 days	11.7	1.7
Duosan	4 oz.	21 days	21.7	8.3
Clearys 3336 ⁵	1 oz.	21 days	30.0	18.3
Fungo 50 ¹	1 oz.	21 days	28.3	19.0
Daconil 2787 4F	6 fl. oz.	14 days	38.3	28.3
Actidione TGF + Actidione RZ ⁶	.34 + 55 oz.	14 days	48.3	65.0
Vorlan	1 oz.	21 days	55.0	60.0
Untreated	—	—	58.3	66.7

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The GAM & MBCGCSA Green Seminar

The annual MBCGCSA and GAM Spring Green Seminar was held March 15 at the Detroit Golf Club. Over 210 green chairmen, golf course superintendents, club officials, club managers and golf professionals were in attendance. This was the largest audience to ever attend the Spring Seminar which is indicative of the growing interest the GAM members are showing in their desire to obtain turf conditions for their golf courses through the golf course superintendent.

Charlie Gaige was the moderator for the program and did an admirable job in keeping the agenda running smoothly.

The program began with Mr. Charles Baer, member at Birmingham C.C. and a former green chairman teaming with Birmingham C.C. golf course superintendent Tom Mason to discuss the topic, *Club Leadership & The Superintendent*.

Baer felt one of the first duties of a new green chairman is to recognize his responsibilities and carry them out to the benefit of the total membership. Also, the chairman has to remember he is not an agronomist. He is a communicator between the members, the Board of Directors and the golf course superintendent. Baer encourages the superintendent to join and participate in local and national superintendent organizations. One point Baer stressed was to hire a professional golf course architect if the golf club desires to make any major changes in the golf course layout. This will protect the superintendent from unwarranted criticism in the future from disgruntled members. Mr. Baer stated the need for the course to be prepared for the maximum amount of days during the year. This would be particularly true in Michigan as our golf season is, at a maximum, nine months long.

Tom Mason followed Mr. Baer by emphasizing the importance of cooperation, coordination and communication in the superintendent's relationship with

the membership. One of the objectives Tom tries to accomplish at his club is making the members time as enjoyable and valuable as possible while they are at the golf course. Mason feels it is beneficial to write articles concerning the operation of the golf course in the Club's monthly newsletter. Also, writing information on the locker room bulletin boards pertaining to major disruptions to the golf course (such as aerifying greens, fairways, etc.) would be advantageous to your relationship with your members. Both Mason and Baer discussed the need of the green chairman and the superintendent playing golf on a regular basis. Playing the golf course and seeing it through the eyes of a golfer enhances the ability to determine the needs of the golf course.

The purpose of this presentation was to show the need for good communication between the superintendent and the membership, particularly the Board of Directors and the green committee. Baer and Mason did a superb job in projecting their philosophies to the audience.

Dr. Paul Rieke of Michigan State University was next on the program and gave a report on *Research Update on Aerification Equipment*. Dr. Rieke stated that aerification on the golf course can be controversial because it disrupts play for a period of time. But he stressed the importance of aerification because it relieves compaction, removes thatch, improves water and air penetration into the soil and aids in a stronger root system of the turf. Rieke pointed out that 5% of the aerified turf area is opened up using 1/2" tines on greens. Also, the depth of aerification should be varied to prevent a consistent compacted layer underground.

Solid tine aerification was discussed at length. Rieke said that solid tine aerification was originally thought to cause more compaction but tests are showing there may be some merit in the use of solid tines under

L to R - CHARLIE GAIGE, TOM MASON, ART HILLS, NEIL MacPHEE, MARTY MILLER, PETER COOKINGHAM, FRITZ McMULLEN, PAUL RIEKE, JEFF RIVARD, BRUCE WOLFROM, MIKE EDGERTON, JIM LATHAM, CHARLES BAER.





DR. PAUL RIEKE

certain conditions. He felt more studies will need to be done to determine if it will be effective. This testing is presently being funded by a GCSAA-USGA research grant through the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation. Jim Murphy is the graduate student conducting the research on solid tine aerification, working under the supervision of Dr. Rieke. More studies are to be done this summer at the Hancock Research Center and additional data should be available later in the year.

Rieke concluded his talk by saying aerification should be done when soil is on the dry side. It cannot be too dry or turf injury could occur. Both solid and hollow tines cause some compaction at the bottom of the aerification hole but they show no difference in compaction to a 3" depth.

Aerification on a golf course is an important tool for the superintendent in his maintenance program and we are fortunate to have Dr. Paul Rieke conducting these tests.

Dr. Peter Cookingham, Project Manager at Michigan State University, spoke on the USGA Research Library at MSU. The new library is a computerized on-line index for turfgrass literature - the only turfgrass information file of its kind in the world. The selection of MSU to house the research library was due to the University's long-standing interest in collecting turf literature. The O.J. Noer Foundation began storing information at the school many years ago and MSU seemed to be the logical choice for the library.

The computer was purchased in 1984 and it will allow a person to call the turfgrass research library and request information relating to turf. The information

CONTINUED PAGE 10



PETER COOKINGHAM - MSU Library Staff



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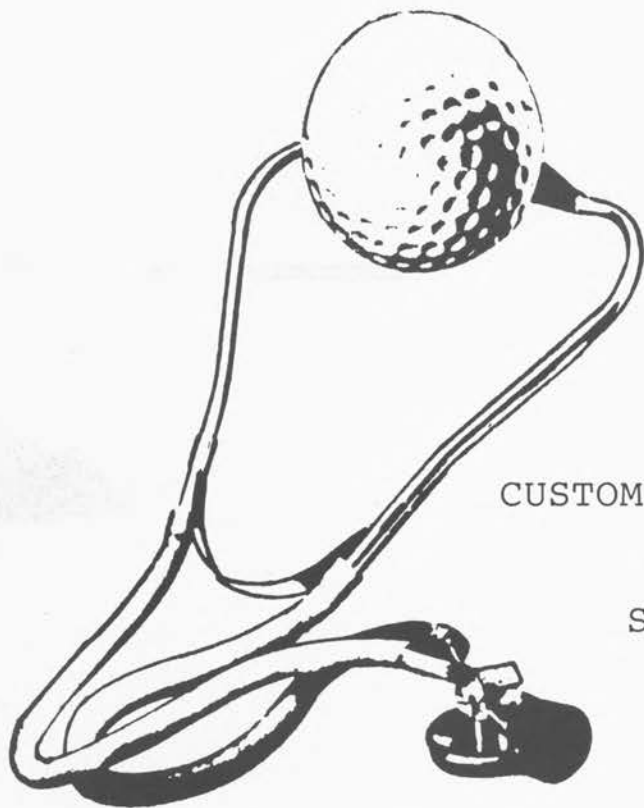
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BERTONI RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



Andrew Bertoni

At the recent GCSAA Conference and Show in San Francisco, Andy Bertoni was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding contributions to the golf course industry throughout the years.

Andy's warm personality and his everlasting humor sometimes overshadow his accomplishments as a golf course superintendent. The numerous years he has spent on the golf course have given him many

memorable experiences, ones in which he shares with everyone. His dedication and sincerity to the game of golf and the golf course superintendent is second to none. Here is a brief summary of Andy's history in the golf course industry.

Andy was born in Genoa, Italy, in 1913 and came to the United States when he was only six months old. He has lived in Michigan ever since.

Bertoni was introduced to the world of golf when he worked as a caddie at Barton Hills C.C., Ann Arbor, Michigan.

While attending college, he worked for a construction crew on a golf course. In 1945 Bertoni accepted a golf course superintendent position at Barton Hills. Two years later he joined GCSAA. In 1952 he moved to the Meadowbrook C.C., Northville, Michigan, where he hosted the Motor City Open three years and the PGA Championship in 1955.

Andy stayed at the Meadowbrook C.C. for 17 years until 1969 when he accepted a position at Holly Green GC, Holly, Michigan. In 1972 he accepted a job with the W.A. Cleary Corporation.

Bertoni has been very active in both his regional GCSA and GCSAA. He has served as Director, President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Michigan and Border Cities GCSA and was on the Golf Association of Michigan Green Section. He was made an honorary member of the Canadian GCSA and served on the USGA Green Section Committee.

He served as a Director of GCSAA in 1953, 1954, 1957 and 1958 and as chairman of the PR committee. He is also a member of the Association's Quarter Century Club.

Bertoni originated a trophy given annually to the person who has done the most for golf in Michigan. It is in honor of Charles G. Chaptman.

The MBCGCSA congratulates Andy on this once-in-a-lifetime achievement, and award in which he truly deserves. We wish the very best for Andy and his wife, Evelyn.

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MEETINGS FOR 1986

Special Olympics	May 6	Links at Pinewood
Joint Mtg/Mgrs & Pros	May 19	Links at Pinewood
Right-To-Know Laws	June 23	
Mole & Muskrat Control	July 21	City of Ann Arbor
Geese Control	August 4	
Joint Meeting/NW Ohio		
Dr. Joe Vargas - MSU	Sept. 16	Tecumseh GC
Cart Path Maintenance (Round Table Discussion)	Sept. 22	St. Clair Shores
MTF Golf Day	Oct. 6	
C.H. Wolfrom Classic & Annual Meeting	Oct. 22	Maple Lane GC
GCSAA "Golf Course Design II"	Nov. 4,5	Lansing

GREEN SEMINAR, Cont.

will be in a condensed form and will include any articles written on the requested subject that has been published in past years. The computer library is now in operation and currently does not charge for its services. Information has been fed into the computer since its beginning and it will be many months before all the vast turfgrass information available is categorized and catalogued. If anyone would like to contact the library the telephone number is (517) 353-7209. Keep this number available for possible future use.

Gordon LaFontaine, Executive Secretary of the MTF informed the audience on the new Right to Know Bill and the involvement the MTF has had in monitoring the legislative laws being introduced to regulate the application of pesticides on turfgrass. Most golf course superintendents are certified pesticide applicators as

struction was discussed at length by a panel consisting of Art Hills, golf course architect and golf course superintendents Fritz McMullen, Mike Edgerton and Marty Miller.

Art Hills career as a golf course architect began in 1966 and since that time he has designed 40 courses. He is currently based in Toledo, Ohio. His talk encompassed the many styles of bunkers designed in the early history of golf and how they are used today. His slide presentation was excellent as they showed the wide variety of bunkers, the different design characteristics and the philosophy behind their development.

Hills said that bunkers are classified into three categories - Penal hazards, Strategic hazards and the Heroic hazard. Architects have an infinite number of ways expressing these hazards in the design of a golf



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BRUCE WOLFROM



ART HILLS - Golf Course Architect

required by the State of Michigan to apply certain restricted pesticides. Since golf courses will be affected by this new law it is important that golf course superintendents be aware of the proper spraying procedures and continue to apply pesticides in a highly professional manner.

Bruce Wolfrom, past president of the MTF, updated everyone on the Foundation and many of the studies being conducted by the MSU staff in relation to golf courses. Bruce also thanked the GAM for the financial support the MTF has received from them over the years.

Many clubs are beginning to develop interest in improving the bunkers on their golf course so the next topic on the program proved to be timely and appropriate. *Bunkers - Philosophies, Designs & Con-*

course. They may be pot bunkers, waste areas, grass bunkers, flat bunkers with grass faces or bunkers cut into knolls with sand faces. He also stressed the importance of proper drainage around bunkers so washouts will not be a problem. Bunkers can be used to give depth perception, add beauty to the landscape and be placed where they can prevent an errant shot from going out of bounds or into a water hazard. Mr. Hills remarked that flat bunkers with grass faces are easiest to maintain. He emphasized the need to place bunkers around greens so there is proper access and exits to and from the green which will prevent excessive wear in a limited area. Mr. Hills felt a master plan could be of value to a golf club in determining its long range goals.

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FRITZ McMULLEN

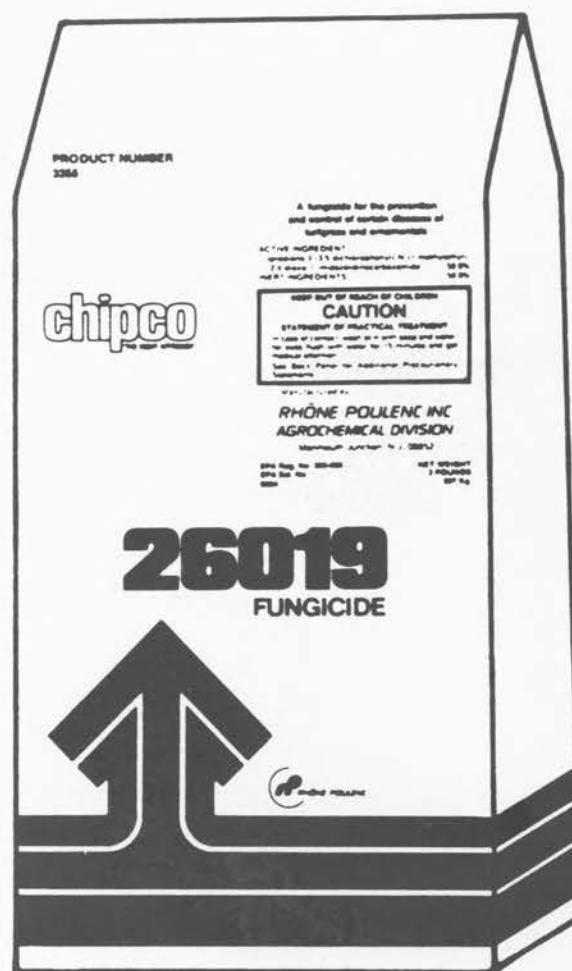


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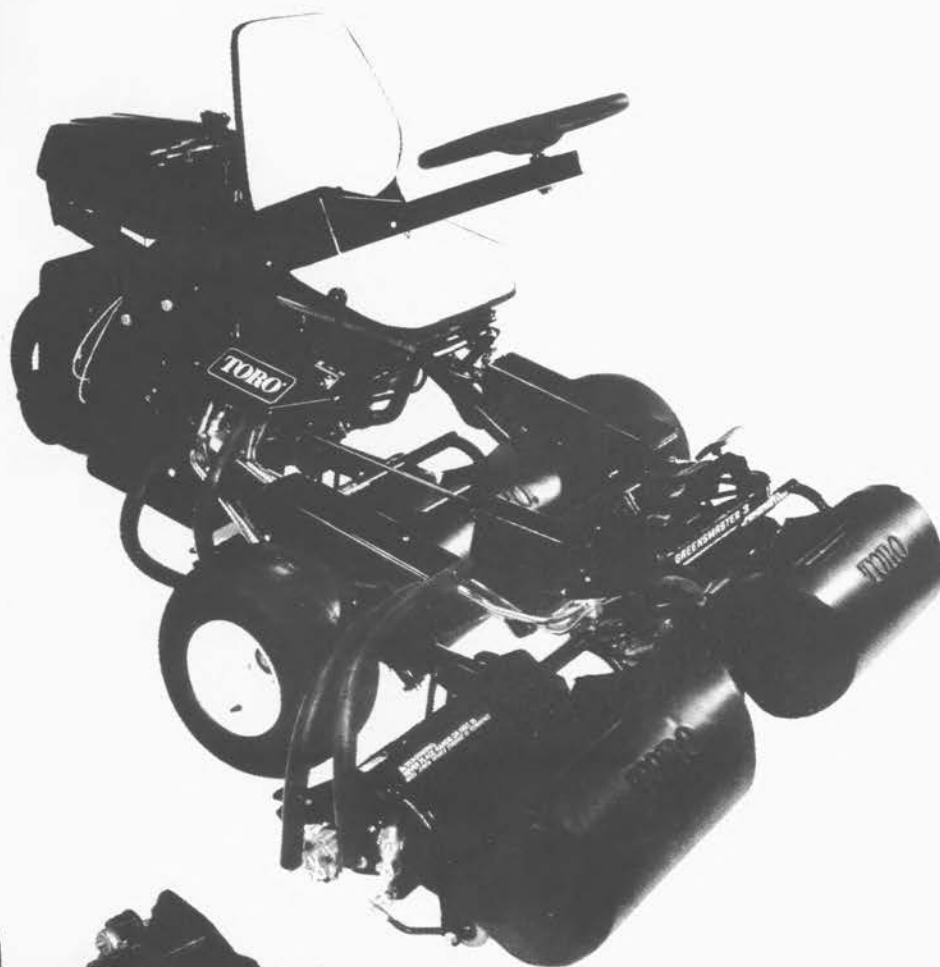




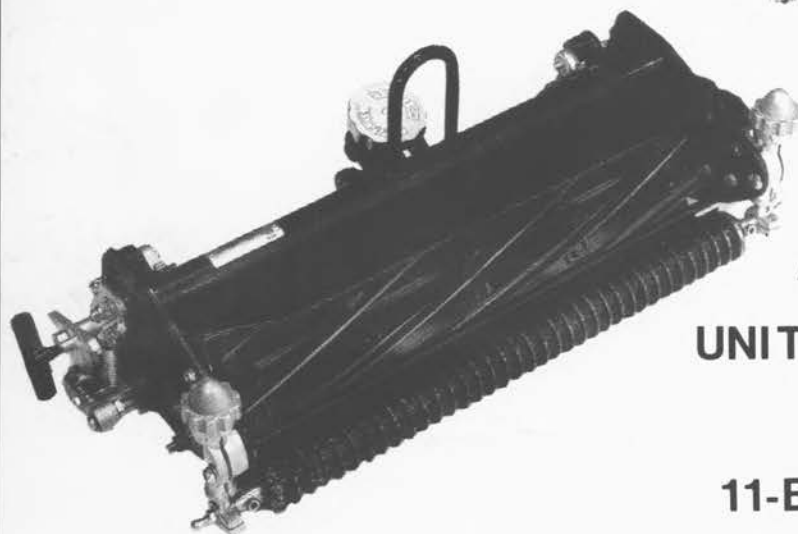
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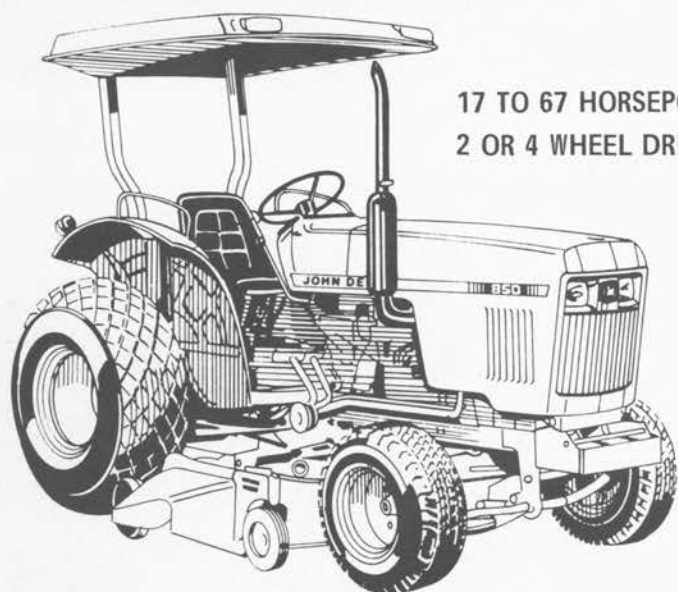


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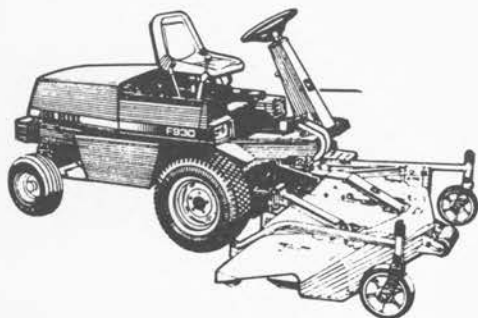
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GREEN SEMINAR, Cont.

Fritz McMullen of Forest Lake C.C. explained the process his club used to remove the old sand from their bunkers and replace it with a better quality material. Also, the drainage was to be improved and the many rocks in the bunkers were removed. One problem faced by Fritz during the sand replacement was what to do with the 7900 tons of old sand. Hauling the material to a site off the property could have proven to be expensive, so they used the sand to build target greens on the practice range, filled in old bunkers and constructed berms around the perimeter of the golf course. After the sand was removed a matting was placed on the bunker floor to prevent rocks from coming to the surface after the new sand was added.

The removal of the sand took place during the late fall and the new sand put into the bunkers during the

winter. Using the frozen turf to prevent damage from the one-ton dump trucks, 3000 tons of C144 sand was hauled to the prepared bunkers. The total cost of the project was \$30,000 and the improvement to the bunkers was well worth the cost.

Marty Miller at Knollwood C.C. has begun rebuilding and shaping his bunkers to reduce the maintenance costs and re-establish the character the bunkers owned years ago. Problems he has encountered with the existing bunkers are washouts, poor internal drainage, rocks, sand build-up between the bunker and the green and loss of character. Geoffrey Cornish, golf course architect, was employed by the club to redesign the bunkers and a five year plan to renovate the bunkers was approved by the membership. Renovating ten bunkers a year, Marty estimates

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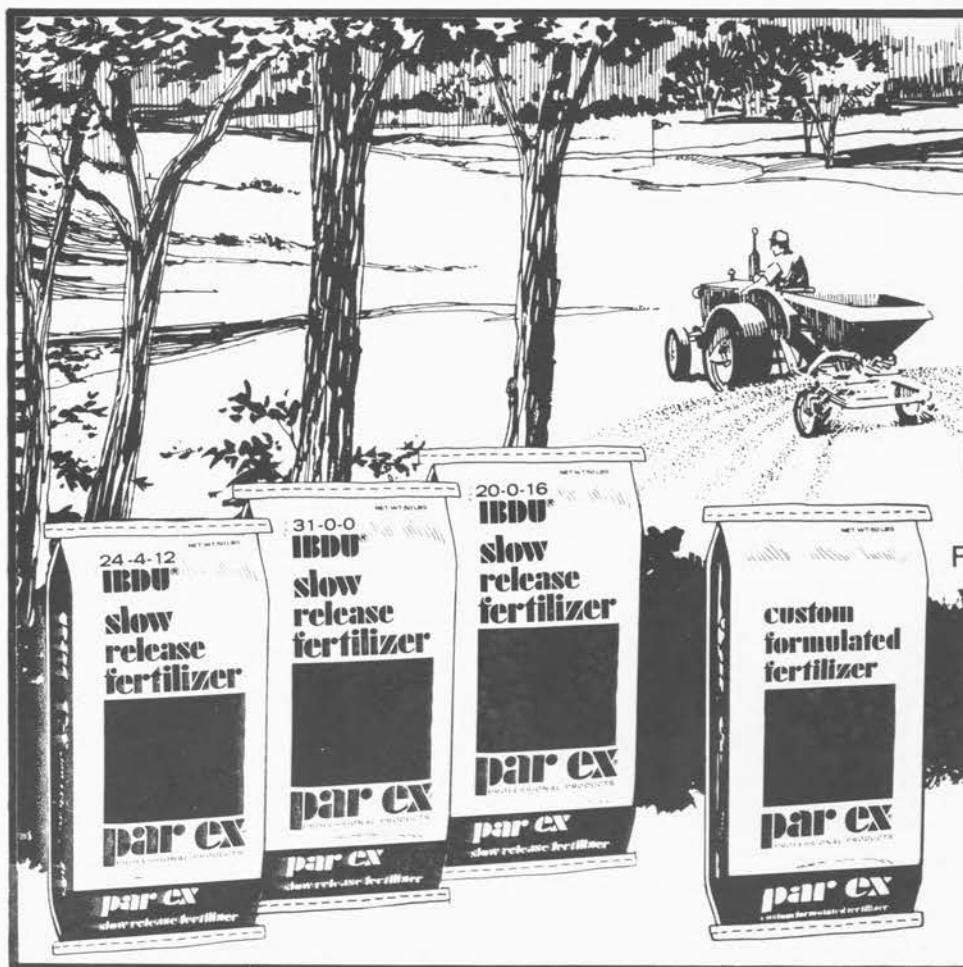
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SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED TO TOM PATTON

Congratulations to Tom Patton, this year's recipient of the Michigan and Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association Scholarship. Tom is married and a senior in the 4-year Turf Program at MSU. Tom spent 4 years in the United States Air Force and has worked at Eldorado Golf Club in Mason, Michigan and at Butler National Golf Club in Chicago. Tom is also involved with the Michigan State Turfgrass Research Library.



L to R - KEVIN DUSHANE, President MBCGCSA, TOM PATTON, Scholarship winner, TOM MASON, Secretary/Treasurer MBCGCSA.

Again, as in the past years, the quality of the applicants was exceptional, making the decision difficult. The \$500.00 award was presented to Tom during the Luncheon Ceremonies at the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation Conference at Michigan State University.

Listed below are the criteria a candidate must meet in order to qualify for the MBCGCSA Scholarship.

1. Candidate must be a student in the 4-year Turf Program at MSU.
2. Candidate must have been in the 2-year AG. Tech Program or has the equivalent in experience working on a golf course.
3. Candidate must have a GPA of 2.75 or above.
4. Candidate must have a philosophical commitment to the business of golf.
5. Candidate must have outstanding character.
6. Candidate must have acquired job training experience while enrolled in the 4-year Turf Program.
7. Candidate should be involved in other types of activities while at MSU.
8. Candidate must handle him/herself well in the presence of his/her peers, instructors, MBCGCSA members.
9. Scholarship *must be applied for by the student*. Application should be made within the first two of returning to school in September.
10. Candidates will be interviewed just prior to the MTF Conference.

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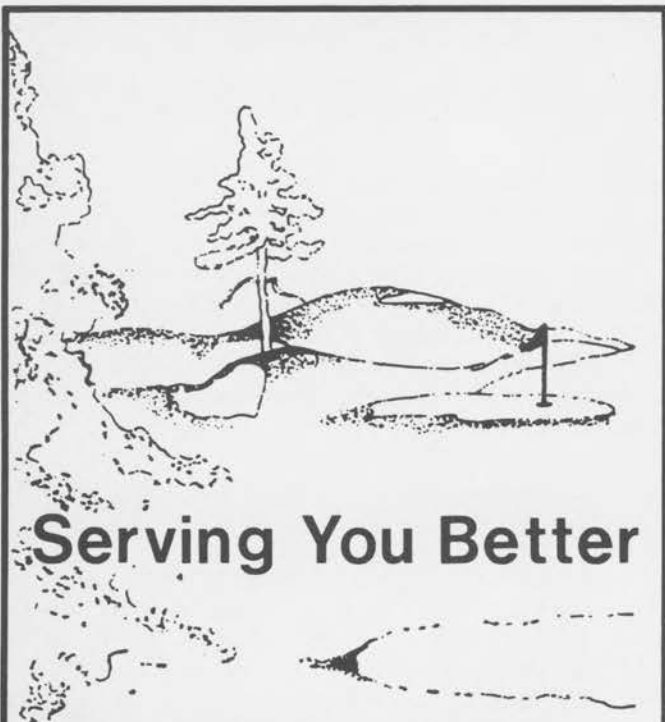
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EDUCATION

Again this year I am Chairman of Education for our organization. My responsibilities are arranging meeting sites and educational topics that will be of benefit to you, the members. In January a committee which consisted of Roger Gill, Tom Mason, Marty Miller and myself met and discussed educational topics for the 1986 season. Some topics to be addressed this year are - crew motivation, mole, muskrat and geese control, cart path maintenance, update information on the Right-To-Know Bill and how it affects you and what you get from the MTF.

Our kick-off meeting was January 7, 1986 at The Links at Pinewood with Mr. Ernie Fuller as our host. The program was the introduction of committee chairman, the Michigan Turfgrass Conference, national elections, hospitality room, golf team and other up-coming events for 1986. Fifty-seven members were in attendance.

After returning from the national our next meeting was at Salt River GC on February 24 with Glenn Korhorn as our host. The educational program was - The MTF-a history of it and how your dollars have been spent over the years. Our speaker was Mr. Gordie LaFontaine of Lawn Equipment Corp. and Executive Secretary of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation. Mr. LaFontaine started out giving us a history of the MTF. The following is a summary by year of how things progressed.

1931 The first turf conference programs started at 7 a.m. and ran until 5 p.m. daily and everyone was required to attend every session.

1950 MTF was founded by Bruce Mathews, Warren Cornwall, Leo Johnson and Clarence Wolfrom.

1959 Turf was under Soils Department and getting a raw deal. MTF was able to get turf switched to Crops which was under the leadership of Dr. Ken Payne who was responsible for hiring Dr. James Beard.

1967 The first golf day was held at Burroughs Farms. Also, MTF was able to get a line item amount of \$50,000 for sod or turf research.

1968 Plans for new building were started.

1970 Golf Day has grown to both courses at Oakland Hills and \$12,500 was raised.

1972 Board of Directors expanded to 12 members to

SCHOLARSHIP, Cont.

11. Scholarship committee shall include four MBCG-CSA members and Dr. Bruce Branham.

We encourage any student who meets these standards to contact this year's Scholarship Chairman, Jim Timmerman and apply early for the 1987 scholarship. MBCGCSA is proud to be able to contribute to the educational development of the leaders of the future.

Congratulations Tom!

**Ken DeBusscher
1986 Scholarship Chairman**

represent all areas of turf.

1977 Dr. Beard leaves and turf is declared secondary by MSU. Dr. Kaufman is hired to replace Dr. Beard. 1978 It was decided we need to get more involved in extension. In order to do this, an extension specialist was needed. Paula Dietz was hired to get an extension manual together.

Hancock Research Center is dedicated. A lot of work went into this to make it possible. Gordy went on to say how they could have hired a contractor to do the



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earth work but it would not have been as much fun nor would they have had the chance to work together.

Gordy finished by stressing again how the MTF is used as an example by other states and how they are copying things that we have done. He also stressed how this would not have possible without members being involved in getting these things done.

I would like to take this time and thank Mr. Gordy LaFontaine for enlightening talk. After Gordy was done members went on the annual bowling tournament. Fun was had by all, thanks to our host Glenn Korhorn and Salt River Golf Club.

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GREEN SEMINAR, Cont.

the total cost of the project to be \$40,000. New sand is to be added to the bunkers as needed but the type of sand used is the same as the existing material. Also, Miller established a bluegrass nursery beforehand to aid in the reconstruction process and built storage bins for the extra sand.

Marty was able to illustrate the process of bunker renovation through a systematic method of rebuilding and the excellent results achieved from his efforts.

Meadowbrook C.C. superintendent Mike Edgerton focused his presentation on selecting sand for bunkers. Mike feels that when a club decides to completely renovate bunkers on the golf course the selection of the sand is most important. The selection should not be made by one person but should be a cooperative effort between the green committee, the golf course superintendent and the golf professional.

Mike presented a criteria for sand selection -

Particle size - should be in the 4-1mm range as recommended by the USGA.

Purity - sand should be washed to remove contaminants such as clay and silt.

Shape of Sand - angular sand is preferred as it allows better footing and does not move as readily as round sand.

Composition - material should be consistent.

Color - although the choice is yours, light tan sand is considered more natural. White sand can be blinding in bright sun.

Mike emphasized the importance of having the sand tested when it is delivered to be sure you received the sand you ordered. Many sand companies are beginning to cater to golf courses and the many types of sands should be explored to find the sand you require for the bunkers at your golf course.

The information presented by the panel was informative and applicable. It should prove to be of value to golf courses interested in future bunker remodeling.

Jim Latham, Director of the Great Lakes Region, USGA Green Section, was next on the program with *Fairway Mowing - What's Next?* Jim commented on that lightweight mowing of fairways has many advantages over conventional gang mowers and has so far proven to be very successful. But he brought up some very interesting and valid points concerning potential problems with the new concept of mowing fairways.

With the advent of lightweight mowing, fairways have experienced less soil compaction and a modification in cultural practices, such as less water and fertilizer. These alterations are conducive to bentgrass growth and many courses are experiencing a marked increase in bentgrass populations in their fairways. Another important factor leading to the increase of a bentgrass regime is that the floating units of the lightweight mowers ride over the turf instead of 'sinking' into the turf as conventional mowers do. Because of its prostrate growth, the bentgrass creeps over the other grasses and rapidly develops a thatchy layer.

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GREEN SEMINAR, Cont.

Jim is finding that courses need to aerify fairways more to bring soil to the surface and keep the thatch under control. Some golf courses may need to use green aerifiers to bring enough soil to the surface to break down the thatch layer and bring it to a manageable level. Once this is achieved, conventional fairway aerifiers can possibly be used to keep the thatch under control. Also, going over the turf two to four times with a conventional aerifier could produce satisfactory results. Verticutting fairways can help to control thatch to some degree but aerification is most important. Jim stresses the importance of getting soil in contact with the thatch layer to hasten its breakdown through microbial activity. Jim is by no means discouraging the use of lightweight mowing of fairways but is just reporting the need to control thatch if a bentgrass regime develops in your fairways. Since many courses are now mowing with lightweight mowers his presentation was very timely as it can serve as a pre-warning to many superintendents to keep a watchful eye on thatch development in their fairways.

Wrapping up the day's program was Jeff Rivard, Executive Director of the GAM. Jeff addressed the audience on two topics, the first being the strategy of hole locations for tournaments.



JEFF RIVARD - GAM Executive Director

Pin placements for tournaments should be varied from day to day and the hole should be at least five paces from the edge of the green as recommended by the USGA. The location should also be on a relatively flat surface of the green. Remember, one bad pin position during a tournament can result in unwanted controversy. Jeff also mentioned that the first day's pin position during a multi-day event should be where the nearest exit off the green is. Otherwise, this area may become too worn for a cup placement on the third or fourth day of the tournament. Rivard stated that there should be a balanced selection of pin locations for the entire course. As an example, avoid too many positions set on the right of greens which put a premium of faded shots. Pin positions should vary to require a golfer to hit all varieties of shots. Another point Jeff mentioned was that the cup should be sunk at least one inch below the putting surface.

Jeff also discussed the use of the stimp meter on the golf course. As everyone knows, the stimp meter can be controversial. one of its bad points is that it can create

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



Chairman of GAM & MBCGCSA Seminar,
CHARLIE GAIGE

GREEN SEMINAR, Cont.

too much competition between different golf courses as to who has the fastest greens. The use of the stimpmeter to determine speed of greens does not take into account many factors, such as soil type, slope of greens, grass variety, weather conditions and many others. Also, turf problems can develop by attempting to get greens too fast. More maintenance is needed and care of closely mowed turf can become precarious. A good point of the stimpmeter is that it can be used to measure green consistency for all greens on a day to day basis. Also, it can monitor agronomic practices as it relates to speed. A reading of eight on the stimpmeter is a good speed for everyday play as it allows a good player to take a sufficient stroke at the ball but does not make the greens too fast for the

higher handicapped golfer, thus taking the fun out of the game.

The entire program was enjoyable and informative. We would like to thank the Detroit Golf Club, host superintendent Clem Wolfrom and club manager Jerry Miller for an outstanding day.

If any golf course superintendent is interested in being on next year's program, please contact Charlie Gaige.

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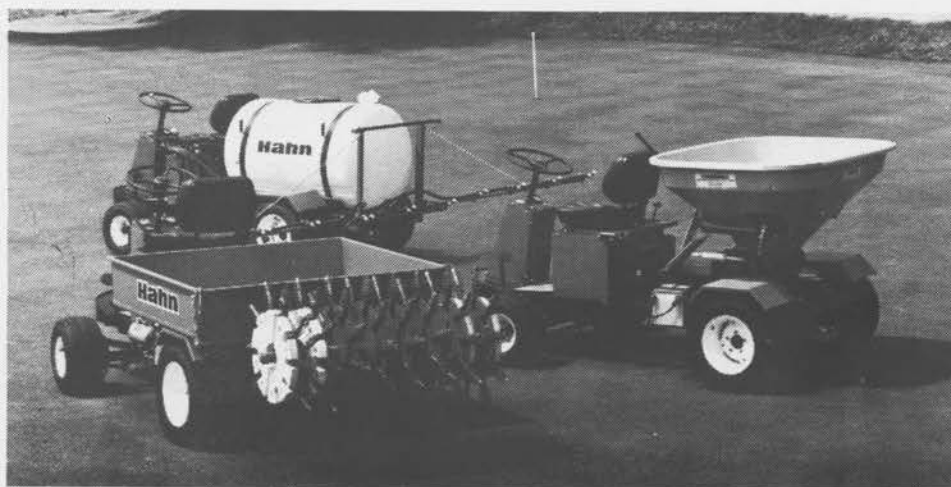
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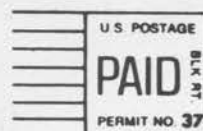
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