

Connecticut Clippings

Volume 40, No 4

September/October 2006



URI ALUMNAE FIELD DAY

Special thanks to Vickie Wallace who did a lot of work to help make this 75th Turfgrass Field Day a success.



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Keith Angilly, President

The President's Message

a while; Mother Nature shows us who is really in charge!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Les Kennedy, CGCS for his contributions in selling raffle tickets for the Scholarship and Research Tournament. It is Les' efforts that make the S&R a yearly financial success. While I am on the subject, Peter Gorman, our Class C Representative, deserves a thank you as well, for the job he did organizing the UCONN tailgate. Those that attended had a great time, and hopefully we can continue this event next year.

Finally, as we approach the Annual meeting and elections, I would like to ask all members to consider helping out with the various committees in your Association. There are a few committees in particular that involve a large amount of work, and have duties that could easily be shared. Golf, Government Relations, and S&R come immediately to mind. If you are interested in helping out, please contact me or Mary Jo in the main office.

Good Luck,
Keith Angilly

The 2006 season has been a tough one for some of us and on a personal level I am very glad it's over. Our business can be a humbling one and every once in

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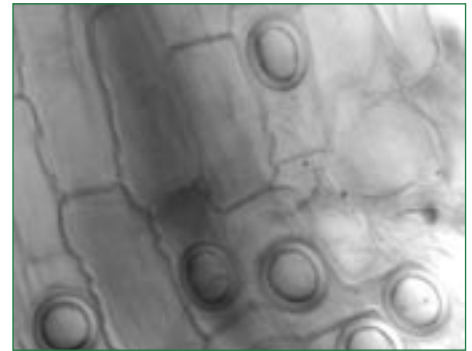


Funded by the New England Regional Turfgrass Foundation, Syngenta Crop Protection and the United States Golf Association, researchers at the University of Connecticut are investigating various aspects of managing dollar spot. Research will focus on improving fungicide efficacy through the proper selection of nozzle-types (see the June 2006 issue of GCM for more information) as well as through unconventional application timings.

In addition to developing improved management strategies, researchers will seek to determine the importance and scope of pathogen resistance to fungicides commonly used to control dollar spot. To participate in this component of the project, please send dollar spot samples from fairways and/or greens to the University of Connecticut (dollar spot samples submitted during the study will not be charged a diagnostic fee).

UConn Turfgrass Disease
Diagnostic Center
c/o John Kaminski
University of Connecticut
1376 Storrs Road, Unit 4067
Storrs, CT 06269

For more information on this research project or disease diagnostic services at UConn, please contact John Kaminski (860.486.0162, john.kaminski@uconn.edu).



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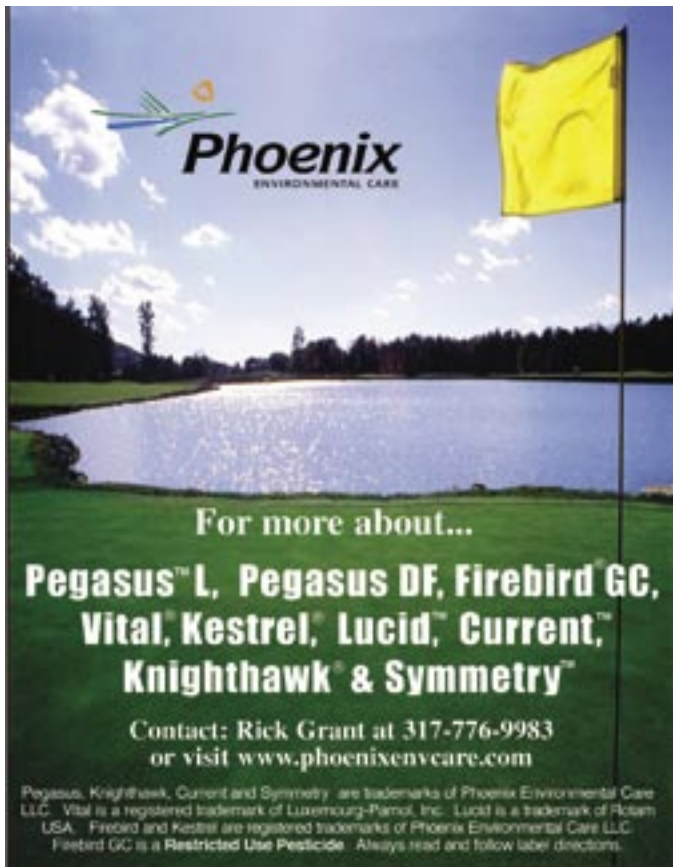


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*Dr. Nathaniel Mitowski, Plant Pathologist,
Presenting Data at URI Field Day*

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2006 INVITATIONAL, AUGUST 8 - GREAT RIVER COUNTRY CLUB



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The Golf Club at Oxford Greens

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Condolences

To the family of Paul Ladzinski Jr. who passed away September 6. Paul was formerly golf course superintendent at Tashua Knolls, and Gainfield Farms.

To the family of Sherwood Moore, CGCS. Memorial donations may be made to the: *Sherwood A. Moore Turfgrass Research Endowment*
c/o Rick Robar, Development Office
311 Stockbridge Hall
80 Campus Center Way
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003

To the family of Terry Mulligan. Terry was formerly golf course superintendent at Pelham CC, Rolling Hills and Heritage Village.

Best Wishes

Best Wishes to Janet Saterlee, now Janet Seelhoff GCSAA on her recent marriage. Janet is the Senior Manager of GCSAA Chapter Services.

Congratulations

Peter & Sherry Pierson on the birth of two more grandchildren, Kimberly & Shelley Kenney's son Peyton weighed in at 7lbs 14oz and Tad & Kelly Pierson's son Graham Britton weighed in at 9lbs 14ozs.

Dennis Petruzzelli, CGCS has completed the renewal process for maintaining his status as a Certified golf Course Superintendent with the GCSAA. Approximately 2,000 golf course superintendents worldwide currently hold "CGCS" status.

Congratulations to the University of Connecticut School of Agriculture on celebrating their 125th year.

Mike Lodice, Superintendent at Gainfield Farms GC, and wife Dana are proud parents of baby girl, Gianna Capri, born September 12th, 7 lbs., 19 3/4".

Reminder

Please make a courtesy call ahead of time to the golf course superintendent when visiting another course.

GCSAA Room Block Reminder!

2007 GCSAA Education Conference & Golf Industry Show in Anaheim, CA. Housing forms will be available after September 15th. Please call the office to request one. Deadline for forms to be returned to office is November 3rd.

Superintendents in the News

Brian Barrington, Golf Course Superintendent at Oxford Greens in Golf Course News

Eric Holm, CGCS Hopmeadow GC in Golfdom

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CAGCS Awards Annual Scholarships

The following are recipients of the 2006 CAGCS scholarships, which are awarded annually to immediate CAGCS family members and to employees of members who are majoring in turf management.

Dr. Richard Skogley Scholarship recipient: Ashleigh C. Gauvain, daughter of Larry Gauvain.

CAGCS Scholarships were awarded to: Christopher J. Baviello, son of Anthony Baviello, CGCS; Ryan R. Beaudry, son of Ray Beaudry; Ryan Chalifour, son of Robert Chalifour, CGCS; Christine Cooper, daughter Douglas Cooper; David W. DeMur, son of William DeMur; Emily DeVaux, daughter of Gary DeVaux; Neal Donahue, son of Michael Donahue; Laura Ann Donovan daughter of Shawn Donovan; Veronica Fabrizio, daughter of Joseph Fabrizio, Benjamin Flowers, son of Michael Flowers; Caleb M. Goodhouse, son of Edward Goodhouse; Katherine M. Kennedy, daughter of Les Kennedy, Jr., CGCS; Amy Laverty, daughter of Adam Laverty; Thomas Lund, son of Peter Lund, CGCS; Daniel Morse, son of Bruce Morse; Kevin R. Moore, son of Glen Moore; David, Michael & Robert Neaton, sons of Philip Neaton; Rachel & Stephanie Pope, daughters of Brian Pope; and Renae Wetzel, daughter of David Wetzel.

There were no Memorial Scholarships awarded this year. The Board of Directors and members of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents want to congratulate all recipients, and wish them the best in their scholastic endeavors.

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CAGCS 2006 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

October 23, 2006	The Dr. Joseph Troll Turf Education Fundrasiser	Westchester CC, Rye , NY
Wednesday, November 1	CAGCS Annual Meeting Rock Ridge CC	Robert Welch Host Superintendent
Friday, December 8	CAGCS Christmas Party J. Timothy's Taverne	

**JULY MEETING GOLF RESULTS
WINTONBURY HILLS GOLF COURSE
MONDAY, JULY 24, 2006**

Gross:

- 1st Mike Dukette
Matthew Quinn
- 2nd Mark Osborn
John Ruzsbatzky
- 3rd Todd Olovson
Chris Mikita
- 4th Andy Drohen
Mark Fuller

Net:

- 1st Keith Kraus
Mike Decker
- 2nd Ward Weischet
Shawn Donovan
- 3rd Curtis Tyrell
John Callahan
- 4th Brian Skelly
Anthony Grosso

- Closest to the pin #3 Dennis Petruzzelli 4'8"
- Closest to the pin #12 Keith Angilly 1'6"
- Closest to the line Peter Tyrell
- Long Drive Kim Heyl
- Longest Putt #13 Les Kennedy 27'4"
- Longest Putt #4 John Callahan 9'4"

**2006 CAGCS INVITATIONAL GOLF RESULTS
GREAT RIVER GOLF COURSE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2006**

1st Place Gross - 65

Highfield Country Club
Chris Mauro, Bill Murray
Terry Barber, Jim Kernan



*2006 CAGCS Invitational winners Highfield Country Club
Bill Murray, Chris Mauro, Terry Barber, Jim Kernan*

2nd Place Gross - 68

Aspetuck Valley Country Club
Richard Schock, Eric Cook
Dan Hassett, Jack Powers

3rd Place Gross - 58

Madison Country Club
Michael Chrzanowski, Ed Maciejak
Bill Woods, Neal Nyland

1st Place Net - 54

The Course at Yale
Scott Ramsay, Chuck Lobdell
Peter Pulaski, John Bienecki

2nd Place Net

Hunter Golf Club
Thomas DeVaux, Larry Kendzior
Lester Zimmerman, Tex Kane

3rd Place Net

Black Hall Club
Phil Neaton, Andrew Campbell
Michael Cummins, Jeff Scull

Longest Drive:

Andrew Campbell

Closest to the pin #6:

Peter Grace 5'7"

Closest to the pin #11:

John Mroz 5'8"

Longest Putt:

Patrick Aldrich 21'

Straightest Drive:

Jon Colman

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**SEPTEMBER MEETING GOLF RESULTS
CONNECTICUT GOLF CLUB
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2006**

**Superintendent/Assistant Category
Best Ball of Team**

Gross:

- 1st Tom DeGrandi/Noel Hall,
TPC at River Highlands - 77
- 2nd Chris Mauro/Joe Casselli,
Highfield CC - 79

Net:

- 1st Bruce Morse/Eric Kundall,
Norwich GC - 67 (match of cards)
- 2nd William Stevens/Michael Pierio,
Glastonbury Hills CC, - 67
- 3rd Michael McDermott/Eric Destefano,
Twin Hills CC
- 4th Michael Reeb/Jake Green,
CC ofNew Canaan

Other Gross:

- 1st Michael Dukette, Bayer Environmental
Mark Fuller, CT GC - 77
- 2nd Peter Tyrell/John Kul,
The Care of Trees -80

Net:

- 1st Rick Schock, Aspetuck Valley CC
Dennis DeSanctis, Syngenta - 64
- 2nd Anthony Grosso, Pautipaug CC
Brian Pope, Turf Products - 65
- 3rd Robert Welch, CT GC
Shawn Donovan, Turf Products -67
- 4th Kenneth Ainsworth, Indian Hill CC
Ward Weischet, New London CC -68

- Closest to the pin #8 Les Kennedy,
The Blind Brook Club
- Closest to the pin #10 John Kul, The Care of Trees
- Closest to the line Bob Welch, CT GC
- Long Drive Tim Gerzabek, Blackledge CC
- Longest Putt #2 Ed Downing,
AA Will Materials
- Longest Putt # 16 Mark Muhlack, Old Lyme CC

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ANOTHER DIFFICULT SUMMER FOR GROWING GRASS

John Kaminski, Ph.D.
University of Connecticut

In 2005, the life of a New England golf course superintendent was difficult. Much of the difficulties were contributed to the cool wet spring that was immediately followed by temperatures routinely reaching 90F. These conditions favored poor spring root growth that left turf stands with little chance of surviving the record breaking summer heat. Although temperatures were more favorable for turfgrass growth in 2006, growing grass proved to be just as difficult on many golf courses throughout the region. Based on samples sent to UConn and visits to various golf courses throughout New England, it was apparent that a combination of factors contributed to this years declining turf.

Unlike last year in which turf simply could not stand up to the heat, 2006 was a year in which turfgrass pathogens were more prevalent. Beginning as early as March, anthracnose basal rot was identified on several golf courses, and controlling the pathogen this early in the year proved difficult. Despite the occasional outbreak of *Microdochium* patch, April and May was relatively mild period for disease activity. As temperatures began to warm in mid-May, however, several outbreaks of a new species of *Rhizoctonia* appeared simultaneously throughout states in New England, the Mid-West and along the West Coast. Although symptoms of this unusual disease mimicked cool-temperature brown patch (aka, Yellow Patch), disease activity occurred at warmer temperatures and generally was limited to annual bluegrass. Other diseases that made an impressive appearance in 2006



Lack of internal drainage and high levels of organic matter often spell trouble for golf course putting greens for a variety of reasons.

included bacterial wilt, brown patch, dollar spot, fairy ring, *Pythium* blight and root dysfunction, red thread, and summer patch.

If dealing with a cornucopia of diseases wasn't enough, many golf courses were dealing with the same abiotic and cultural problems from the previous year. As many of you now know, 2005 was a litmus test that exposed areas in need of various cultural improvements. In particular, the lack of internal drainage on native soil putting greens and/or the build up of organic matter has emerged as one of the biggest factors in declining turf. In the past two years, a common denominator of poor greens has been compacted native soil underlying an inch or two of sand topdressing. In addition, many of these putting greens supported an equal thickness of thatch or mat. Without the internal drainage to move the water through the profile, water bridged at the soil-sand interface, resulting in poor root growth, conditions favorable for

pathogen development, and plants vulnerable to excessive heat. In many cases, this intermediate phase of a sand topdressing program is a difficult one to get past and the true benefits of topdressing native soil greens often are not realized until a sand cap of several inches is built up.

We all know that the demands to maintain tournament conditions during the heat of the season or for an extended period of time are unrealistic. Even preparation for a U.S. Open begins years in advance and the course maintained to peak over a 4-day period. It is important to recognize what your course can and cannot handle throughout the season. During the summer months, take steps to determine the underlying cause of weak turf and take the necessary steps to correct the problem once conditions become favorable for turfgrass growth. Remember, the time to fix your golf swing is on the practice range and not in the middle of a round.

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plant selection, plant maintenance, pest and nutrient management.

Choose 1 of 2 sections: Landscape Management or Turf Management. Green School begins on October 31, 2006 and runs for 12 sessions until December 12th. Classes will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Milford, MA (exit 19 off Rt. 495). Each day runs from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.

For more information and a registration form, go to: http://www.umassgreeninfo.org/programs/green_school.html

Alternatively, call UMass Extension's Landscape, Nursery, and Urban Forestry Program at 413-545-0895 or e-mail greenschool@umassgreeninfo.org.

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