



# CHIPS & PUTTS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION  
[www.ptga.org](http://www.ptga.org)

Founded in 1936

VOL. 21 NO. 9

Nov/Dec 2015



(front row l-r) Paul Brandon, Ron Garrison, Les Lear  
(back row l-r) Ed Cimoch, Steve Chirip, T.J. Hart, Jerry Decker, Greg Boring



## President's Message.....

## Editor's Notes.....

And another year is in the books.....trusting it was a good one for you.

Thanks to all those that provided pictures, articles, feedback, etc for the newsletter. I truly appreciate it.

Thanks to Shaun Barry for all the pictures of our victorious MET Championship Team!!

Have a very Merry Christmas and I'll see you in the New Year!!

*Brian Bachman*



### Officers & Directors 2015

**PRESIDENT**

Greg Boring, CC of Scranton  
570-587-4046

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Gino Marchetti, Glen Oak CC  
570-586-5791

**TREASURER**

Patrick Healey, Scranton Canoe Club  
570-378-2249

**SECRETARY**

Chris Moran, Honesdale CC  
570-253-9094

**DIRECTORS**

Steven Chirip, Grass Roots, Inc.  
973-418-3468

Corey Pries  
570-994-8270

Ron Garrison, Fox Hill CC  
570-655-1065

Jerry Decker, Elkview CC  
570-282-3080

---

**CHIPS & PUTTS STAFF****EDITOR**

Brian Bachman, Genesis Turfgrass, Inc.  
484-661-6105  
bbachman@genesisturfgrassinc.com

**Managing Editor**

Melinda Wisnosky  
570-388-2167  
mmel500@aol.com

**PTGA Office**

309 Terrace Avenue  
Harding, PA 18643  
Phone/Fax: 570-388-2167

Any opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author and/or person quoted, and may not represent the position of PTGA. Information contained in this publication may be used freely, in whole or in part, without special permission, as long as the true context is maintained. We would appreciate a credit line.





## Highlights from the Annual Met Tournament







## Pennsylvania Considering "Amusement and Recreation" Sales Tax

*By Chase Rogan, Mid-Atlantic Regional GCSAA Rep*

Pennsylvania has a budget deficit, and the golf industry could suffer the consequences. The State's General Assembly is considering expanding sales tax to include "amusements and recreational activities." This would include – you guessed it – greens fees. Other businesses subject to the tax include, but are not limited to: amusement parks, bowling alleys, marinas, car trade-ins, personal care services (what!?), RV and camping sites and movie downloads. In most areas of the State, this tax would total six percent, with exceptions of seven percent in Allegheny County and eight percent in Philadelphia.

So, what does this mean? It means higher costs for our customers. Consequently, the Pennsylvania Golf Owners group is drafting a letter to oppose this taxation, and our PGCSA logo will be included on the letter to support this opposition. Our main argument is that the golf industry continues to struggle for participants and their discretionary income. The addition of the sales tax would make golf more expensive to the consumer and that consumer will play less often, if at all. This is something the golf industry in Pennsylvania cannot afford. Additionally, some courses are already subject to a local amusement tax and the inclusion of a state sales tax would be double taxation.



When opposing such issues, it is important for us to share our industry's positive attributes with our state legislators. For example, Pennsylvania's 663 golf courses employ approximately 30,000 individuals. Likewise, the golf industry is responsible for nearly two billion dollars in direct economic impact in Pennsylvania.

While there is not an official date set to vote on this issue, you can take action by calling or emailing your state legislators to voice your opposition. To find out who your representative is, please visit the [state government website](#).

Please explain why we oppose this tax, what impact it could have on our industry, and the positive aspects of our economic impact in Pennsylvania. Furthermore, it is always beneficial to drive your point home by bringing it local – share how many individuals your course employs and other pertinent information that could highlight the impact of this change to that representative's district. As the old saying goes, "all politics are local."




**grass roots**

**Steve Chirip**  
Technical Sales Rep.

**Service ♦ Technical Support ♦ Quality Products**

Grass Roots, Inc.  
P.O. Box 336  
Mount Freedom, NJ 07970  
4 Middlebury Blvd.  
Suite 7  
Randolph, NJ 07869  
(973) 418-3468, Mobile  
(570) 839-3399, PA Office  
(973) 252-6634, NJ Office  
(973) 252-6630, NJ Fax



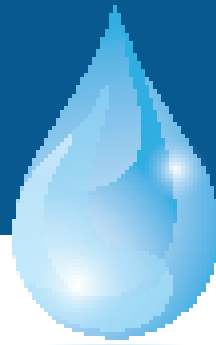
**East Coast**  
S O D & S E E D

**Kevin Driscoll**

609 760 4099 CELL 856 769 9555 OFFICE 609 561 5384 FAX  
596 Pointers Auburn Road ▪ Pilesgrove NJ 08098



# 4

**GCSAA**

## **facts about golf and water in the U.S.**

- 1.** Golf's use of water continues to improve. U.S. golf courses have reduced water consumption by 21.8%.
- 2.** Golf uses only 1.44% of all irrigated water in the U.S. Irrigated areas on golf courses have decreased by more than 14,000 acres.
- 3.** Water conservation measures have saved 500,000 acre-feet of water. Conservation practices, turf reduction, use of advanced irrigation systems, and tools such as moisture meters have increased efficiency.
- 4.** Golf's use of recycled water has increased by 32.7%. Recycled water now counts for 25% of all water used on golf courses. Use of all other water sources, including potable water, has decreased.

Data from 2008 and 2014 Golf Course Environmental Profile Water Use & Conservation surveys



## The Dose Makes the Poison: Selecting the Right Fungicide Rate is Critical!

By Richard Latin via [turfdiseases.org](http://turfdiseases.org), November 2015



*Sola dosis facit venenum*—that's the Latin phrase (no pun intended) representing the basic principle of toxicology. It means that a substance will produce a harmful effect on a biological system only if it accumulates above a certain concentration within the biological system. From the turf pathology perspective, the appropriate interpretation is that in order to stop growth of pathogenic fungi, sufficient concentrations of active ingredient must accumulate in fungal cells. So, you need to be accurate with your application rates—even now when you are developing your 2016 program and budget.

*Continued on page 7.....*



**FINCH**  
SERVICES, INC. Est. 1945

**SALES \* PARTS \* SERVICE**

**TED ZABRENSKI**  
484-614-6436 cell  
tzabrenski@finchinc.com www.finchinc.com  
North Wales, PA




**Fisher & Son**  
Since 1928

**Bob Seltzer, SALES REPRESENTATIVE**

110 Summit Drive, Exton, PA 19341 • (800) 262-2127  
(610) 704-4756 cell • (610) 363-0563 fax  
bseltzer@fisherandson.com

**Lee Kozsey**  
Turf and Landscape  
Territory Manager



Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC  
3710 Amherst Court  
Bethlehem  
PA 18020

Tel. 610-861-8174  
Mobile 215-796-0409  
Customer Service 866-796-4368

lee.kozsey@syngenta.com  
www.syngenta.com



**AER-CORE**  
Inc.

**William Mast**  
**Steve Thompson**  
Office: 610-327-3390  
Fax: 610-327-0581

1486 S. Hanover St.  
Pottstown, PA 19465  
www.aer-core.com  
office@aer-core.com

Turfgrass Services  
Equipment Sales





.....Continued from page 6

The dose/effect relationship is complicated. It is usually a non-linear function that shows a steep response as the dose becomes effective, and then a plateau, beyond which the effect is smaller as dosage is increased. In Figure 1, the red line represents the dose/response curve for a hypothetical fungicide against a hypothetical turf pathogen. Excellent efficacy (control) is expected (given reasonable disease pressure conditions) at the label rate of 0.5 fl oz/M (blue dashed line). As the rate is reduced, efficacy suffers. In this example, decreasing the rate to 0.4 fl oz/M reduces efficacy to 80%. Because of the severe slope on the low (left) side of the response curve, applying half the rate (0.25 fl oz) reduces efficacy to about 10%. That's not enough to slow disease progress, even under barely favorable environmental conditions.

From a decision-making perspective, the issue is further confounded by two key factors—

1. Dose/response curves differ for **each fungicide** and **each pathogen**.
2. Most labels specify a **range** of application rates.

Despite your experience, there is always some uncertainty in selecting the best fungicide and application rate, especially under conditions of high disease pressure.

The only decision tool currently available that accounts for fungicide rates is the Turfmetrics Program Builder app ([www.turfmetrics.com](http://www.turfmetrics.com)). It includes a fungicide selection tool with efficacy ratings for the full range of application rates for all fungicides against over 35 diseases, and a reporting feature that allows you to estimate costs as rates change.

**Figure 1. The dose/response relationship describes how small changes in application rate can have large effects on disease control. The relationship differs with each fungicide and turf disease!**

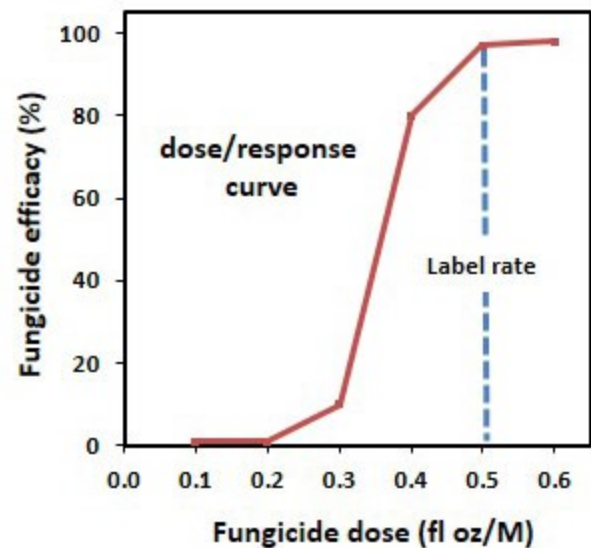


Figure 1. The dose/response relationship describes how small changes in application rate can have large effects on disease control. The relationship differs with each fungicide and turf disease!

#### About the Author:

Dr. Rick Latin is a professor of plant pathology at Purdue University and has been a member of the faculty since 1981. He earned his MS and Ph.D. degrees in plant pathology at Penn State University. Rick has research, teaching, and extension responsibilities in the area of turfgrass disease management and recently authored the best selling textbook-- *A Practical Guide to Turfgrass Fungicides*. His current research activities focus on turf fungicides and factors that influence their performance.



## October Meeting Results Fox Hill Country Club



### Superintendents

**1st Place**  
Jason Brown 82

**2nd Place**  
Ryan Fogel 82

**3rd Place**  
Ian Kunesch 82

**4th Place**  
Ron Garrison 83

### Affiliates

**1st Place**  
T.J. Hart 80

**2nd Place**  
Steve Chirip 83

**3rd Place**  
Dave Schell 90

**4th Place**  
Les Lear 90

**Closest to the Pin #7**  
Duane Schell 33'9"

**Closest to the Pin #11**  
Murphy 5' 5"

**Longest Drive**  
Zac Breck

**Skins**  
Jerry Decker #9  
Jason Brown #14  
Les Lear #18



*The Pocono Turfgrass Association*

*Board of Directors*



*would like to wish all*



*our Members and their Families*

*a Very Merry Christmas*



*and a Happy New Year!*



*Happy Holidays*







## Photo of the Month

We all see interesting things every day....wildlife (like bald eagles and bears), strange turf problems (like a lightning strike), an employee who stayed out too late the night before, etc. So if you have a great photo, send it to me ([bbachman@genesisturfgrassinc.com](mailto:bbachman@genesisturfgrassinc.com)) and share it for everyone to enjoy (or laugh at).



## Nov/Dec Photo of the Month

A good fit for "what the heck caused this" section of the newsletter.

I'm sure you can all figure out what lead to this damaged area of turf on this tee.

Thanks to Chris Snopkowski for sharing!!

HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS

**STANDARD  
GOLF** COMPANY



**MILTONA**  
Turf Tool Specialists

*"Tis the season for early tee and green supplies!"*

**Lawn and Golf**  
supply co., inc.

# *Chips & Putts*

## **PATRON SPONSORS**

### **AERIFICATION AND OVERSEEDING**

Aer-Core	Stephen Thompson	610-972-5933
	William Mast	610.327.3390
Air2G2 Saturated	John Downer	570-840-0078
Andre & Son, Inc.	John Vojick	607.768.0575
	Rich Gdovin	570.278.1131
Lawn & Golf	Matthew Brown	610.933.5801

### **EQUIPMENT**

Aer-Core	Stephen Thompson	610-972-5933
	William Mast	610.327.3390
Air2G2 Saturated	John Downer	570-840-0078
Andre & Son, Inc.	John Vojick	607.768.0575
	Rich Gdovin	570.278.1131
Lawn & Golf	Matthew Brown	610.933.5801
Turf Equip. & Supply	George Skawski	610.554.9366
	Les Lear	570.903.8412
Finch Services	Ted Zabrenski	484.614.6436

### **FERTILIZER**

Andre & Son, Inc.	John Vojick	607.768.0575
	Rich Gdovin	570.278.1131
Fisher & Son	Bob Seltzer	610.704.4756
Genesis Turfgrass	Brian Bachman	484.661.6105
Grass Roots, Inc.	Steve Chirip	973.418.3468
Growth Products	Craig Lambert	973-601-3303
Lawn & Golf	Matthew Brown	610.933.5801
Plant Food Co., Inc.	Tom Weinert	914.262.0111

### **GREEN AND TEE SUPPLIES**

Andre & Son, Inc.	John Vojick	607.768.0575
	Rich Gdovin	570-278-1131
Fisher & Son	Bob Seltzer	610.704.4756
Genesis Turfgrass	Brian Bachman	484.661.6105
Grass Roots, Inc.	Steve Chirip	973.418.3468
John Deere	Brent Wood	570.499.1441
Lawn & Golf	Matthew Brown	610.933.5801

### **IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE**

John Deere	Brent Wood	570.499.1441
Turf Equip. & Supply	George Skawski	610.554.9366
	Les Lear	570.903.8412

### **PLANT PROTECTANTS**

Andre & Son, Inc.	John Vojick	607.768.0575
	Rich Gdovin	570-278-1131
Fisher & Son	Bob Seltzer	610.704.4756
Genesis Turfgrass	Brian Bachman	484.661.6105
Grass Roots, Inc.	Steve Chirip	973.418.3468
John Deere	Brent Wood	570.499.1441
Growth Products	Craig Lambert	973-601-3303
Lawn & Golf	Matthew Brown	610.933.5801
Syngenta	Lee A. Kozsey	610.861.8174

### **SEED & SOD**

Andre & Son, Inc.	John Vojick	607.768.0575
	Rich Gdovin	570.278.1131
Finch Services	Ted Zabrenski	484.614.6436
Fisher & Son	Bob Seltzer	610.704.4756
Genesis Turfgrass	Brian Bachman	484.661.6105
Grass Roots, Inc.	Steve Chirip	973.418.3468
Lawn & Golf	Matthew Brown	610.933.5801

### **TOPDRESSING / SOIL AMENDMENTS**

Andre & Son, Inc.	John Vojick	607.768.0575
	Rich Gdovin	570.278.1131
Blue Ridge Peat Farms	Gene Evans	570.443.9596
Fisher & Son	Bob Seltzer	610.704.4756
Genesis Turfgrass	Brian Bachman	484.661.6105
Grass Roots, Inc.	Steve Chirip	973.418.3468
Lawn & Golf	Matthew Brown	610.933.5801

*Support our Sponsors - They support us!*



## POCONO ROUNDUP

### Condolences



The PTGA sends our deepest condolences to the family of Keith Happ who passed away this year. A true legend in the business, he will be missed.

### PTGA SCHEDULE

- Jan 5-6 Eastern PA Turf Conference
- Jan 28 NEPA Turf Conference  
Woodlands
- Feb 6-11 GSCAA National



[www.turf-equipment.com](http://www.turf-equipment.com)

*Moving ahead to serve you better.*

**Irrigation Products - George Skawski**  
[georgeskawski@turf-equipment.com](mailto:georgeskawski@turf-equipment.com)  
610.554.9366

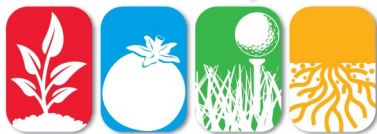
**Irrigation Products - Lester Lear**  
[leslear@turf-equipment.com](mailto:leslear@turf-equipment.com)  
570-903-8412

**CHANGE THE WAY YOUR GREENS  
WORK FOR YOU!**

#### COMPANION® A BROAD SPECTRUM BIOLOGICAL FUNGICIDE

- Prevents & Controls Turf Disease
  - Improves Turf Vigor
- Makes Fungicides More Powerful
  - Increases Rooting

**COMPANION**  
LIQUID BIOLOGICAL FUNGICIDE



- PROVEN • TESTED • RELIABLE • CONSISTENT
- EACH GALLON CONTAINS 55 BILLION  
SPORES OF BACILLIS SUBTILIS GB03

**To Learn How Growth Products Can Help  
Your Greens, Call Craig Lambert Today at  
(800) 648-7626**



**GROWTH  
PRODUCTS**  
[www.GrowthProducts.com](http://www.GrowthProducts.com)

**POCONO TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION**  
**309 TERRACE AVENUE**  
**HARDING, PA 18643**

**PHONE/FAX 570-388-2167**  
**WEBSITE: [ptga.org](http://ptga.org)**