

*Handwritten signature*



**CONNECTICUT  
ASSOCIATION OF  
GOLF COURSE  
SUPERINTENDENTS**



# Connecticut Clippings



Volume 39, No.2

May/June 2005

## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL!!



*Mike Griswold Golf Course Superintendent and daughter Lily mowing the putting green at Skungamaug River GC.*

## 2005 NORTHEAST NEWS UPDATE

By Jim Skorulski, Senior Agronomist

May 16, 2005

Spring has sprung? Perhaps it finally has; temporarily at least. Temperatures throughout the region remain about 7-10 days behind normal. Wide temperature fluctuations that occurred earlier in April and the cooler-than-normal weather have impacted seedhead suppression on greens and fairways this spring. The growth regulators have been somewhat effective, but not to the degree observed in past years. Timing of the application(s) is critical to success and strange weather patterns and microenvironments on the golf course impact timing. It is likely that the delayed spring also has impacted annual bluegrass weevil emergence, crabgrass emergence, and the sulfur hatch (my favorite mayfly) on the local trout stream. Oh well, it is spring in New England.

Parasitic nematode numbers have been on the rise at many golf courses that are monitoring populations. It is a good idea to have composite samples taken from a green or a number of greens that may have been unusually weak or poorly rooted last summer and fall or

are weak this spring. Nematode populations should be peaking in early summer so plan on testing in the next couple of weeks. Parasitic nematodes have always been present, but usually have gone unnoticed as turf growth has remained vigorous. However, they are one more stress factor that can sometimes push an already weakened plant over the edge, and heaven knows we are pushing plants hard these days. There are a number of sampling protocols for parasitic nematodes that are available through our offices or from the University of Massachusetts, University of Rhode Island, University of Connecticut, Rutgers University, and Cornell University. We will also be happy to discuss management options should the test results show populations above threshold limits.

Enjoy the few good days as we get them, but don't forget to bring the extra wind shirt and bug repellent just in case. Spring doesn't last forever so make the best of it while you can!

Northeast Region Green Section- Dave Oatis, Director [doatis@usga.org](mailto:doatis@usga.org); Jim Baird, Agronomist [jbaird@usga.org](mailto:jbaird@usga.org); Jim Skorulski, Senior Agronomist [jskorulski@usga.org](mailto:jskorulski@usga.org).



Amando Palolino III, Halloran & Sage Government Affairs lobbyist representing us through EIC explained proposed legislation at the April Meeting at The Course at Yale. The bill states "regulations shall prohibit withdrawals for water for non-residential use in excess of fifty thousand gallons per day from aquifer protection areas..."

Editors Note, For the present, House Bill 6878 Proposed Water Diversion Legislation did not make it through the last legislative session. This however does not mean that it may not come back again in another form.

**CAGCS 2005 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Monday, July 18	Simsbury Farms GC	Michael Wallace, CGCS Host Superintendent
Wednesday, July 27	Family Day	Madison Surf Club
Monday, August 8	The Patterson Club <i>CAGCS Invitational</i>	John Garcia Host Superintendent
Monday, August 15	Oak Hills Park GC <i>MET/CAGCS Poa Annual Tournament</i>	Glen Dube, CGCS Host Superintendent
Sunday, Sept. 11	Lake Compounce	CAGCS Family Day
Monday, Sept. 12	Orange Hills Country Club	Jud W. Smith Host Superintendent
Monday, October 3	Clinton Country Club <i>Scholarship &amp; Research Tournament</i>	Michael Decker Host Superintendent
Tuesday, October 25	Pequabuck Golf Club <i>Superintendent/Assistant Tournament</i>	Kevin Jaracy Host Superintendent
Tuesday, November 1	Birchwood Country Club <i>CAGCS Annual Meeting</i>	Edward Consolati Host Superintendent
December TBA	CAGCS Christmas Party	

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APRIL MEETING GOLF RESULTS  
THE COURSE AT YALE  
APRIL 28, 2005

1st gross 65

Ward Weischet, CGCS,  
New London Country Club  
Kevin Collins,  
Washington Club, Inc.  
Eric Morrison,  
Shennecossett Golf Club  
Kevin Jaracy,  
Pequabuck Golf Club

2nd gross 67 match of cards

Scott Suchenski,  
Aspetuck Valley Country  
Club  
Sean Flynn,  
Great River Golf Club  
Mike Dukette  
David Van Leeuwen

3rd gross 67 match of cards

Greg Stent,  
Wampanoag Country Club  
Skip Ponds  
James Wierzbicki,  
Harrell's Turf Specialty  
Andy Drohen,  
Pursell Technologies

4th gross 68

John Motycka,  
Skungamaug River Golf Club  
Peter Tyrell,  
The Care of Trees  
Mike Cook  
Blind Draw

1st net 53

John Ruzsbatzky, CGCS,  
Country Club of Farmington  
Paul Bonini,  
Watertown Golf Club  
Sean Moran,  
Sodco, Inc.  
Erick Holm,  
Hop Meadow Country Club

2nd net 54 match of cards

Chris Mauro,  
Highfield Country Club  
Walt Wozniak,  
Country Club of Waterbury  
Patrick Cragin,  
Country Club of Waterbury  
Joe Henegan

3rd net 54 match of cards

John Garcia,  
The Patterson Club

Steve Curry,  
Berkshire Hills Country Club  
Mike Stachowicz  
Chris Cowan

4th net 56

Matt Howland, Shawnmark  
Industries, Inc.  
Dave Creta  
Tim Berge  
Roger Turcotte  
Closest to line #7  
Kevin Collins,  
Washington Club, Inc.

Long Drive #16

Mike Dukette

Closest to pin #5

Dave Fleury

Closest to pin #13

Steve LaMesa,

Long putt #8

Brian Pope

Long Putt #18

Dave Fleury,  
The Roger Rulewich Group



June 22, 2005 Construction of new turf building at Joe Troll Research Center has begun.

**MAY MEETING GOLF RESULTS  
TOWER RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB  
MAY 23, 2005**

**GROSS:**

**1st 72**

Thomas Watroba,  
Suffield Country Club  
John Fleming,  
Water Specialists, LLC

**2nd 72**

Greg Stent,  
Wampanoag Country Club  
Sean Moran,  
SODCO, Inc.

**NET:**

**1st 70**

John Ruzsbatzky, CGCS,  
Country Club of Farmington  
Paul Bonini,  
Watertown Golf Club

**2nd 70**

Stephen Curry,

Berkshire Hills Country Club  
James Staszowski,  
Turf Products Corp.

**3rd 70**

Ted Tighe,  
Guilford Lakes Golf Course  
Brian Pope,  
Turf Products Corp.

**4th 71**

Alexander Adaskaveg,  
Rockledge Country Club  
Michael Dukette, Bayer  
Environmental Science

**5th 73**

Skip Deubel,  
Tuckahoe Turf Farms, Inc.  
Joseph Trosky,  
Turflinks, Inc.

**6th 73**

Michael Conroy,  
LESCO, Inc.  
Todd Olovson,

Sleeping Giant Golf Course

**Closest to line #2**

Steve DiVito,  
Western Hills Golf Course

**Longest Drive #14**

Heather Garvin,  
The Chas. C. Hart Seed Co.

**Closest to pin #8**

Steve DiVito,  
Western Hills GC

**Closest to pin #16**

Steve Curry,  
Berkshire Hills CC

**Longest putt #9**

Bruce Morse,  
Norwich Golf Course

**Longest putt #18**

Ray Hetherington,  
Sleeping Giant

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## Congratulations

To Liz and Keith Kraus on the birth of their daughter, Madison Lillian. She was born Wednesday, June 8th at 9:09 a.m. at the New Britain General Hospital. Her healthy weight was 7lbs. 13ozs.

Dr. Nathaniel and Sara Mitowski on the birth of their daughter Mabel Elizabeth.

Peter Bacon, CGCS Wyantenuck GC on completing his renewal for certification with GCSAA. Peter has been at Wyantenuck since 1988 and was certified in 1990.

Mark Pelkey formerly assistant at Wintonberry Hills GC is now Golf Course Superintendent at Lyman Orchards GC, a Billy Casper managed facility in Middlefield, CT

## Condolences

On the passing Robert Capstick, 82, on March 11th.

On the passing of Lewis Dzedzic, 84, on April 2nd after a lengthy illness.

Bob and Beth Reynolds and family on the tragic loss of their son Ryan.

## Well Wishes

Wishing Pauline Streeter a speedy recovery at home recuperating from a broken ankle. Get well soon!

## Calendar

July 21, 2005 6th Annual Stockbridge Alumni Golf Classic, Red Tail GC, Drew Cummins, GCS. [www.stockbridgealumni.org](http://www.stockbridgealumni.org)

August 17, 2005 74th URI Turf

Field at URI Turf Farm contact Dr. Rebecca Brown or Dr. Mike Sullivan at [senmike@uri.edu](mailto:senmike@uri.edu). Diseases, insects, weeds, new turf varieties they are all here along with experts that can help you control them in order to provide the best conditions for your facility. Note new format in enclosed flyer. See you there.

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**Announcements**

Dr. Robert Wick, Turf Pathologist with the UMASS Extension Program has written a brief nematode update. Also Dr. Patricia Vittum insect updates [umassturf.org/publications/online\\_pubs.html](http://umassturf.org/publications/online_pubs.html)

Governor Rell Proclaimed the month of May as Play Golf Connecticut Month

USGA Museum in Far Hills, New Jersey is expanding.

Job positions can be posted at the Stockbridge School web site at: [www.umass.edu/stockbridge/jobnet/listajob.php](http://www.umass.edu/stockbridge/jobnet/listajob.php)

Your editor recently participated in educational planning for the New England Regional Turfgrass Conference. If you have any ideas or suggestions please contact Mary Owen, UMASS Extension 508/892-4218 or Gary Sykes, NERTC, Executive Director at 401/841-5490.

Syngenta to conclude relationship with LESCO, Inc. of Cleveland, Ohio over a transition period.

GCSAA 2006 Official Call for Nominations. Chapters may nominate a candidate by contacting Jon Maddern, CGCS, Nominating Committee Chairman, GCSAA Headquarters, 1421 Research Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049-3859.

**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CAGCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2005 GOALS**

**Golf**

Emphasize the importance of playing golf and developing skills:

- Class C tournament within the Superintendent/ Assistant tournament where assistants would play together (or)
- Establish a separate Class C championship Tournament
- Award a season long most improved player award based on U.S.G.A Handicap

**Education**

Offer seminars & workshops that will address specific needs of Class C members:

- Chainsaw safety workshops
- Resume building and career development seminars

**Connecticut Clippings**

- Encourage article submission by Class C members
- Interviews of Assistant Superintendents regarding education, work history, and personal information.
- Write an article highlighting superintendents that have earned a reputation for placing assistants in superintendent positions within the area.



*Peter Gorman, Class C Representative to the CAGCS Board of Directors*

### LOOKING BACK AT LAST WINTERS' SHOWS

.....

What was new and exciting at the Conferences and Trade Shows this past winter? I thought Tim O'Neill being elected President of GCSAA was great. The new format at the GCSAA Show was a hit with attendees. Jacobsen introduced the AR-5 Fine – Cut Rotary Mower that will protect against scalping and have a tighter turning radius. And how about Jacobsen with their magnetic bedknives, what's next on the horizon?

Standard Golf introduced several items, their smart-fit cup and Ferrule system. A hole cutter sharpener and a junior cooler-aid jet water station.

A new broad spectrum insecticide Arena from Arvesta offers another tool

for battling pesky pests. Several new topdressers are available from Turfco and Dakota Peat.

Rainbird has a wireless rotor capable of communicating from a central or handheld without the use of underground wiring. Holliston Sand Co. will have Dry Stor Sand Silos for those wishing to store topdressing sand dry and safe from contamination.

Toro introduces Ground-master Rotary Mowers and Groomer for fairway mowers. A commitment to certify sales representatives will continue.

It is always fun to stop by the Miliona booth to see what new ideas have become realities and hear superintendent's comments about the latest offerings.

Oh by the way, that is Bruce Morse, Superintendent at

Norwich GC, tooling around the show floor in Orlando on a Segway. No Bruce, you can not ride it on the back roads to Mohegan Sun for lunch.

.....



Heather Garvin, Chas. C Hart Seed Co. Representative talking with Jonathan Case, Golf Course Superintendent Airways GC, at the NERTGC Show in Providence, RI.





*Vintage spreader at Newtown CC. Joe Kocet GCS salvaged from being destroyed. Label: Ryan's O.K. Seeder & Fertilizer Spreader N&P Mfg.Co. Los Angles Calif*

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**DR. REBECCA BROWN**

Dr. Rebecca Brown grew up in Massachusetts and North Carolina, and graduated from high school in West Newbury, Massachusetts. She moved west to Minnesota, where she went to college at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota and earned a Master's degree in plant breeding at the University of Minnesota. She then moved further west to Oregon, where she earned a PhD in Horticulture at Oregon State University. Dr. Brown's graduate work focused on breeding vegetables and on disease resistance. She regarded grass as mostly a groundcover to keep down the weeds on land not planted to vegetables until she became a postdoctoral research

associate at Oregon State University on a project studying the genetics of traits differentiating annual ryegrass from perennial ryegrass. She discovered the fascinating variability of the many species and varieties of grass. Dr. Brown started as an assistant professor of turfgrass genetics at the University of Rhode Island in January of 2005. She is busily learning all about growing grass for turf and sod, as opposed to seed, and building a research program. Trials and studies planned for this summer include a bentgrass variety trial, a low-maintenance lawn trial, and a comparative study of the resistance of bluegrass varieties to rust. Other research interests include using genetics to improve the nitrogen utilization efficiency of turfgrasses, and developing salt-

tolerant grasses adapted to New England for use along roads and on coastal lawns and golf courses. In her spare time, Dr. Brown enjoys gardening and is learning to play golf.



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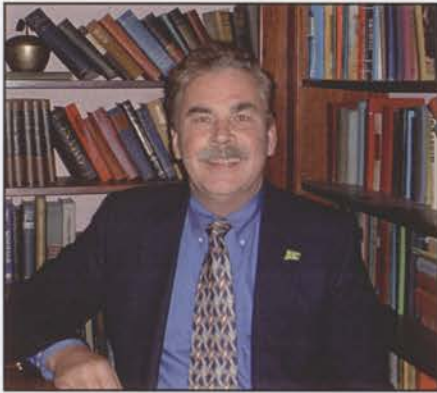
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# The President's Message

Well, it's May 31st and the soil temperatures and air temperatures look like they have finally responded to what is perceived to be normal. What a hell of a spring it's been! I've been in this business a long time (maybe too long) and I have never experienced anything like it. I literally went

to work (Wed, May 25th) with a turtleneck, winter coat and wool socks. Good move! The weather here on the mountain reached a balmy 45° with a persistent wind of 15-20 knots.

field day is August 17th.

Jud thanks for your concern and input in my time of need! I'll never forget.

Wayno

Let's not even begin to talk about the loss of revenue or the quality of your individual golf games. Anyway, this stretch of decent weather we finally seem to be in has sure put a lot of smiles on people in general, and the attitudes and all around liveliness are more than apparent.

I hope everyone gave some thought this past Memorial Day weekend to our veterans and fallen hero's from the past and present. Remember! "Freedom is not free"!

Some notes for upcoming events: CAGCS Meeting at River Ridge Golf Course is June 13th, Father's Day is June 19th, UMASS Turfgrass field day is June 22nd, and URI Turfgrass

*Stephen A. Roberts*  
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Connecticut Clippings is an official publication of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents  
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