

THE GREEN SHEET

James B. Board



VOLUME VIII, PART 3, MAY/JUNE 1992

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

Steve Ciardullo, President of the Everglades GCSA, is shown presenting a check for \$3,000 to Bob Rehberg (left) and Bob Yount (right) of the Florida Turfgrass Association. Presentation was made at the highly successful educational seminar held by the Everglades chapter at Bonita Bay Club on April 9th.



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 7 IFAS Field Day, University of Florida, Gainesville campus

May 13 Joint chapter meeting, Palm Beach and Treasure Coast, Loblolly GC, Hobe Sound

May 16 G. C. Horn Tournament, Naples Beach Hotel, 12:30

May 16 Poa Dinner and Las Vegas Night, 6:00 p.m.

May 17 FGCSA seminar, "Pesticide Waste, Mixing/Loading and Government Regulations", 7:30 a.m -1:00 p.m.

May 18 Poa Annua Classic Flamingo Lakes - 8:00 a.m.

May 19 IFAS seminar, Diseases of Ornamental Plants

May 19 West Coast chapter meeting, Lansbrook CC

May 20 Joint chapter meeting, Palm Beach and Treasure Coast chapters, Loxahatchee Club

May 20 Central Florida chapter meeting, La Cita GC

May 26 Suncoast chapter meeting, El Conquistador GC

June 9 North Florida chapter meeting, Queens Harbor GC

June 10 Central Florida Equipment Field Day, Timacuan GC

June 16 Suncoast chapter meeting, Waterford CC

June 17 Palm Beach chapter meeting, Banyan Golf Club

June 18 West Coast chapter meeting, Seminole Lakes CC

June 20 Palm Beach Future of Golf Tournament, Emerald Dunes

July 13 West Coast chapter meeting, Hunters Green

July 15 Central Florida chapter meeting, Orange Lake CC

July 24 - 26 North Florida Transition Tournament, Jekyll Island

Sept. 20 - 23 FTGA Conference & Show Jacksonville

Friends in all the right places

Monday morning the call comes from the project manager, "Tom, how are you?" he says. I can tell from the tone of his voice he is anxious about something. "Fine", I answer guardedly. He continues, "Starting tomorrow the owner will be on site for several days. He is going to want to see you about a couple of items, particularly the Coconut Palm problem we are having at the front entrance. Do you have an action plan to correct the situation ready to present?"

Hum, I say to myself. It was just on the previous Friday that we became aware of the two Coconuts which were showing signs of the dreaded Lethal Yellowing disease. How fast do these people think you can put a complete plan together? "Not at this time, but we are busy researching into our options," I reply. "Well, you must put this at the top of your priority list. I want to see a plan on my desk by the end of the day," he insists and then ends the conversation.

Lost in all this emergency orders are the many memos sent to the development entity dating back to the original

installation where it was noted the species we were receiving were highly susceptible to the LY disease and recommended we try to plant more resistant varieties. No this information doesn't matter now, only the issue of doing the impossible: to keep these alive and well at whatever the cost.

From day one we had been on a preventative program of injecting the palms with tetracycline every three months. As it turns out, this is not enough and we have to search for avenues in an attempt to stop the spread of the disease.

We called the expert consultant that was used when we started this program. He told us we were doing a sound program. He then told us about a program in place that was working at Ocean Reef Club but was not sure just what it was.

"Ocean Reef," I say to myself. "I must give Lee a call and see what he is doing," I concluded.

Well, if there is one person harder to reach than myself it has got to be Lee, what with running several golf courses miles apart, he is definitely what you would call a man in perpetual motion. I thought I had it tough with 3 golf courses, but at least all of mine are on the same piece of property.

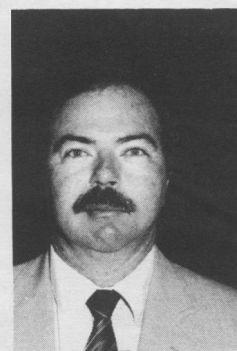
After playing phone tag all morning and early afternoon, we finally lined up

"Lee," I say, "how are you and what is this treatment program you utilize for your coconuts?" Lee then goes into a detailed account of the program Ocean Reef has in place and the results they are getting from it. "Truly experimental," he says, "but the proof is in the pudding. We get good results and are totally committed to it." We wind up the conversation by laughing about who has more cobwebs on their golf clubs and agree to keep each other informed on the results we are getting.

From Lee's information, we decide to incorporate some of the practices Ocean Reef is using and to continue with the injections for our Coconuts. He saved the day for us. We were able to present a firm, well-based action plan to the owner and project director who was relieved that we had been able to address the owner's concerns.

All the "good job" comments and pats on the back were because we had friends in the right places. Superintendents like Lee are a tremendous asset to our organization. Without hesitation, he was willing to share information and help out a fellow superintendent in time of need. Lee is not an isolated occurrence. In fact, in my search for a "better mouse trap", I find his attitude is the norm.

This is truly one of the most redeeming qualities we have in our association — a sharing of ideas, information and a willingness to help the guy down the street for the betterment of all. I have lots of friends to be thankful for. In the local Palm Beach chapter alone I have been blessed by many of the members willing to give advice and loan me everything from paint to chemicals when times got tough here. For this I would like to say publicly, a great big thank you to all the PBGCSA members who have been so kind. I am forever in your debt



THE GREEN SHEET

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Deadline next issue, June 15.

and, hopefully, one day I will be able to return the kindness.

There is an old Beatles song with the lyrics, "I get by with a little help from my friends." How applicable these words are today. We need each other more than ever. As for the rest of the world, I can't say, but for our association, we are passing this test with flying colors.



Job Available:

Superintendent. Daytona Beach Municipality GC. Must have 5 years experience including grow-in supervision. Send resumes to Fred Meincke, Civil Service Director, P. O. Box 2451, Daytona Beach, FL 32115-2451. Deadline is May 15, 1992.

Job Changes:

Dale Reasch, CGCS has moved from La City CC in Titusville to Countryside CC in Clearwater.

Pat Nicholson is the new superintendent at La Cita CC.

David Demmery, CGCS has left Countryside CC to become superintendent at Quail Ridge CC in Boynton Beach.

David Holler, CGCS is now superintendent at Ballentrae CC, Port St. Lucie.

Mike Swinson has moved from Crescent Oak CC in Tarpon Springs to Cypress Run CC

Pete Bass, CGCS has left Cypress Run CC to become superintendent at Palma Ceia CC.

Dennis Batz, CGCS has moved from the Eagles CC to Sugar Mill CC in New Smyrna Beach.

Two of our FGCSA members have joined the supply side of the turfgrass industry: Lynn Sloper is working for Sunbelt Services while David Bailey is working for LESCO.

EBDC Fungicide Update

by Monica Elliott, Ph.D.
University of Florida,

The EPA announced in February its final decision concerning EBDC fungicides. Maneb and mancozeb are the two products in this group of fungicides used by the turfgrass industry. EPA intends to cancel uses of mancozeb, but not mane, on turf and fruit by HOMEOWNERS. The difference is due to the higher risk estimate for dermal absorption of mancozeb (10%) than for mane (1%). The new mancozeb labels I have read to date indicate the products can be used for golf courses, sod farms, industrial or municipal turf areas and PROFESSIONAL applications to residential lawns.

Other new use directions include: 1) revised worker protection statements and 2) revised re-entry statements. For turf uses, the labels specifically state the treated areas are NOT to be entered without protective clothing until sprays have dried. As you obtain new stocks of mane or mancozeb products, be sure to read the new labels carefully and place a new copy in your files. Fungicide mixtures which contain these products will also be affected by the new ruling. If you have questions concerning the EPA ruling, the contact person at EPA for EBDC fungicides is Kathleen Martin (703/308-8024).



Triumph 4E for Reduction of Nematode Damage in Turf

by Dr. Robert Dunn

reprinted from *Nematology, Entomology and Pathology News, Univ. of Florida, Florida Coop. Ext. Service, Nov. 1991*

As a result of several trials on golf course bermudagrass turf in Florida, nematode damage has been added to the pest problems for which Triumph 4E may be used. The information release from the registrant, CIBA-GEIGY, states

"Triumph 4E will reduce damage caused by sting nematodes (*Belonolaimus* spp.) and lance nematodes (*Hoplolaimus* spp.) when used

according to the directions outlined below for mole cricket and other insect control. When used according to the directions, turfgrass vigor will be increased even though immediate reductions in the number of nematodes may not be observed. The resulting new roots permit regrowth of the turf which then can utilize the available fertilizer and water more efficiently.

Use only where it can be used for mole cricket or other insect control according to approved EPA or SLN labels.

"Procedure to reduce damage of turf caused by lance and sting nematodes:

1. Pre-irrigate the turf with enough water to wet turf and upper soil surface.
2. Apply Triumph 4E at 1.5 fluid ounces per 1,000 sq ft (2 quarts per acre) in a minimum of 2-1/2 gallons water.
3. Immediately after application, irrigate the turf to move the Triumph from the grass blades into the upper soil surface. Reduced results will be obtained if the Triumph application is allowed to dry before irrigation."

It is absolutely necessary that users attend carefully to the application directions, especially that about post-application irrigation to move the chemical off the foliage and into the soil BEFORE IT CAN DRY ON THE FOLIAGE. Once dried on the foliage, Triumph will not be dislodged from it by irrigation or rain, and little or no nematode inhibition will result.

This additional labeling is brought with some caution. It DOES present us with a new legal use for a pesticide that can be used legally in many kinds of turf areas, including some outside golf courses and sod farms that had no registered nematode control agent left. However, this change is based mainly on reduction of lance and sting nematode damage on bermudagrass greens. It is expected that it will similarly inhibit activity of many other nematodes on other turfgrasses, but we do not have experimental proof of similar effects in many other situations. Therefore, we must proceed with caution in adopting this usage for a wide range of nematode problems. Feedback will be appreciated.



JANUARY 7, 1992

A meeting of the FGCSA Research Committee was held at Willoughby CC in Stuart on Tuesday, January 7. All attendees participated in a field review of several greens on the Willoughby Golf Course. After this, the meeting began in the Willoughby Clubhouse.

Kevin Downing explained the purpose of the meeting was to investigate sod production in regards to origin of planting stock, nursery establishment and purity controls, particularly in regard to Tifdwarf. He stated that while superintendents expect mutations after 4 or 5 years, there has been a marked increase of mutations occurring within the first year, resulting in extremely difficult situations for superintendents.

Mike Swanson gave a quick review of the demise of the state sod certification program. He stated that, in the past, Florida growers did not support the Certification program. Bermudagrass was inspected by Sam Fuller whose yardstick was generally based on nematode presence, not just weed. Kevin then asked all the sod growers present to give a short synopsis of their sod production.

Quality Grassing & Associates, as described by Howard Barnes, has 60 acres of sod of which 12 acres are planted with Tifdwarf. The original planting stock came from G. C. Horn at the University of Georgia. It is planted in 40 x 40 plots. It is mowed at 4" height. His maintenance includes the use of Roundup when harvesting. He also stated that his original stock of 328 was received from Pursley but that he is doubtful that he will be planting any more 328.

Southern Turf Nursery, as described by Dr. Tim Bowyer, has 6 acres of Tifdwarf. Since they are located in Georgia, they participate in the Georgia Certification Program, which is done 3 times each year. He considers Certification to be a "comfort level". His original planting stock came from Georgia and sees no mutations in Tifdwarf. He believes that the most important items for quality turf is parentage and fumigation.



Joe Limburg, Hector Turf, describes the Toro Hydroject Greens Aerators to the crowd at the SFGCSA Exposition.

South Florida Grassing, as described by Homer Greene, has 6 acres each of Tifdwarf and 328. The original Tifdwarf came from Pappin while the 328 came from Pursley. He states that his fields are good for 4 years before they are plowed.

Central Florida Turf, as described by Jeff Harstine, was the largest sod supplier with 8 acres of dwarf and 10 acres of 328. His original source was also Pursley. He stated that they take great precautions to insure the integrity of the sod, such as using mowers on the Tifdwarf which are not used on the other fields, and putting up "snow fences" around the dwarf to prevent contamination. He feels that while Certification may look like the answer, many developers will go with the bottom line when determining what sod to use. It may be useful for those who are remodeling their courses and who have some control over what sod to use.

Growers felt it is not their duty to tell golf courses what they need, rather it is up to the customer to tell the sod companies what they want. They are more than willing to grow what is needed.

Superintendent Glen Klauk spoke on the deteriorating condition of his Tifdwarf which fell apart after stress. It

would seem that the limit for dwarf may be 5/32" rather than 1/8". He asked if we are considering using our FGCSA green for a testing area.

Kevin suggested that the FGCSA would not want to be in a position to recommend one grower over another but that, by using the green as a nursery, we would simply show how each strain progresses under typical golf course conditions on a USGA green.

The growers indicated their interest with the stipulation that there would be unbiased replications and complete anonymity at all times. A discussion was then held on USGA greens and the research being done on new grasses, or better Tifdwarf. If the FGCSA can help start inroads into looking at better turf, then we should do it.

It was suggested that the FGCSA Research Committee get a copy of the Georgia Certification program.

The meeting was closed by Mike Swanson who noted that no matter what comes out of this meeting, it is beneficial to have a face-to-face discussion with growers and consumers together to discuss better turf.



APRIL 9, 1992

A meeting of the FGCSA Research Committee was held at Rolling Hills on Thursday, April 9. Attending were Ray Hansen, Chairman, Kevin Downing, Paul Crawford, Mark Jarrell, Dale Kuchner, and Dr. Monica Elliott.

I. Nitrogen Source Study

Dr. Monica Elliott reported on the progress of the Nitrogen Study being done on the Otto Schmeisser Research Green. Results of the first stage of the program have been reported in the Florida Green. Dr. Elliott suggested that we continue the study at a reduced rate to see if you can reduce the nitrogen levels without reducing the quality. The committee decided to go with a 25% reduction and to test for quality only. It was decided to eliminate the Greensmix and the Vigoro #2 from the study.

II. Organic Fertilizer Study

Dr. Elliott distributed copies of letters received from Eco, Inc. and Ringer expressing their interest and reservations about this proposed study. These companies would like to participate in a study but do not want other chemicals used on the plots that might interfere with their products performance. After a discussion it was decided to continue to pursue this project with the stipulation that nitrogen levels will be matched for each product tested. Paul Crawford will contact Millorganite and Sustain to encourage them to participate. Three other companies have expressed an interest — American Colloid, Arbor Green, Inc. and Emerald Isle, Inc. If all six companies choose to finance this project, we will proceed. The cost will be \$4,000 for a two year study which will enable the FGCSA to purchase a root washing system for the program.

A discussion was held on the priority order of projects for the green. Some projects could be done at 1/4" on other plots at the Research & Education Center. An area of the 328 is being used for the study of Bermudagrass Decline while Dr. Cisar's leaching study is also continuing on the green.

III. Sod Certification

In order to pursue this project, the committee decided we need to build an extension onto the Research Green or use another plot at the REC. If an extension is added to the green, we would have to expand the irrigation system. It was felt that at least six grassing companies have an interest in the project so that we would need approximately 6,000 square feet to do the study. The study would be done only for existing, available grasses. A discussion was held on the proper way to fund the proposed extension. Kevin will contact some local contractors who will be in the South Florida area on other projects who might be willing to do this at cost.

IV. Surface Water Runoff

Kevin spoke on the current St. Lucie River Initiative and the problems associated with storm water runoff and water quality. The Water Management Districts are concentrating on herbicide and pesticide runoff and water permits are being seriously affected. It was suggested that the turf industry needs to be back under the agricultural umbrella rather than recreational uses for water. Kevin stated that any tests performed must be by a state-certified laboratory and considerable costs. He would like to make a proposal to the FGCSA to co-fund testing with Willoughby GC.

V. Miscellaneous

Mark Jarrell spoke to funding for turfgrass research. He suggested that the CIBA-Geigy Awards Program for individuals could be used by the FGCSA as a group. If all those superintendents who used the products eligible for the Awards Program would sign over their awards to the FGCSA or FTGA, we would accumulate quite a bit of revenue. Other companies such as Hoechst-Roussel could be persuaded to participate in similar programs. Mark will generate a form for delegating the awards similar to that used for the GCSAA voting delegates. He will present this at the May chapter meetings with Palm Beach and Treasure Coast and then recommend the program to all the External V.P.'s at the Poa Meeting.

Ray Hansen noted that many of our FGCSA members do not realize the extent of turfgrass research that is being undertaken by the FGCSA. We might consider putting minutes of our meetings in the Green Sheet or the Florida Green to encourage more participation by members. Dr. Elliott noted that she is very willing to attend chapter meetings to give updates on the research being done and further projects being discussed. The committee urges all chapters to invite Monica to be an on-going part of their educational program.



A portion of the crowd viewing the equipment demonstration at the SFGCSA Exposition -- the major fund raiser for the FGCSA Research Green.

FGCSA CONGRATULATES FIVE NEWLY CERTIFIED SUPERINTENDENTS

SCOTT WAHLIN has been around golf courses since he was a young boy. He holds an AA degree from Sante Fe Community College in Gainesville and has an AS degree from Lake City. In addition, he may be one of the few Certified Golf Course Superintendents who has earned a Mechanics Certificate from Lake City.

Scott credits Dan Jones for helping him make the decision to become a golf course superintendent while working for him at Turnberry Isle. After graduation from Lake City, Scott returned to the tutelage of Dan Jones who was now the superintendent at Banyan GC in West Palm Beach. Scott spent two years as Assistant at Banyan before accepting a position at Miami Lakes Golf Resort in Miami in 1985. He has been there ever since and notes that the resort has recently changed its name to the Don Shula's Hotel and Golf Resort.

Scott is currently serving as Immediate Past President of the South Florida GCSA after having spent five years as an active member of their Board of Directors. Scott also serves on the Board of the Florida Turfgrass Association.

GREG PLOTNER received his B.S. degree in Plant and Soil Science from Southern Illinois University. After graduation, he accepted a position with Wadsworth Golf Construction to work on the Sweetwater GC construction in Texas. He became Assistant Superintendent at Sweetwater during the grow-in phase and stayed on for five years. Sweetwater was host for the Ladies PGA Hall of Fame during that time. In 1986, he accepted the position as Superintendent at Tampa Palms GC and again served through the construction and grow in phase. Tampa Palms hosted the Seniors Suncoast Classic.

Greg is one of those young professionals who shows his commitment to the turfgrass industry by working hard for the benefit of his fellow superintendents through involvement in such associations as the FTGA, FGCSA and GCSAA. He is a member of both the

West Coast and Ridge chapters and serves on the Board of Directors of the West Coast chapter in a dual capacity as Vice President and also External Vice President on the FGCSA Board of Directors. He also serves on the Green Industry Advisory Council for the the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

MARK RICHARD earned his B.S. degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences from Purdue University. Since he was a wildlife enthusiast, his career goal at that time was to be a park ranger or a naturalist. His first job upon graduation was as zookeeper for the Metro Zoo in Dade County (yes, a zookeeper). After a year, he was offered the position of Assistant Park Manager at Haulover Beach Park which included a Par 3 golf course. Mark held that position for 3 years during which time he developed an interest and expertise in the turf industry. When the position of superintendent at Greynolds GC became available, Mark decided to abandon his original career goals and turned to the golf course profession. He has been at Greynolds GC for 4 1/2 years.

Mark is just beginning his involvement with the South Florida GCSA Board of Directors. He serves on the Adam Walsh Golf Tournament Committee and is in his first year as an SFGCSA Director. Mark has a two year old son with a second child on the way. He is an avid sportsman with an interest in all spectator sports.

DENNIS BATZ is one of our newest CGCS's having just passed his test during the New Orleans Convention.

Dennis's B.S. degree in Agronomy is from the University of Arizona. He has played golf all his life and has been working on golf courses since his high school days. After receiving his degree, he accepted a position in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. From there he moved to Innisbrook in Tarpon Springs where he spent 3 years learning the

trade. His first job as head superintendent was at The Eagles CC in Odessa where he worked for 5 1/2 years. He has just recently accepted the head superintendent position at Sugar Mill CC in New Smyrna.

Dennis is married and has two daughters, 5 and 3. He spends most of his time on the job or with his young family.

TONY DISANO is another of our members who passed the GCSAA certification test in New Orleans.

While Tony was studying for a degree in Computer Engineering at Tampa Tech, he found a part-time job on the crew at Walden Lake in Plant City. This was the first time he had been on a golf course. While working there, he found that the golf course industry was one he wanted to pursue. After receiving his A.S. degree, he accepted a position at Bloomingdale Golfers Club in Valrico and then moved to Sable Point in Longwood as Assistant Superintendent. Five years ago he was offered the job as Head Superintendent at Big Cypress where he has enjoyed considerable success in growing in the golf course.

Tony is an original member of the Ridge chapter, serving on its Board of Directors as Chairman of the Membership Committee. He is very encouraged at the progress that has been made by the Ridge and feels that the members are professional and extremely supportive of each other.

Tony is married and has a ten-year-old son and an eight-year-old daughter. He plays a little golf but states that he is a "bad enough golfer to really enjoy fishing!"



The next FGCSA Board Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 16 at 8:00 a.m. in the Naples Beach Hotel. All interested FGCSA members and those superintendents playing in the Poa Golf Tournament are invited to attend. Note that the meeting will be finished in time for you to play in the G. C. Horn tournament that afternoon.

SUBSURFACE PLACEMENT
OF CHIPCO® MOCAP® BRAND 10G PESTICIDE
FOR MOLE CRICKET CONTROL IN TURFGRASS

Subsurface placement application of pesticides is becoming more popular, and equipment designed specifically for this purpose is improving rapidly. This application method has environmental merit because the pesticide treatment is placed below the soil surface, where exposure to people, pets, and animals is minimized. It also has value from economical and performance perspectives. Since the pesticide is generally being placed below the turfgrass thatch layer, adsorption by organic matter and degradation by microorganisms within the thatch are significantly reduced. Placing the chemical beneath the soil surface more accurately targets the chemical for subsurface pest control and provides the added benefit of reducing or eliminating dust and odor, which can be a problem with broadcast applications of some chemicals.

Equipment is currently available for subsurface placement applications of both granular and liquid pesticides. Granular placement is developing as the most popular. Six or eight researchers are currently working with this novel application method. Work, thus far, has focused on golf turf with large scale equipment. Efforts are being made to develop small, maneuverable applicators for residential turf applications.

Subsurface placement applications of CHIPCO® MOCAP® brand Pesticide for mole cricket control in turfgrass have been evaluated for two years. In tests, performance levels achieved have been equal to or better than conventional broadcast applications at recommended rates of 75 to 100 lbs. per acre (7.5 to 10.0 lbs. ai/A). Evaluations of subsurface placement applications for nematode control are underway. Results are not yet available.

Responsible management of our environment begins with proper stewardship of plant protection chemicals. Read and follow all use directions, hazard warnings, and precautions on the label prior to use. The following statements from the CHIPCO® MOCAP® 10G label apply for subsurface placement as well as conventional broadcast applications:

- * CHIPCO® MOCAP® 10G is toxic to aquatic organisms and wildlife.
- * Do not apply directly to water or to areas where surface water is present.
- * Runoff from treated areas may be hazardous to aquatic organisms in neighboring areas.
- * Always wear protective clothing and use appropriate equipment during application and handling.
- * Avoid contact with granules or breathing dust.
- * CHIPCO® MOCAP® 10G must be incorporated immediately after application with at least 0.1 inch of rainfall or irrigation.
- * Do not apply more than 400 pounds of CHIPCO® MOCAP® brand 10G pesticide per acre per year (40.0 lbs. ai/A/year) in any combination of insect or nematode control treatments.

This Technical Bulletin is intended only as a guide in providing general information regarding the directions, warnings, and cautions associated with the use of CHIPCO® MOCAP® brand 10G Pesticide. As with any crop protection chemical, always read and follow label instructions on the package before using.

For more information about CHIPCO® MOCAP® Brand 10G Pesticide or other CHIPCO® Brand Plant Protection Chemicals, call our toll free HOTLINE (1-800-334-9745), or write to:

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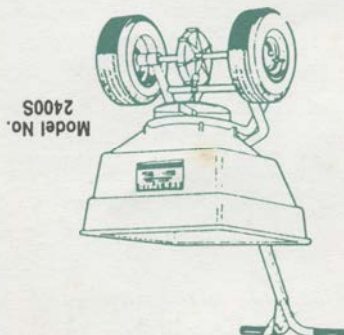
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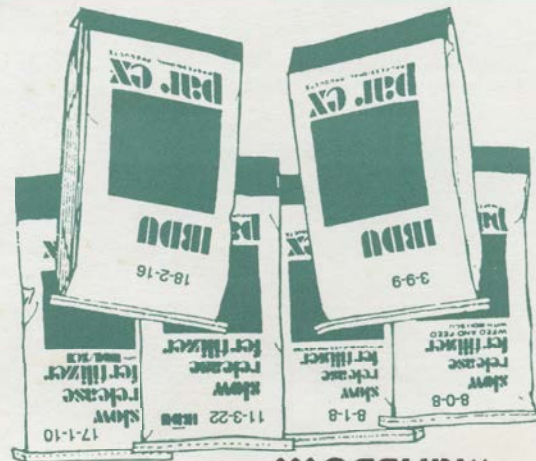
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FGCSA Research Committee Meetings

Please see Pages 5 and 6

POA Annua Classic - May 16 through May 18

FGCSA Secretary
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