

CONNECTICUT CLIPPINGS



Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Devoted to sharing knowledge and experience for better turf

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**CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION
OF GOLF COURSE
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Connecticut Clippings
is an official publication of
The Connecticut Association of
Golf Course Superintendents.

Newsletter
John F. Streeter, CGCS, Editor

The object of this Association is to encourage increased knowledge of golf course management and greater professionalism through education, research, exchange of practical experience, and the well-being of each individual member.

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C A G C S Honors

Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS

**SUPERINTENDENT
OF THE YEAR**

By Thomas Watroba

At the annual January Seminar, Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS, was presented with the 1991 Superintendent of the Year Award. Since this award is bestowed upon the recipient by a vote of his peers, it has become our organization's most prestigious honor. It is given annually to an active Class A or Life member who has held that classification for a minimum of five years. The award is presented to an individual who has shown exemplary skills in maintaining a golf facility and has devoted his or her time and effort to benefit fellow superintendents, and local and national golf associations.

This year's award winner began his career in education. Armed with a Bachelor's Degree in education from Northern Michigan University, he was prepared to embark upon a career as an educator. A twist of fate led him to golf course management. He became superintendent of Greenock Country Club in Lee, Massachusetts, in 1973. That same year, he graduated from the Winter School for Turf Management at the University of Massachusetts and joined the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America.

In 1974, he joined the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents shortly after becoming superintendent at Pequot Golf Club in Stonington, CT. His next move was to the Country Club of New Canaan in New Canaan, CT, where he served as superintendent for eight years. It was during this period he became active in CAGCS, serving as Director, Newsletter Editor, Vice President, and ultimately as President in 1980 and 1981.

His commitment to the betterment of our profession intensified, and he became seriously involved with GCSAA. He began serving on committees which ultimately led to his winning a Director's position with GCSAA.

In 1985, he left Connecticut to experience the birth of a new golf course, the now highly renowned Metedeconk National Golf Course in Jackson, NJ. His rise through the national chairs of GCSAA continued, serving as Chairman of the Education, Finance, Communication and Public Relations Committees; the Secretary/Treasurer position and Vice President. He has now reached the pinnacle ... President of GCSAA.

We can think of no individual who is more deserving, or who better represents the essence and spirit of this award than this year's recipient.

It is our pleasure to announce the 1991 Superintendent of the Year ... Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS.

SUMMER PATCH

Dr. Bruce Clark
Specialist in Turfgrass Pathology
Rutgers University

Summer patch was first recognized as a disease of cool-season turfgrasses in 1984. Prior to that time, it was an unidentified component of *Fusarium* blight. Summer patch has been reported in North America on *Festuca glauca*, *F. longifolia*, *F. ovina*, *F. rubra*, *Poa annua*, and *P. pratensis*. The causal agent has also been isolated on occasion from *Agrostis palustris* and *Lolium perenne*. The disease generally occurs on turf that has been established for more than two years.

Symptoms

On *P. pratensis*, symptoms first appear in early summer as small, circular patches of wilted turf 3 to 8 cm in diameter. Patches may enlarge to more than 60 cm, but generally remain in the 6 to 30 cm range. Affected leaves rapidly fade from a grayish-green to a light straw color during sustained hot weather (daytime highs 28-35C and nighttime temperatures exceeding 20C). Irregular patches, rings, frog-eye and crescent patterns may also develop and coalesce into large areas of blighted turf.

In mixed stands of *Agrostis* and *Poa* maintained under putting green conditions, patches are circular and range from 3 to 30 cm in diameter. As *P. annua* yellows and declines, *Agrostis* spp. frequently recolonize patch centers. On fairways and lawns, rings or frog-eye patches may not develop. In such cases, symptoms may appear as diffuse patterns of yellowed or straw colored turf that are easily confused with heat stress, insect damage, or other diseases. Infected roots, rhizomes, and crowns turn brown as they are killed. Examination of these tissues typically reveals a network of sparse, dark brown to black, ectotrophic hyphae from which hyaline penetration

hyphae invade the underlying vascular tissue. In the latter stages of infection, vascular discoloration and cortical rot are extensive. No fruiting structures have been observed under field conditions.

Causal Agent

Magnaporthe poae Landschoot and Jackson, the causal agent of summer patch, is a newly described heterothallic fungus whose anamorph had previously been misidentified as *Phialophora graminicola* (Deacon) J. Walker. The fungus forms dark brown to black, septate, ectotrophic runner hyphae on roots, crowns, and rhizomes of turfgrass hosts. Perithecia, which have only been observed in culture, are black, spherical (252-556 um in diameter), and have long (357-756 um) cylindrical necks. Asci are unitunicate, cylindrical (63 x 108 um long), and bear eight ascospores. At maturity, ascospores are 23-42 um long and 4-6 um in diameter. Ascospores are tri-septate with two intermediate dark brown cells and two hyaline terminal cells.

On half strength PDA, mycelial growth is appressed, olive brown to black, and curls back towards the center of the colony. Phialospores of the anamorph are hyaline, 3-8 um long, and 1-3 um wide. Hyphopodia are globose, dark brown, and occasionally found in nature on stem bases and roots.

Disease Cycle

The pathogen is believed to survive the winter months as mycelia in previously colonized plant debris and in perennial host tissue. Colonization and suppression of root growth has been shown to occur between 21 and 35C under controlled environmental conditions, with optimum disease develop

(continued on page 5)

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Dues Notices

It has been six weeks now since we have sent out the mailing for the annual CAGCS dues. If by chance any of you have not received your notice as of this date, please contact John Streeter at 387-6286 or 387-1892, so that we may expedite a bill to you.

As many of you may or may not realize, the information contained on the return portion of your dues statement is the information which will be used in the 1992 Membership Directory. If we have not received your dues payment and/or any change in your personal or business information on or before February 20th, you may be in jeopardy of being left out of the 1992 Directory, or the information contained therein may not be correct.

It is imperative that we receive your dues payment or any change in your information no later than February 20.

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Annual Christmas Party

A fine display of hospitality by the Woodbridge Country Club was witnessed by all who attended our annual Christmas Party on December 13th. From the accommodations at the luxury Quality Inn to the elegantly decorated dining room and the encore of a fine meal proved to be the right ingredients for an enjoyable evening spent with our colleagues on this joyous holiday.

All who attended were pleased with the festivities and possibly our Social Committee will make this an annual stop for our Christmas party.

Mike Wallace, CGCS, has been selected to handle the voting duties for our Association at the annual GCSAA meeting which will take place on February 17th in New Orleans, LA.

Mike is no stranger to the political wars which encompass the duties of a voting delegate. The Board is confident that Mike will serve our Association in our best interest.

Rumor has it that this may be the last year for voting delegates. GCSAA is considering a revamping of the voting procedure used to elect our officers and directors by replacing the voting delegate procedure with the individual vote.

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Annual January Seminar

The CAGCS Annual Winter Seminar was once again heralded a success. Over 120 members attended the very informative seminar held at the Ramada Inn in Meriden, CT.

Heading up the program was Dr. Bruce Clark from Rutgers University with his patch disease update. Rutgers was one of the prime innovators in discovering causes and controls for this disease complex. His information updated us with the latest findings of preventative and curative measures. A synopsis of his findings can be read in this issue of the *Clippings* beginning on page 2.

Dr. Frank Rossi from Michigan State entertained us with his presentation on risk management, followed by Dr. Cooper from the University of Massachusetts who covered the creeping

bent grass evaluation study which they have been doing for the past five years.

Rounding out the morning session was Scott Deshefy, Enforcement Project coordinator for the DEP. Scott reviewed the chilling facts concerning underground storage tanks.

After a hearty poolside lunch, William Roberts, CGCS, Vice President of the GCSAA, updated us with information regarding GCSAA's role in the environmental issues which face all golf course superintendents.

Oswald Inglese, Sanitary Engineer, briefed us on the Aquifer Protection Program which is being prepared for legislative review.

Rounding out the seminar was our perennial speaker from PPUC, Don Kiley. As usual, Don gave us all of the ins and outs concerning the political climate and when and where it may affect us as golf course superintendents.

Once again Dave Stimson and his committee did a fine job of organizing this annual event.

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Golf Summit Confirmed

March 14, 1992

CAGCS, in conjunction with the CT Golf Association, the Club Managers' Association and the CT PGA, will host the First Annual Golf Summit on March 14, 1992.

The format calls for each association to provide speakers of its choice to a schedule of five concurrent sessions during the morning portion of the program. After lunch a feature speaker will provide a session for all attendees.

CAGCS has secured Don Kiley, Executive Director of PPUC, and Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS, President of GCSAA to host our Association's program.

Further details will be sent to all invited parties sometime in early February.

All Class A CAGCS members, club pros, managers and club officials will be invited to attend the golf summit.



Hospitality Suite

Once again, CAGCS, in conjunction with the New Jersey Golf Course Superintendents, will host a hospitality suite on Friday and Saturday nights during the GCSAA Convention at the New Orleans Hilton.

All members and guests are welcome to pop in to say "hello". The room number of the suite will be posted in the hotel lobby on Friday afternoon.

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GCSAA offering technical training for your spray technician

GCSAA begins its Employee Assistance Program by offering its first seminar designed specifically for staff members who are responsible for spraying pesticides on your golf course.

Through demonstrations and opportunities for hands-on learning, your employee will learn the principles of effective sprayer operations. Some of the things being covered in this seminar will include the use of various types of sprayers, learning calibration and application methods, practicing

safety procedures including spill clean-up and first aid, and generally increase the safety factors in applying all chemical applications.

This will be a one-day seminar with our closest location being Winged Foot Country Club on March 10, 1992. Registration fee for the course is \$85 per person. All attendees will earn .6 CEUs.

An application and registration form was sent to all GCSAA members; and, for your convenience, a copy is enclosed with this newsletter.

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In Memoriam

John J. Perry, age 67, died June 24, 1991, after a prolonged illness. John was a Class A-Life member of CAGCS of which he was a Director for over 12 years, and President in 1966 and 1967. A member since 1955, John had served on just about every committee in our state organization.

In 1980, he retired from the Country Club of Farmington after 20 years. John also was the superintendent at the New London Country Club in Waterford, CT, and Pro/Superintendent at Purpoodock Club of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, before going to New London in 1963.

John was a member of GCSAA for over 30 years. He was our first voting delegate for Connecticut and served on both the Advising Committee and Nominating Committee, as well as making national presentations at the National Education Conferences.

He will be remembered for his smile, the spring in his walk, and his positive outlook on life. He was proud of his Irish heritage as well as the love he had for the game of golf. He always made time for another super-



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intendent in need and was willing to share any knowledge he had with others.

John was a WW II Navy veteran and a Eucharistic Minister at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Plainville, CT. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, of Plainville, CT, and a brother, Robert, of Bethel, Vermont.

John W. Grant, Jr., age 74, of Pleasant Valley died November 7, 1991, at Hartford Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Rose, and two sons, John W. Grant, III and Michael Grant.

A long-time member of CAGCS, John was a salesman from 1956 until his retirement in 1980. During that time, John sold agricultural chemicals for Hubbard-Hall, Kerr-Magee, and Old Fox Chemical Companies.

Donations may be made to the American Heart Fund or the Immaculate Conception Church, New Hartford, CT, 06057.

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Summer Patch

(continued from page 2)

ment at 28C. In the field, infection commences in late spring when soil temperatures stabilize between 18 and 20C. The fungus moves from plant to plant by growing along roots and rhizomes. Symptoms develop during hot (30-35C), rainy weather or when high temperatures follow periods of heavy rainfall. Patches may continue to expand through the summer and early autumn and are often still evident the following growing season. Summer patch may be spread by aerification and dethatching equipment as well as by the transport of infected sod.

Epidemiology

Summer patch is most severe during hot, wet years and on poorly drained, compacted sites. Although heat stress plays an important role in disease development, drought stress is usually not a predisposing factor. Under ideal conditions, the causal agent can spread along roots, crowns, and stem tissue at a rate of up to 3 cm per week. Symp-

tom expression has been shown to increase with the use of arsenate herbicides, quick release nitrogen fertilizers, and several contact fungicides. The disease is frequently stimulated when turfgrass is maintained under conditions of low mowing height and frequent, light irrigation. Soil pH, a major factor in the development of take-all patch, apparently does not affect the incidence of summer patch.

Control

Because summer patch is a root disease, cultural practices that alleviate stress and promote root development will reduce disease severity. Since low mowing enhances symptom expression, avoid mowing turf below recommended heights, particularly during periods of heat stress. In the Northeast, symptoms are less apparent when lawns are maintained at a height of 5 to 7 cm and golf greens and fairways are cut at or above 0.156 cm and 0.375 cm, respectively. Fertilize turf with a slow release nitrogen source such as sulfur-coated urea. Irrigate deeply and as infrequently as possible without

inducing drought stress. Syringing to reduce heat stress, aerification, improving drainage, and reducing compaction are other practices that will aid in the control of this disease.

Overseeding affected areas with *L. perenne*, *F. arundinacea*, or resistant cultivars of *P. pratensis* represent one of the most cost-effective means of controlling summer patch. Use mixtures or blends of resistant turf cultivars or species for best results. Conversion of golf areas from *Poa* to *Agrostis* spp. will also reduce disease incidence.

Fungicides are available that can effectively control summer patch. Applications should commence on a preventative basis in late spring or early summer when soil temperatures stabilize between 18 and 20C. Systemic fungicides have proven to be most effective but must be applied at high label rates and repeated two to three times at 21-28 day intervals. Efficacy is enhanced when products are applied in at least 1600 L of water per hectare. Certain contact fungicides may stimulate symptom severity when used repeatedly at high rates.

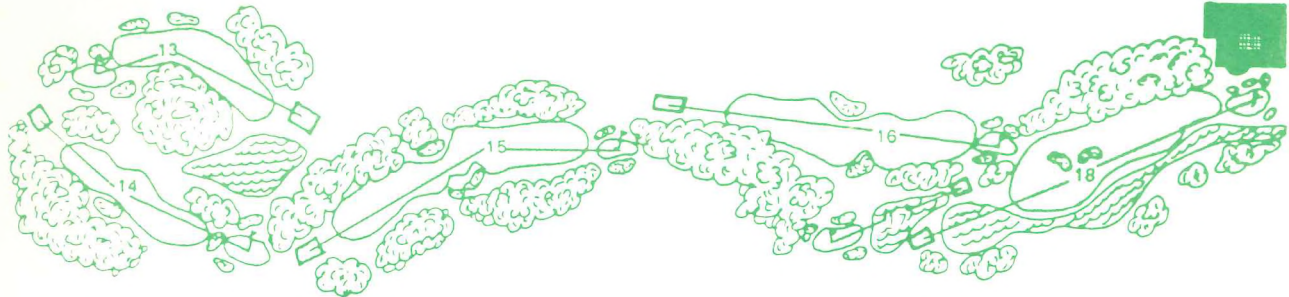
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The Clippings



Calendar

CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	HOST
March 31	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Aqua Turf Southington, CT	CAGCS
April 21	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Norwich Golf Course Norwich, CT	Bruce C. Morse
May 24	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Wallingford Country Club Wallingford, CT	Scott Gennings
June 1	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Country Club of Waterbury Waterbury, CT	Charles Baskin, CGCS
June 16	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Cliffside Country Club Simsbury, CT	Scott Ramsay
September 19	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Greenwich Country Club Greenwich, CT	Gregory Wojick, CGCS
October 19	CAGCS Monthly Meeting	Country Club of Torrington Torrington, CT	Edward Goodhouse

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