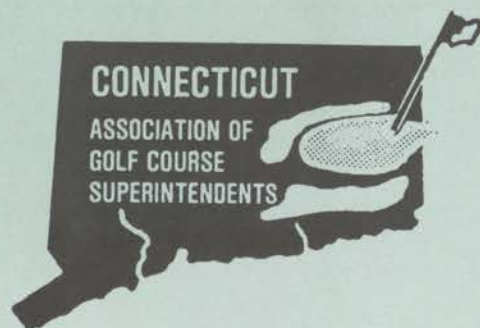


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CONNECTICUT CLIPPINGS

Volume 32, No. 2

April, 1998

President's Message

Anthony Grosso
CAGCS President

The winter that never materialized during December, January and February and had members with visions of an early start to the golf season has shown its ugly head in March with our coldest temperatures of the year. As far as I'm concerned, the timing was perfect, just when most of us were getting ready to open—or in some cases were already open—Mother Nature gave us a reprieve and reminded us that it is still early March and it is still winter.

*Remember 20 years ago
The Blizzard of '78?*

I would like to take a moment and touch on two trends that I have noticed over the last couple of years that are a little disturbing.

The first is the attendance at our monthly golf meetings. If our monthly meeting is being held at a private country club, our numbers average 92 players compared to just 64 players when it is held at either a public or municipal course. We are finding

(continued on page 2)

New England Regional Turfgrass Conference & Show a huge success

by Anthony Grosso

The first annual New England Regional Turfgrass Conference and Show (NERTCS) was a tremendous success. This first regional conference and show was a collaborative effort on the part of many organizations, including all seven New England golf course superintendents associations, along with the New England Sports Turf Managers Association and the Massachusetts Association of Lawn Care Professionals, who value the continued growth of turfgrass research and education and who value the continued growth of our industry.

From the cutting of the ribbon ceremony (pictured above Gary Sykes

(left) and Chip Brearley (right), Co-Chairmen, the opening session with keynote speaker, Jim Palmer, and the opening and conference receptions, to the educational programs, and the equipment show, everything went off

like clockwork. We had nothing but very positive feedback from everyone—vendors, attendees and educational speakers—about the quality of the show. Our attendance for the three days numbered more than 1,800 and the monies raised for research should be substantial once all bills



are paid.

Putting on a show of this magnitude requires a tremendous effort from many different people. I would like to take this moment to thank just a few of them.

(continued on page 2)



Anthony Grosso
1998 CAGCS President

it harder and harder to get clubs to hold our monthly meetings (i.e. this August meeting is still open). If this trend of more members showing up for tournaments at private clubs compared to public clubs continues, I am concerned that we might end up losing the public and municipal courses altogether.

When we hold a meeting at a course, we pay for carts, food, beverages and prizes—we do not pay green fees. So, unless our turnout is good and the course can make up some of the lost

President's message (continued from page 1)

revenue due to the waived green fees, we are going to find it even more difficult in the future to get public and municipal courses to commit their courses to us. Clubs that give up their courses to us are doing so as a show of goodwill and respect for their superintendent and our association. The least we can do is support all of our monthly meetings equally, no matter where they are being held.

The second is just a reminder that the preferred dress code for our January Seminar, March and Annual meetings is a sports jacket (enough said).

For those of you who made it out to Anaheim and to the Noreaster Hospitality Reception, you were treated to a great time. The hospitality suite was very well attended (between 400-500 people) and very well run thanks to John Napier, CGCS, and all of his hard work.

In closing, I would like to pass on an example of the uphill battle that people like golf course superintendents seem to have to face all too often. It was sent to me by a good friend and the editor of the Wisconsin Golf

Course Superintendents Newsletter:

A freshman at Eagle Rock Junior High School won first prize at the Great Idaho Falls Science Fair. He was attempting to show how conditioned we have become to alarmists practicing junk science and spreading fear of everything in our environment. In his project, he urged people to sign a petition demanding strict control or total elimination of the chemical "dihydrogen monoxide". And for plenty of good reasons, since it can: Cause excessive sweating and vomiting; it is a major component in acid rain; it can cause severe burns in its gaseous state; accidental inhalation can kill you; it contributes to erosion; it decreases effectiveness of automobile brakes; it has been found in tumors of terminal cancer patients.

He asked 50 people if they supported a ban of the chemical. Forty-three said yes, six were undecided and only one knew that the chemical was water. The title of his prize winning project was "How Gullible Are We?"

I think the conclusion is obvious.

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Connecticut Clippings is an official publication of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

Newsletter Editor - Bob Chalifour, CGCS

Newsletter Committee - David Basconi, Heather Garvin, Ron Holcomb, Jud W. Smith

Photos - David Basconi

Conference & Show (continued from page 1)

Our show manager, David Rosenberg and his staff from Marketing & Events were outstanding in all aspects of running the show and who were always one step ahead of everything.

NERTCS Board of Directors put in many long hours starting back in February of 1997 and going right through the show. I was very happy to sit on this board along with Philip Neaton and share in this overwhelming experience.

Of course this show could not have been anywhere near its success without the vendors for their financial support of the show through the purchase of booth space.

Then there were our major sponsors who supported the effort through purchasing Title Sponsorships: AgrEvo, Bayer, Floratine, Tom Irwin Co., Lebanon, Novartis, Toro Co., Turf Products Corp. and Turf Specialities.

Our supporting sponsors were FMC, Lesco, Lofts Seed Co., Rhome-Poulere, Sawtelle Bros., Scotts Co., Zeneca.

CAGCS was well represented at the show, and I would like to thank Bob Chalifour, CGCS, for supporting our association by manning our booth.

I hope everyone enjoyed themselves and we will see you in Providence, RI, again in 1999.

Bishop Woods School wins grant

by Les Kennedy, Jr., CGCS

CAGCS is proud to announce that the Bishop Woods School of New Haven, CT, finished in third place in the All-Star Kids Environmental Contest sponsored by Fleet Bank. A grant of \$2,500 was awarded to the school for their butterfly garden project.

Pictured here are Timothy O'Neill, CGCS, superintendent at the Country Club of Darien, making the presentation to Dr. Jean Lowery, Media Specialist, and students, Shannon Begley and Elizabeth Abeling.



Bishop Woods School was adopted by CAGCS as part of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Schools. It is a small elementary school of 350 students from kindergarten through 4th grade. Dr. Jean Lowery, Media Specialist at the school, has mapped out a seven-year plan to gain certification in each of the four categories (Environmental Education, Waste Management, Wildlife Habitat Management, and Resource Conservation) of

the Audubon program to make the school a fully certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. The school built and opened a butterfly garden as part of that certification effort.

"We thank the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents for their support in our Audubon program. Without their involvement, our school would never have been in a position to enter this contest, let alone finish in third place," stated Dr. Lowery.

CAGCS congratulates the students and staff of Bishop Woods School. Our association is committed to helping the school achieve their long-term goal of full certification.

Our June issue will highlight the school's bluebird box construction project.

CAGCS and the Connecticut Recreation & Parks Association will again be joining forces to host the second annual Connecticut Golf Scramble.

The first round will be held on two separate dates. The first is September 1st at Simsbury Farms Golf Course in Simsbury with the second being held on September 16th at Stanley Golf Course in New Britain and Shennecossett Golf Course in Groton.

More details will be forthcoming—watch your mail!

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March meeting

U-Conn researchers present data

At the CAGCS march meeting, Dr. Karl Guillard, who will be taking the place of Dr. Bill Dest at U-Conn, gave an update on research utilizing compost to reduce fungicide use. This is an ongoing project that will continue this year. If you wish to participate in the study, you may contact Dr. Guillard.

Dr. Bill Dest presented results from his green speed study. Guest What? Golfers could not rate green speed. Further, 81% were satisfied with the green speed at their respective courses.

Remember the old adage — *The greens are too fast. The greens are too slow. The hills are too steep. The hills aren't steep enough. The carts are too fast. The carts aren't fast enough.*

Add your "toos" to the list, and send them to CAGCS in care of the editor.

Dr. W. Michael Sullivan became Chairman of the Plant Science Department at URI on July 1, 1997.

Dr. Noel Jackson is on sabbatical leave and is planning to spend some

time across the pond—planning to retire in the next few years. The current college hiring program includes plans for hiring a "new" pathologist before Dr. Jackson retires. This is unusual for a college to do. The plans for an early replacement demonstrates the college's commitment to the turf industry.

In other news from URI, Drs. Casagrande, Jackson and Ruemmele are working with graduate student Barry Devise and will soon be presenting

detailed plans for a golf course to be constructed at the University. Course plans include the innovative closure of two EPA "Superfund" designated landfills. The entire site is in the university's wellhead protection area.

Will Dr. Jackson retire to become a golf course superintendent?

Dear CAGCS members,

It is hard to believe that ten years have gone by since we started Toelles Road Sand and Gravel Company. Some of you may recollect, I started this specialty sand business to fulfill a 30-year dream. During my college days at Colgate University, my major was Geology. I had always wanted to use this education. When I sold my first business in 1984, I discovered the golf course specialty sand business which allowed me to do such and, thanks to all of you, we were able to build a very successful golf course business.

In all my many years in business, I have never met a finer group of people than you guys and ladies!

Hal Kraus

CAGCS would like to wish Hal a long and healthy retirement!

Editor

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Shane Gurney - Class C
Richter Park

Stan Hildreth - Class Commercial
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Congratulations to Mike Marino, the former assistant at the Black Hall Club in Old Lyme, for the past three years. He was chosen for the superintendent's position at Manchester Country Club.

Would you like copies of the *Connecticut Clippings* sent to an official at your club? If so, please call the CAGCS office (203/387-0810 or 888/561-7778) and leave the name and title of the club official with the correct mailing address.

The 1998 CAGCS membership directory is presently at the printer and should be ready for mailing in early May.

May 15th - deadline to request CAGCS scholarship applications

The deadline to request a CAGCS scholarship application is May 15th. Applications must be requested in writing from the S & R Committee, CAGCS office, P. O. Box 3678, Woodbridge, CT, 06525.

If you have any questions regarding eligibility requirements, please call Dan Rackliffe, CGCS, S & R Chairperson, at 203/3415072.

Annual baseball outing May 8th

Mark your calendar! CAGCS has booked a date with the New Haven Ravens (farm club of the Colorado Rockies) for Friday, May 8 when they face the New Britain Rock Cats.

Over the past few years, this has been a great event for CAGCS members. Watch your mail for details!

Condolences to CAGCS member Steve Divito, CGCS, on the recent passing of his father.

CAGCS software will be available for purchase at all CAGCS monthly meetings.

Deadline for June issue May 9th!

Upcoming events

April 27

CAGCS Monthly Meeting
Norwich Country Club
Bruce Morse, Host Supt.

May 8

Annual Baseball Outing
Yale Field, New Haven

May 18

CAGCS Monthly Meeting
Yale University Golf Club
Anthony Baviello, CGCS

June 16

CAGCS Monthly Meeting
Pautipaug Country Club
Anthony Grosso, Host Supt.

June 24

Turfgrass Research Field Day
University of Massachusetts
For booth information, contact:
Thom Griffin (413) 545-3066
griff@pssci.umass.edu

July 27

Annual CAGCS Invitational Tournament
Hop Meadow Country Club
Host Supt. - Michael Wallace, CGCS

August - Open

Anyone able to host the August meeting is urged to contact Dennis Houle at 203/938-9640

September 12

CAGCS Annual Family Day
Lake Compounce

September 14

CAGCS Monthly Meeting
Orange Hills Country Club
Jud Smith, Host Supt.

CAGCS Office

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GCSAA tournament review

by Les Kennedy, Jr., CGCS

The 1998 GCSAA Golf Championship was held in Irvine, CA, February 1-3. Over 720 players competed in the first ever weather shorted event on six of the best courses the Newport Beach area had to offer. The weather was again the focal point of our National Championship as we endured and eventually succumbed to the brut force of the global phenomenon known as "EL NINO".

Upon arriving in California, we were threatened each day with dire forecasts of what was to come, but Mother Nature held out to provide three respectable days for golf. Not until Tuesday, the last day of the tournament, did the inevitable occur. For the first time in 48 years of the GCSAA Championship a round was canceled. Credit must be given to the committee and staff for planning a very enjoyable "Las Vegas" day to occupy everyone during one of the worst rainstorms I have ever witnessed.

Some 20 CAGCS members were entered and from all accounts everyone had a great time. In the first flight, Scott Niven, CGCS, finished a fine 4th net, with yours truly right behind

in 5th. The 3rd flight saw Paul Jamrog finish 5th gross. In the 4th and 5th flights respectively, Tim O'Neill, CGCS, and Chris Mauro took home the last plate for their 7th place finishes in the gross division. John Streeter, CGCS, ended years of frustration by finishing 7th net in the 5th flight and returning home with his first ever commemorative plate. It's great to see John back on his game! In the 6th flight, Rick Schock finished 3rd gross, and rounding out the field in the 8th flight Mike Wallace, CGCS, finished in 4th place gross.

In the Four-Ball Championship, Connecticut was not represented in the gross division winners, but in the net division at Tustin Ranch Golf Club, John Streeter and Tim O'Neill teamed up to finish tied for 2nd. In the net division at Pelican Hill Ocean North, Mike Chrzanowski and Chris Mauro tied with Larry Pakkala, CGCS, and Scott Niven for 6th place.

Congratulations to all winners, and we look forward to seeing all of our friends gain in Florida in 1999, as the tournament moves to Tampa and the Innisbrook Resort.

..

CAGCS trivia contest

OOPS! Slight mistake - All of the trivia questions for this year were inadvertently printed in the February issue. Only one question was to appear in each issue. You have now been given another chance.

As you know, in each of the five issues there will be a challenging trivia question with a special prize to be awarded for each question. Only CAGCS members will be eligible and the winner will be determined by a random drawing from all correct entries.

The question for this issue is: *Out of the 48 contiguous states, which was the last to have its*

first municipal golf course?

Name the state. Deadline is May 15th.

Send your answer to the CAGCS office, P. O. Box 3678, Woodbridge, CT, 06525.

February issue trivia question was: Many Connecticut courses were designed or operated under different names from their current title. Can you give the current name of all these "oldies"? The answers are below. Sorry, there was no winner.

Bel Compo	Blue Fox Run GC
GC at Aspetuck	Connecticut GC
Hyfield GC	Highfield CC
Norwich Inn GC	Norwich GC
Cliffside CC	Tower Ridge CC
Heritage Woods CC	Heritage Village CC
New Britain Municipal	Stanley GC
Orkil Farms GC	Simsbury Farms
Edgewood GC	TPC at River Highlands
New Haven Municipal	Alling Memorial

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Bruce Morse, Superintendent
Norwich Golf Course
Built in 1925

Architect: Donald Ross
PGA Professional: John Paesani
Date of meeting - April 27th

The April meeting will be hosted by Bruce Morse, superintendent at the Norwich Golf Course for the past seven years. The course is a par 71, that is not particularly long but will

get you to use every club in your bag. The close proximity of the Casinos has helped boost play to 50,000 rounds last year. (Don't forget your quarters!) The average green size is 3,000 sq. ft. with its signature hole being #17 with the Norwich Inn overlooking the tee. In the two years since CAGCS has had a meeting at Norwich, a new parking lot has increased parking considerably, a mile of paved cart paths has gone in around the course, and this past October, the putting green was rebuilt—tripling its size.

Bruce has worked with Dr. Steve Alm, Entomologist from the University of Rhode Island, for eight years on cut worm and beetle grub control. Much of this work involved research

evaluations of Conserve.

Bruce and his wife, Cheryl, live in the Town of Windsor, one hour away from Norwich, with their two boys, Kyle, age 15, and Danny, age 12. Both of their sons are active in little league, basketball, track and soccer. Last year, Kyle broke all Windsor town records for running.

Bruce plays in a men's hockey league and also enjoys basketball as well as golf. He credits his assistant, Bob Dawley, with helping him to run the course. Bob worked at Connecticut College in New London for 7 1/2 years before joining Bruce.

Norwich joined the ranks of "spikeless" clubs just this year! Be sure to change your shoes over prior to arriving at Norwich.



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Yale is a golf course everyone should play once in their life. Its beautiful, natural landscape challenges every level of play. Par from the blue tees is 72.8 with a slope of 139 (123 being the mean). Their signature hole is the par 3 ninth hole. Watch for the pin placement—there's a 4 1/2 foot swale that divides the front and back of this 64 foot long green. The first putt can be a doozy!

Yale Golf Club has been the site of many state amateur championships along with being the NCAA Division 1 Spring opener and Fall closer tournament site. In the past years it was a regular stop of the Ben Hogan and Nike Tours.

Anthony has been in the golf business since he was 14 when he began working as water boy and a hand bunker raker. During school for horticulture/plant science, he worked at Ardsey

CC, then on to Wykagul as an assistant. In 1984, he took the superintendent's job at Pelham and was there until accepting his position at Yale in January, 1995.

A bunker restoration program is in the plans for this fall. Twelve new tees have been built since Anthony arrived. A new teeing system has been adapted, no more red-white-blue. From front to bank it is gold-green-blue (6,500 yards)-black (6,800 yards). Last year, Yale had 48,000 rounds.

Not only is Anthony busy at his course, but he is also very active with his family and in the community. His children, Christopher, David and four-year old Nicholas are all active in baseball, scouting and camping. He finds the time to manage two baseball teams of 9-11 year olds, is a cub den leader, and heads up an annual Christmas Car-roll Food Drive.



Anthony Baviello, CGCS
Yale Golf Club
Built 1926

Architect: Charles Blair McDonald
PGA Professional: David Paterson
Date of meeting - May 18th

Anthony enjoys fishing, hockey, softball (he's the oldest player on the team) and is working on lowering his golf handicap. Anthony and his wife, Laura, a Director of Data Services at St. Raphael's Hospital, and their three children live in Orange.

Bios of Bruce Morse & Anthony Baviello by Heather Garvin.

Get ready for the 1998 golf season

by John Motycka, Golf Chairperson

The 1998 CAGCS golf season is about to begin, so read on for a brief description of some of the upcoming highlights.

The tournament for the April meeting at Norwich will be the same as the last couple years, a two-person, better ball SHAMBLE. Pick your own partner, or the committee will pick one for you if needed.

Play will be as follows: each player drives, then the team selects the best drive and each player then plays their own ball from that spot until the hole is completed. That scenario is repeated on every hole, resulting in a complete score for each individual golfer. Each player receives 30% of their handicap and the resulting net best ball on each hole is used for the team's score. So, pick your partner and sign up for April's tournament.

Our May meeting will be the first round of our CAGCS Championship.

Continuing what we started last year, we will again run a season-long, two-person team championship event. Last

year we had 14 teams and we hope there will be more this year. The quantity of teams entered will determine the precise format of the event, but each team will play a minimum of two matches, and a maximum of four before the playoff teams are selected.

The entry fee is \$20 per man, the top finishers divide up the cash. Matches will start in May, with one a month through August. These matches are on your own, at any course of your own choosing and provide a good reason to get together with your fellow CAGCS members for a round of golf once a month throughout the summer. Last year's participants seemed to enjoy it; so, get a partner and join in! Sign up deadline will be May 1st.

This year's CAGCS Championship will be determined by the total scores of the May and June meetings. The New England and Met Team members will be selected by taking the best two rounds of the May, June, July/August, and September meetings.

As you can see, there are ample reasons to play good golf this season - all we have to do is learn how!

Pequots buy into Rhode Island golf courses

by Bob Chalifour, CGCS, Editor

Recently, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe bought into two golf courses. The \$6 million price will give the tribe access to Boulder Hills Golf and CC in Richmond, RI, on Rt. 138 and the 45-acre executive Lindbrook Golf Course in neighboring Hopkington, RI.

The owners of the world's largest casino want to add golfing to their gambling empire. They presently have plans for two 18-hole courses designed by Robert Trent Jones and Reese Jones. However, the project has been delayed due to legal delays of their request for annexation of 165 acres of land adjacent to the casino. The courses which are two miles apart, are a 20minute ride from the casino/hotel

in Ledyard.

The tribe says it is going into a partnership with the Bernard Investment Group of Rhode Island, the owner of the two courses. The courses will be operated as a joint venture, the first partnership of its kind for the tribe.

The two separate properties are assessed at about \$3.2 million, although developers estimated the cost of the Boulder Hills project at about \$5 million when it was finished in the summer of 1995.

As part of the new partnership, the Boulder Hills course, a 175-acre tract about one mile south of exit 3-A off I-95 will be renamed Foxwoods Country Club at Boulder Hills. The second course near exit 2 off I-95 will become the Foxwoods Executive Golf Club at

public. Mashantucket tribal counselors said the tribe was attracted to the partnership because it fills an immediate need to make golf courses available to guests at Foxwoods. In particular, the facilities will become an amenity for the high rollers who will be staying at the new Grand Pequot Tower.

Tribal officials said the tribe's partnership in the Rhode Island courses will not change the long-term plans to develop championship courses in the immediate vicinity of Foxwoods. The tribe feels that there is a lot of room in New England to expand golf courses. It is a good investment. Kenneth Reels, Tribal Vice Chairman, recently made a private investment in the 185-acre 9-hole Lisbon Country Club in Lisbon, CT.

I have been to both Boulder Hills CC and Lindbrook GC. Boulder Hills has many steep ravines, boulders and doglegs making it difficult to play.

A shot that appears to be o.k. may end up in trouble or lost because of the unusual terrain. A golf car is required because of the many steep inclines. Boulder Hills CC is definitely not a walker's course.

Lindbrook GC, on the other hand, is a good executive course. There are challenging golf holes, some brooks, ponds and maturing trees. This course is easily walked.

Lindbrook.

The Lindbrook course is across the street from a 250-acre property the tribe purchased last year. Tribal officials had considered building a course on that land before deciding to invest in the existing courses.

Both courses will remain open to the

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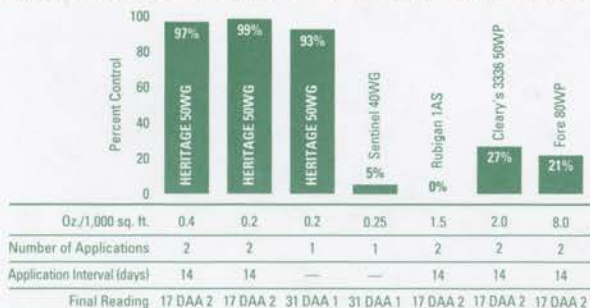
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Anthracnose¹ (*Colletotrichum graminicola*) on 80% Annual Bluegrass, 20% Perennial Ryegrass

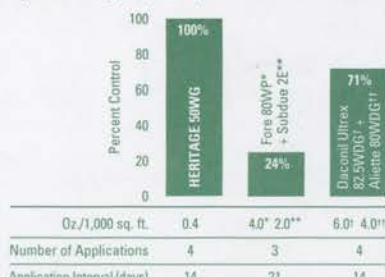


Dr. Don Scott, Purdue University, 1995

US 87-95-P354

¹ Also isolated from plots: 2 species *Rhizoctonia*; 3 species *Pythium*; and several species *Phytophthora*.

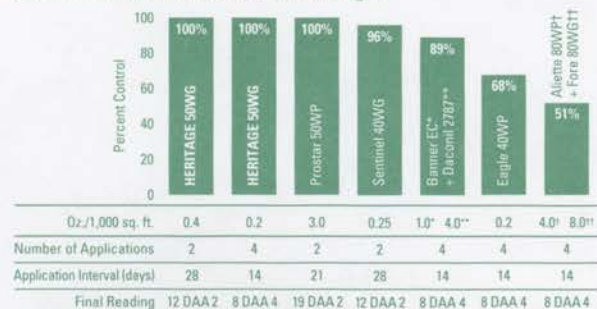
Pythium Blight (*Pythium aphanidermatum*) on Perennial ryegrass



Dr. John Watkins, University of Nebraska, 1996

USNP-96-P030

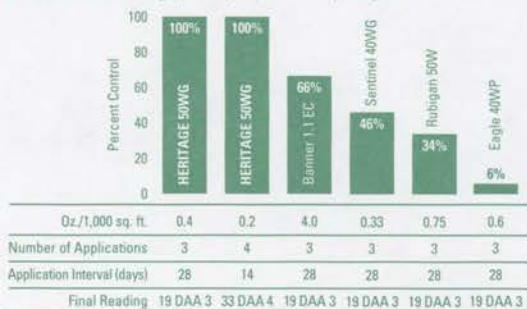
Brown Patch (*Rhizoctonia solani*) on Colonial Bentgrass



Dr. Pat Sanders, Penn State University, 1994

US 66-94-P356

Summer Patch (*Magnaporthe poae*) on Kentucky Bluegrass



Dr. Bruce Clarke, Cooke College, Rutgers University, 1994

US 66-94-P362

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