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THE CONN. CLIPPINGS



APRIL 1975

VOL. 8 No. 1

NEWS OF SCIENCE FROM THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

NEW HAVEN — The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, the first in the nation, is celebrating its centennial this year.

The Station, designated a National Historic Landmark in 1964, was the prototype of a national network of research institutions founded in every state as a result of the passage by Congress of The Hatch Act in 1887.

Nationally, experiment stations have developed antibiotic drugs such as Streptomycin and Neomycin (New Jersey). They introduced new crops such as soybeans (Massachusetts, North Carolina, Kansas), produced several new apple varieties (New York), and pioneered in natural control of insect pests (California).

The president of Oregon State Agricultural College once said experiment station research had "changed deserts into gardens, evolved new and more profitable crops, multiplied production, created new industries, conquered disease, destroyed pests and plagues and made science the handmaiden of the housewife as well as the captain of industry."

Because Connecticut established the first station in 1875, other experiment stations are observing the centennial as well. The USDA Yearbook of Agriculture, which will be issued late in the year, will be devoted entirely to the achievements of experiment station research.

The greatest achievement of Connecticut station scientists probably was the development by Donald F. Jones of a way to produce hybrid corn seed by the double-cross method.

This made the significantly higher yielding hybrid corn practical and

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GRASS CATCHER

by BOB OSTERMAN

April is here once again. We all are watching our greens and trying to make the big decision as to when we will start mowing, and kick off the 1975 season.

Most conferences and vacations are behind us and it's time to settle down to a regular schedule again.

Speaking of conferences, the Conn. Assoc. was once again well represented in New Orleans. There were various opinions on the town of New Orleans, but most everyone I talked to enjoyed the conference itself. Another job well done by our national organization.

I hope we all have another good season, and I am looking forward to visiting the courses we have scheduled for our 1975 monthly meetings.

Harry Meusel would once again like to announce anyone wishing to see the floral display at the Yale Golf Course, should come the second and third week in April. You can play as Harry's guest and view over 200,000 Daffodils.

Harry takes great pride in this display, and having seen it I can well understand why.

Smith Turf Irrigation Inc. of Milford, Conn., also doing business as Irrigation and Equipment Supply, has changed its name to I & E Supply, Inc. according to its president, Richard W. Smith.

I & E Supply, Inc. has also recently moved to larger quarters at their former location, 66 Erna Ave.

The name change and larger quarters shall facilitate the firm's move into the role of a more complete irrigation and industrial supply house — specializing in sprinkler irrigation equipment, industrial pipe, valves, fittings, industrial

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ONE STORMY, DISMAL DAY

The March Snow has woven the Road into an icy bale —
Along the ever-winding bend of the glistening rail —
As the Wheels point skyward against a stubborn glare —
In a surging whirl to reach the Barn — on a prayer.
The Shelter, hollow — nary a trifling 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 wind.
Only the sounding of Tinselled-Snow pelting the Barn's shingle remain —
ownward, filling-in the tire-track-design, now erased and un-stained.
Lingering, (Salesman) in a seemingly captive mood —
Eyeing the Slanted-Calendar's date which delude the nearing Spring —
Glued now at the wall-lined Bosomy-Girls in the luscious nude —
Nearby, multi-armed machinery, some 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 from a cautious brake —
Setting new Snow-Patterns into the lathered ageless clay —
Viewing acres of Wintered-Fairways along the way —
In an effort to reach the "Super," under an unfriendly sky — turned Grey.

FRANK PALADINO

CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

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Vice President Robert Tosh
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Treasurer James MacDonald

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Robert Silva Ronald Holcomb
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The object of this association is to promote research, education and an exchange of practical experiences in the field of turf grass culture so that the increased knowledge will lead to more economic and efficient management of golf courses and related turf areas.

The CONN. CLIPPINGS is an official publication of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

Robert W. Osterman, Editor
937 Black Rock Turnpike
Easton, Conn. 06612

CONN. EXPERIMENT STATION

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helped to double the yield of the crop that feeds animals which provide us with milk, beef, and pork.

Around the turn of the century, Thomas B. Osborne of the Station staff established that the proteins of seeds were different both in composition and in nutritional value. Later, working with Lafayette Mendel of Yale, Osborne found that certain amino acids, the building blocks of proteins, had to be supplied in the diet.

They also found that butter contained materials necessary for normal growth, but their report of the discovery of Vitamin A was submitted to a journal three weeks after investigators in Wisconsin reached a similar conclusion based on independent work. Because of this, the Wisconsin and Connecticut Experiment Stations share the honor of the discovery of the first vitamin.

The widely acclaimed high lysine corn had its origin at the Connecticut Station. A farmer from Hazardville sent the corn to Jones during the 1920s for preservation. A researcher who grew up in Orange brought some of this corn to the Indiana Experiment Station and found during the 1960s that this same corn could prevent a protein deficiency disease of children who eat corn as their only source of protein as is the case in much of Latin America.

Station scientists also pioneered in developing new methods to find com-

pounds to control plant diseases, and developed the first organic fungicide during the 1940s.

In recent years, Experiment Station scientists have shown that activated carbon could be used to blot up unwanted pesticides and herbicides; that significant amounts of water could be preserved in plants by control of pores in the leaves; that lead poisoning could be detected with a simple dipstick screening test; and that marigolds could be used as a natural control of nematodes in gardens.

Station scientists have also pioneered in the development of a computer model to predict the outcome of plant disease epidemics. This model was used to monitor the progress of the Southern Corn Leaf Blight which resulted in a 15 per cent corn crop loss during the early 1970s.

Station scientists have developed a way to use enzymes to liquify garbage, and have been studying the use of sewage sludge and pharmaceutical wastes as fertilizer substitutes. They are also studying the process of composting.

Research on wasteful plant respiration is disclosing the chemical pathways that must be blocked to gain increases of 50 per cent or more in crop yields. Geneticists are manipulating plant cells growing in tissue culture to create plants which have slower rates of respiration which would mean better yields.

Station scientists have also studied natural control of important insect pests of Connecticut. For example, they have demonstrated that aluminum foil mulch can repel aphids which spread plant diseases; discovered a previously unknown parasite which killed off the elf spanworm after several years of heavy defoliation during the early 1970's; and demonstrated that a sex attractant could prevent gypsy moth mating in dense populations.

NEW HAVEN: The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station has published a bulletin that describes the rise and fall of the gypsy moth and elm spanworm in Connecticut during the last six years.

The gypsy moth is still a problem in some parts of the state — particularly in eastern and northern Connecticut — but the elm spanworm was killed off a few years ago by a parasite discovered by station entomologists.

Senior author, John Anderson, chief entomologist at the station, said it appears that "the general spread of these insects during 1969-74 resulted from winds tending to blow more frequently from the south and west."

The data show "outbreaks of gypsy

moth are now persisting for longer periods of time, and that the main directions of dispersal are to the north and east," he said.

"It thus appears that future infestations in southern or western areas of Connecticut may spread across the state and even into adjacent states as the infestations have done during the early 1970's," wrote Anderson.

The bulletin contains a town-by-town record of the severity of defoliation experienced in 165 towns during the last six years. Only four towns escaped noticeable defoliation during that time.

Anderson also discusses the effects of aerial spraying programs carried out in 12 towns during the years 1969-71. He concluded in several cases that insect populations would have collapsed without aerial spraying.

The tables used for the defoliation data employ a location-identifying system called the Geo-Code which was developed by coauthor Sydney W. Gould. Gould and Anderson feel that the Geo-Code could be used to assemble uniformly organized records of damage caused by any disease organism or insect.

The bulletin is available from Publications, The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Box 1106, New Haven, Ct. 06504.

APRIL CHECK LIST

Open Course.

Plan mowing schedule, increase frequency of mowing as growth increase.

Sprayer boom calibrated for fairway use.

Hormone type weed chemicals and growth regulators on hand for May use.

Double check height of cut on all mowers, KNOW what your height is.

Portable pump ready for possible use in the event of heavy rain.

Brush greens if desirable.

Contact school vacation help.

Have UNDER REPAIR signs ready for ruts and wet spots.

Put in new or fresh painted hole cups.

Double check out of bounds stakes.

Enough hose, sprinklers, nozzles, etc. for seasons use.

Make 8 hour check on water system if as yet un-used.

(Keep pressure up for 8 hours, check all valves with head or hose).

Push new or old construction as priority item.

Put in new trees.

Evaluate condition of course and conditions, make written report.

Decide on golf car policy; should it be unusually wet.

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APRIL CHECK LIST

Continued from Page 2

Decide on watering plan; should it be unusually dry or windy.

Consider opening just one 9 if other is too wet.

Sod bare spots or scars on fairways.

Use water soluble fertilizer and iron to give greens color.

Take time to encourage and help new Greensman — don't over-do.

Post list of rainy day jobs.

Get on mailing list of club events and activities.

Take time to be your own public relations man with your Pro, members, neighbors around course, manager and all who you come in contact with . . . resolve to do it all season . . . a few minutes friendly conversation is enough . . . again, don't over-do.

Resolve not to get course bound this season — when you are satisfied that your place is in order — make a visit to another course.

Set up a schedule for equipment maintenance; make one man or the operator responsible for greasing, gasing, changing oil and adjusting.

Remember, grease and oil are cheaper than parts.

Remember last year's problems and head them off.

Keep a daily record, it could save your job on your turf.

GRASS CATCHER

Continued from Page 1

pumps and pump packages. The move represents a change from its former role of strictly an irrigation house.

EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Superintendent or Assistant — James Laughbridge, P. O. Box 544 Marion, N. C. 28752 Telephone: 704-652-6175. Graduated Penn. State Univ. in 1975 from the two year Turf Management Program Work experience, full-time Fall and Winter 1972, Marion Lake Club, Nebo, N. C. Assistant Superintendent. Part-time summers 1971-1974, the Golf Club at Aspetuck, Easton, Conn.

CAGCS Scholarship applications as well as Research Grant forms will be available within the next two weeks, according to the S & R Committee Chairperson Ed Anderson.

Anyone wishing information on the CAGCS Scholarship and Research Program, contact Mr. Ed Anderson, 5 Wayne Road, Wallingford, Conn. 06492 Phone: Office 269-3660 - Home 269-4209.

HANDICAPS

FLIGHT A 0-15

Anderson, Ed	15
Anderson, Ken	6
Barrett, Roger	6
Bedus, Ed	6
Caswell, Paul	12
Cook, Dick	6
Della Bianca, Leo	12
Dziedzie, Lou	12
Fenn, Francis	8
Furgess, Bert	11
Gorton, George	14
Grywalski, Tom	9
Horvath, Kal	5
Kowalski, Ben	6
Kowalski, Lee Sr.	8
Kowalski, Lee Jr.	12
Kristoff, Steve	12
Lamphier, Frank	3
Lowell, Walt	0
O'Connor, Pat	15
Ovian, Karnig	10
Ovian, Kay	7
Ovian, Mike	11
Parker, John	13
Parsons, Dick	11
Perry, John	10
Polidor, Todd	15
Queen, Bill	14
Rodgers, Fran	15
Roule, Dave	7
Ryan, Maurice	7
Viera, Bob	7
Wilson, Al	15
Tosh, Bob	13

FLIGHT B 16-36

Ajello, Al	24
Bachand, Fred	28
Barrett, Paul	17
Baskin, Charlie	16
Bidwell, Joe	21
Chalifour, Bob	22
DeBlasio, Al	28
Dest, Bill	20
Hawkins, Al	23
Holcomb, Ron	35
Kelliher, Ken	36
Knoblock, Karl	20
Ladzinski, Paul	21
Lesage, Armond	16
Loper, Mark	17
Lynch, Jack	30
MacDonald, Jim	24
Meusel, Harry	22
Michaud, Tim	27
Mitchell, Lyle	35
Mulhearn, John	19
Osterman, Bob	19
Pepe, Tom	27
Silva, Bob	17
Stimson, Dave	20
Suchinski, Hank	16
Wydra, Adam	24
Wydra, John	18
Zenisky, Ed	28

ASSOCIATES

Arison, Al	20
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Barber, Bob	9
Bryant, Gary	14
Calahan, John	24
Downey, Frank	12
Hosking, Dick	23
Kennedy, Bob	5
Russell, Lloyd	30
Ruiz, Paul	5
Sanson, Ed	17
Sherman, Henry	16
Somers, Bill	13
Terhune, Sid	23
Wallace, Carl	31

MEETING DATES

APRIL 15

Mill River C. C.
Bert Furgess, Host 378-0331
Stratford, Conn.
Speaker
Business Meeting 5:00 P. M.
Dinner 6:30 P. M.

MAY 13

Lyman Meadows G. C. (Luncheon)
George Gorton, Host 349-8055
Middlefield, Conn.
Business Meeting 10:30 A. M.
Lunch 12 Noon
Golf 1:00 P. M.
No Speaker

JUNE 10

Pautapaug C. C.
Ken Pierce, Host 822-8597
Baltic, Conn.
Speaker
Business Meeting 5:00 P. M.
Dinner 6:30 P. M.

JULY 10

Manchester C. C.
Ken Kelliher, Host 649-5171
Manchester, Conn.
Speaker
Business Meeting 5:00 P. M.
Dinner 6:30 P. M.

AUGUST

OPEN

SEPTEMBER 10

Elmcrest C. C. (Luncheon)
Al DeBlasio, Host 525-6641
East Longmeadow, Mass.
Business Meeting 10:30 A. M.
Lunch 12 Noon
Golf 1:00 P. M.
No Speaker

OCTOBER 7

C. C. of Avon
Joe Bidwell, Host 673-3570
Avon, Conn.
Speaker
Business Meeting 5:00 P. M.
Dinner 6:30 P. M.

NOVEMBER 13

ANNUAL MEETING (Luncheon)
Farms C. C.
Lyle Mitchell, Host 269-7512
Annual Meeting 10:30 A. M.
Lunch 12:30 P. M.
Golf 1:30 P. M. Weather Permitting

CHECK LIST FOR HOST SUPERINTENDENTS

(Clip Out and Save)

WITH GOLF PROFESSIONAL

- Date of meeting
- Time of golfers arrival
- How many players expected?
- Will caddys be available?
- How many golf cars will be needed?
- Blackboard to post days tourney (best-ball, low gross, Supt. Champs, etc.)
- Expected help from shop, Asst. Pro to register players, collect money, figure results with chairman, negotiate prizes.

WITH CLUBHOUSE MANAGER

- Date of meeting.
- Will lunch be available?
- Will signing privileges be allowed? If not, cash, script, or whatever.
- Price of dinner not to exceed \$7.50.
- Number expected for dinner?
- Find out in advance what the menu will be.
- Anyone playing golf will be expected to stay for dinner.
- Head table for 12 facing membership. If membership is to hold meeting other than at dinner, make arrangements for separate room, with head table for the 4 officers facing membership.
- Small table next to head table for use by the tournament chairman.
- Projector and screen for speaker if needed.
- Public address system if needed.

WITH LOCKER ROOM ATTENDENT

- Date of meeting.
- Will lockers be available?
- Towels, showers, etc.

THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES ARE CONTRIBUTING TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CONN. CLIPPINGS:

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Roy Sibley
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Pleasant Valley, Conn. 06063
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Al Arison, CAGCS member
(203) 336-9890

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Russ LeClair, CAGCS member

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