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THE GREENERSIDE

Official Publication of the
Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey

Vol. 13 No. 4

July-August 1990

Study shows golf maintenance not a danger to groundwater

For a small state, New Jersey has a wide variety of soil types. Our state includes areas of heavy clay, medium soils and extreme sands. Couple this with the most urban state in the nation and add in the hot environmental politics of this state and spell G-R-O-U-N-D-W-A-T-E-R. It's a one-word red flag for anyone working with fertilizers and pesticides. For the first time ever, superintendents have documented scientific evidence showing the effect of their operations on man's most precious resource. In this issue of "The Greenside," we are leading off with a summary of what is being called "The Cape Cod Study." This is the study that was presented to Congress by the GCSAA and was published in the February issue of "Golf Course Management." If you'd like a copy of the full study, contact the Office of Government Relations at 1-800-472-7878 or write to GCSAA, 1617 St. Andrews, Lawrence, KS 66047.

Ask any regulator, legislator, or activist what the hottest environmental topic is and you'll get a one-word answer — groundwater. Ground water is water found beneath the ground's surface where soil pore spaces and cracks are filled with water. Its importance cannot be denied — one half of the total United States population and 95% of the U.S. rural population relies on groundwater as its main source of drinking water.

The results of a major new study, conducted on the sandy, "worst-case" soils of Cape Cod, Mass., indicate that properly used turf chemicals pose no

hazard to surrounding groundwater under Environmental Protection Agency health standards. For the first time, superintendents have documented scientific evidence showing the effect of their operations on man's most precious resource.

(Please turn to page 6)



IN THIS ISSUE

Editorial	2
President's Message	3
Calendar	3
GCSANJ News	4,5
Grass-roots Organization	7
GCSAA News	8,9
Jim Gilligan's Column	10
Students Receive Grants	11
Fancy Facts From Fenwick	12
Don't miss the big one!	12
Quelling the Alarm	13
New Service available	14
The Back Nine	16,17
Superintendent Profile	18
Patron Directory	19

THE GREENERSIDE

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EDITORIALS



Good news gossip

This issue of the "Greenerside" is filled with good news. The lead story discusses the science of groundwater and golf course management. Now for the first time, we've got a special study, done right, on a "worst-case-scenario" basis showing that properly used turf chemicals pose no hazard to surrounding groundwater under Environmental Protection Agency health standards.

Another piece of good news is an editorial which appeared in "The Record," a leading northern New Jersey newspaper published out of Hackensack. The editorial covers Ed Walsh's trials and tribulations in preparation for the Seniors' Open to be held at Ridgewood CC. It's not very often that a golf course superintendent will catch the attention of a journalist especially with all the potential big names associated with this event. This editorial is reprinted in its entirety in this issue.

Local township pesticide ordinances are being challenged effectively in many states. The Wisconsin Supreme Court has affirmed a May 1988 ruling which voided a town of Casey ordinance which had prohibited the registered use of pesticide on private property. Closer to home in New York, the State Court of Appeals refused the Department of Environmental Conservation's request for an appeal on the lawsuit they lost over complicated pesticide notification regulations they had promulgated. After years of frustration dealing with local pesticide politics, the tide is turning. It's turning because enough people are becoming educated, and that's very good news.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Steve Finamore,
CGCS
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THE BIG THREE

Three important events are fast approaching. These are the best and most exciting Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey events of the year, and you really can't afford to miss out on any of them. They are spaced so that we have one in August, one in September and one to top the season in October.

Our **third annual dinner cruise** will be held on **Friday, August 24** when we'll cruise out of Point Pleasant. This gives our spouses and friends an opportunity to share in the camaraderie of our profession. This is the only official function in which we include our spouses and friends. Those who have attended in the past know that it's a really great evening out. So don't miss out on the fun. Bring your spouse, your friends, your significant other for a most enjoyable evening!

The prestigious Montammy Golf Club in Alpine, New Jersey is the host of this year's **GCSANJ's Golf Invitational**. Reserve **September 13** for your starting time. This is our premier golfing event of the season. Included are golf, lunch and dinner with your golf professional, club president and your Green's chairman. Mike Leary, golf course superintendent at Montammy and our host, assures us an extra special day. With that kind of offer and guarantee, how can you not be there?

The **26th Annual Turfgrass, Equipment, Irrigation and Supplies Field Day** will be held at Rutgers

Stadium and Golf Course in Piscataway on **October 9**. This is the big one! This is GCSANJ's number one and only fund raising event. It is also your best opportunity to see the latest technology for our industry and view demonstrations. It's important to be there to learn and to support our association. John Carpinelli is this year's Field Day chairman. Joe Spang, golf course superintendent at Rutgers University Golf Course, will surely provide the right setting for this event. SEE YOU ALL THERE.

CALENDAR

- July 28-29** **Curtis Cup** - Somerset Hills CC, Bernardsville, NJ. Contact: USGA (201) 234-2300
- August 6-11** **Women's Amateur** - Canoe Brook CC, Summit, NJ. Contact: USGA (201) 234-2300
- August 9** **Rutgers Turfgrass Research Field Day** - Cook College, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact: Henry Indyk (201) 932-9453
- August 13-18** **Girls Junior** - Manasquan River Golf Club, Brielle, NJ. Contact: USGA (201) 234-2300
- August 20** **GCSANJ August Meeting** - Echo Lake C.C., Westfield, NJ. Host: Chris Carson (201) 232-3621
- August 24** **Annual Boat Trip** - on "The River Queen," Point Pleasant, NJ. Contact Judy Policastro: (201) 379-1100.
- Sept. 13** **GCSANJ Invitational** - Montammy GC, Alpine, NJ. Host: Mike Leary. Contact: (201) 768-8832
- Sept. 18** **Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association's Professional Turfgrass Field Day** - Westchester Country Club, Rye, New York. Contact Bob Lippman (914) 248-7476 or Byron Johnson (201) 473-3393
- October 9** **26th Annual Turfgrass Equipment, Irrigation and Supplies Field Day**. Rutgers Stadium and Golf Course, Piscataway, NJ. Contact: Judy Policastro (201) 379-1100

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GCSANJ NEWS

BROOME GROOMS THE MILL

Way back in 1984, Little Mill GC hosted a joint superintendent meeting of the NJ and Philadelphia associations. It would appear that everybody who played in 1984 must have liked the golf course because they seemed to all have returned. In addition to the old and new members in attendance, we had 20 guests. This has launched the 1990 season off to a wonderful start setting golf and dinner attendance records for an opening meeting. There were 82 players and 105 enjoyed the dinner.

Just too many people! A New Jersey lament. Little Mill GC is another one of those hidden gems that we find throughout our state, but since there is a five-year waiting list to join, it's safe to bet that it's been "discovered." Our group also discovered that Rick Broome and his staff have taken a wonderfully designed course and enhanced its character with a maintenance program that allows the golfer to play summer rules in April. All of the people who are involved with the course should be proud because their efforts made for a great day despite the rain. Our thanks go out to Little Mill GC for allowing us to share their "gem" again.

Results at Little Mill were "gems" too. The net winners were John Boyer with a blistering 70 followed by Bob Prickett, 71; Joe Connor, 72; Tom Grimaldi, 73; Clyde Ashton, 75; Joe Meross, 75; and Greg Armbruster, 75. The low gross was won by Harry Harsin and Forrest Arthur, both with 77's. Closest to the pin at the #2 hole was Dave Panchison and at #8 was Greg Armbruster. The longest drive was won by the "Might" Dave Mayer. Skins won at #2 hole was Alan Beck; #4, Harry Harsin; #5, Harry Harsin and #14, John Carpinelli.

SHAUN BARRY

FIDDLER'S PERFORMANCE DRAWS RAVES

We have all heard that one should know his place in life. This is a famous saying that has been repeated many times. Superintendents, however, know that this does not refer to them because they have proven that they are capable of handling any challenge that presents itself. They adapt to the varied demands of leadership as easily as a Shakespearean actor changes roles, so there is no one place in life for them. Fiddler's Elbow realized this when they made Dave McGhee their general manager. As talented as Dave is, he knew his new position would not allow him enough time to also take care of the course. Eric Case has assumed those duties and has done a superb job. Not only did he have to maintain 27 holes, he also figured prominently in the construction of the silver nine.

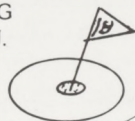
When the superintendents gathered on May 14 for their monthly meeting, few knew what to expect. If they had, many would have gone home for more cameras and more golf balls. (Thank goodness the group in front of us kept losing the kind of ball I play!) We got to play the new holes that have been blended with some of the existing holes to form the gold and silver nines. Like the red and blue nines, each hole is distinctive enough so you never feel that any hole is similar to another. What is different with the new holes, is the regional feeling certain groups of these holes give to the players. Our group felt like we had passed through North Carolina, Vermont, and Wisconsin all in one afternoon. Fortunately we ended up in New Jersey and at Fiddler's Elbow. No, not because we won any prizes, but because we were able to eat dinner. We knew it would be good, but nobody realized how good! I'm sure 106 diets were set back a month from all the various

(Please turn to page 5)

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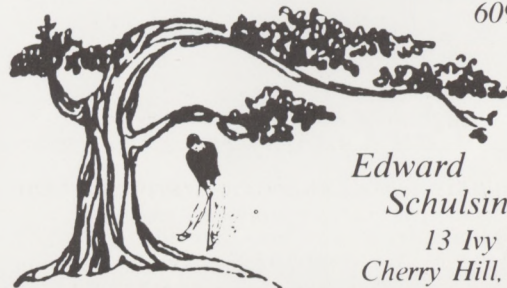
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(Continued from page 4)

choices to eat, which were all prepared just right. What a fitting end to a great day. I hope that when Dave and Eric read this, they will know we all understand how much effort went into making this day special. We, as an association, extend a group thanks to all involved!!

SHAUN BARRY

DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

It was a classic GCSANJ tournament held at Fiddlers Elbow on May 14. The traditional closest to the pin contest was set for the 13th hole where Dave McGhee's ball arrived a scant one quarter of an inch away from his target! At the second hole Bill Brewer won with a ball some 7 feet, 11 inches away. In the winners circle were Harry Harsin - 72; Mike King - 79; Forrest Arthur - 81; Dennis Smalldone - 82; Fran Owsik - 83; and Dave Pease - 83. The superintendent with the low gross was Harry Harsin with his 72. Jeff Theibault had the low net of 67. Our guests showed they could play as well. Wayne Bartolacci had the low gross with 74 and George Wilder came in with the low net of 71. Kent Rickenback hit the longest drive. In skins, Dave Champion won on the #2 hole; Steve Rudich, #7; Harry Harsin, #9; John Wantz, #15 and Bob Prickett, #17.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please join "Greenside" in congratulating and welcoming the following new members. Joining as commercial members are **Joseph Kennedy** of Irratech; **Steven Guida** of Landscape Supply; **John Shenloogian**

of ZEP; **Paul Stieve** of Koonz Sprinkler; and **Phil Obrien** of Aquatrols. New to category D are **Anthony Toto** of Toto Brothers Inc. and **William Ryan** of Tavistock CC. **Ray Remien** of Greenbrook CC (B-1); **Robert Miller** of Shore Oaks (B); and **Eric Carlson** of Lake Mohawk (B-1) are new members. In category A are **Joe Owsick** of Laurel Creek; **Robert Tosh** of Hollywood GC and **Greg Vadala** of Montclair GC.

GCSANJ MEMBERS ACTIVE IN GCSAA COMMITTEES

It's real impressive that so many of our members work at the national committee level of GCSAA. We're naturally all aware that the vice president of GCSAA is **Steven Cadenelli, CGCS**. Here's the rest of the story: **Steven Malikowski, CGCS** is on the Education Committee; **Bruce Cadenelli** (formerly of Hollywood GC) works on the Election committee; **Armand LeSage** is on the Government Relations Committee and **Robert Dickison, CGCS** is focused on Membership; **Charles Cross, Jr.** is on the Publications Committee and **John Wantz, CGCS** is on the Tournament Committee.



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Study shows golf maintenance not a danger to groundwater

(Continued from page 1)

With the assistance of the Cape Cod Turf Managers Association, Stuart Z. Cohen, a respected former Environmental Protection Agency staff member, monitored and studied the effects of area golf courses on ground water. A total of 19 monitoring wells were installed at the tees, greens and fairways of four Cape Cod courses. These wells were purged and sampled quarterly by hand for four quarters over a year and a half. EPA and American Public Health Association standards were used to analyze samples for organic compounds and nitrates. A short summary of the results illustrates a positive story golf course superintendents can share with local regulators.

- None of the currently registered pesticides detected were at toxicologically significant concentrations. EPA establishes health advisory levels (HAL) for all registered pesticides. These levels are the maximum allowable levels of a pesticide in groundwater. The Cape Cod study found that none of the registered pesticides analyzed turned up in groundwater supplies in concentrations greater than 20% of the allowable HAL. Daconil was detected at 0.4 parts per bil-

lion, or 20% of its HAL. All other pesticides were detected at concentrations less than or equal to 6% of their HAL.

- Seven of the tested turf pesticides were never detected. Collection and analysis of the well samples revealed that seven of the 17 turf chemicals tested for were never found to be present. Adding weight to this amazing statistic is the fact that the study took place on the sandy soils of the Cape Cod area, a site with hydrogeological conditions (soil type, depth to groundwater, and aquifer permeability) as vulnerable as practically any in the country.

- Lower nitrate concentrations resulted when less nitrogen, slow-release nitrogen, or both, were used. A comparative analysis of study results at those courses that changed their management practices revealed that nitrate concentrations were affected. Simply put, golf courses that employ best management practices in their application of turf chemicals can minimize the risk of potential problems. In particular, an emphasis on using lower nitrogen concentrations and/or slow-release formulations makes for an ecologically responsible course.

What does the Cape Cod study mean for golf? How can your course use its results?

- Share the results of the study with your local regulators and legislators. Let them know that your industry is committed to finding out the environmental effects of golf courses on local water supplies. This information will help them to make responsible decisions and policies that affect golf in your community. And it will establish you as a knowledgeable resource when future questions and issues arise.

- Let your employer know about the results of the study. Whether you interact with a board of directors, a greens committee or a municipal government, you have the responsibility of sharing this news with the decision makers at your course. They need to know of your commitment to the environment and the role they play in safeguarding their community's groundwater.

- Utilize this study and its conclusions to re-evaluate your pesticide management practices. The September 1989 issue of "Golf Course Management" details specific steps you can take at your operation to minimize the chances of groundwater contamination. Today's turf technology affords you the opportunity to maintain your course with lower nitrogen concentrations and slow-release formulations. The results of the study will provide you with the ammunition you need to convince your decision makers that an environmentally responsible maintenance program is compatible with the course conditions your members demand.

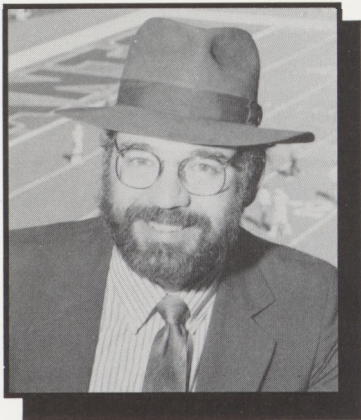
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**Grass-roots
Organization
by Mike Celizic
Sports Writer for
"The Record"**

It was March when Ed Walsh realized that the fertilizer, so to speak, had hit the fan.

Actually, the fertilizer had hit the greens of the

Ridgewood Country Club, site of the June 28 - July 1 US Senior Open golf tournament.

It shouldn't have been too much fertilizer. "It was the same we've been using for the last 12 years," said Walsh, who for 15 years has been the club's greens and grounds superintendent.

But deep aeration had been performed on the greens last fall at the same time the fertilizer was applied. The deep punctures soaked up irrigation water. And this spring, when the greens were supposed to burst into vigorous life, five of them burst, instead, into galloping death.

This was in March, and when Walsh saw his beautiful greens turning into browns, he admits to irrigating them with a torrent of naughty words.

"I was more angry with myself than anything," he said the other day as he went out to give another pep talk to the new grass that is filling in the bald spots.

The stricken greens would be perfect by now, he said, if it weren't for the unusually cold weather in May that kept new grass from germinating. As it is, most are nearly perfect. Only the first green of the championship layout still looks dazed.

By June 28, he said, even No. 1 will be pristine. "The greens will be in the kind of condition that will allow the players to make the putts they hit correctly," he said.

In other words, they'll be like felt on a pool table

You figure no harm, no foul, but Walsh was still upset with himself. A good painter does not drip paint on the carpet, and a good grass grower doesn't kill the grass - not on a course like Ridgewood, which was built in 1929 by A.W. Tillinghast, the renowned golf architect. It is considered one of the 100 top courses in the country.

And Walsh is a good grass grower.

He can make a grass seed take root in a matter of hours. He can produce acres of grass that are so smooth and uniform and manicured they look like a painting.

No doubt about it, Walsh is among the league leaders in the big league of growing grass.

He doesn't grow it in his front yard. That grass, he said, is only so-so. Great grass-growing, after all, should not be wasted on a front lawn. Great grass

growing should aspire to higher purposes than impressing the neighbors.

"I think of myself as a symphony orchestra leader," he said as he took one of his daily tours of his course.

He has composed his symphony, his opus magnus, in bent and rye on the outdoor cathedral that is The Ridgewood Country Club.

He's got the sort of job that when he does it best, no one notices. Oh, the pros - Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Gary Player, Lee Trevino, and local hero Walt Zembriski - will notice. But fans who will come to trample his beautiful grass won't.

"When the course looks great, the typical response is, 'Mother Nature has been helpful,' " he said. "But when it looks shaggy, it's 'What did you do?'"

By June 28, Walsh said, they won't be asking that. They'll only be saying how gorgeous Ridgewood is in its finest dress.

"If I have a goal for the Open," he said, "it's that the membership see the golf course through the eyes of the great golfers, so that they'll understand what a great course this is."

And if they don't say a word about Ed Walsh, that will be just fine. It will mean he's done his job well.

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BOOK OUTLINES ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND TURF MANAGEMENT

To address growing concerns related to current pesticide application practices, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, in conjunction with the Environmental Protection Agency, is reprinting "Integrated Pest Management for Turfgrass and Ornamentals," a compendium of articles on "IPM." GCSAA is underwriting the cost of reprinting the book in order to ensure its availability to golf superintendents and other turfgrass managers.

The book contains articles that explain how to avoid unnecessary use of chemicals by advocating careful monitoring of pesticide applications. By stressing the judicious use of pesticides and herbicides through an IPM philosophy, golf superintendents can reduce their reliance on chemicals in maintaining their courses.

The book is available through the GCSAA Office of Government Relations. The cost is \$10 for GCSAA members and \$12 for non-members.

GOLF'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDIED BY SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE

The Senate Subcommittee on Toxic Substances, Environmental Oversight, Research and Development convened recently to examine the use, regulation and potential health risk of commercially applied chemicals on turfgrass. William R. Roberts, CGCS, secretary/treasurer of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America testified on behalf of the golf course industry.

Roberts, a golf course superintendent at Lochmoor Club, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, was invited to represent the 9,800 members of GCSAA. Also appearing were other experts in the field of environmental research and education. Subcommittee Chairman Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev.) invited Roberts and GCSAA to appear because of GCSAA's recognized leadership in the field of turf management and research.

In summarizing Roberts' testimony, Reid said, "I have been very impressed, for example, with Mr. Roberts, who represents people who have concerns...[and] think there should be more research that goes on and is willing to abide by whatever comes out of it." Reid went on to note that senators like himself can help in that process, by saying that "...you [GCSAA] don't have a dog in this fight, and you're just trying to find out, as we are, what is valid and invalid about the claims and hopefully the government has a role to help you in that regard."

Roberts highlighted two areas in which GCSAA is considered to be the golf industry leader: groundwater research and educational programs. "Our concerns deal with the health and safety of the public, the golfers, and ultimately with the environment that we live in..." Roberts said. "We are willing, frankly, to put our money where our mouths are. We are going to do this research...with no preconceptions...and if we find out that the materials or management practices are scientifically valid, we'll continue to use those. If we find out that those materials or management practices could adversely affect the environment or the public, we're determined to find solutions or alternatives so that we can maintain good golf courses and yet not impact the public."

GCSAA GIVES \$35,000 FOR RESEARCH

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America will present a record \$35,000 contribution to the joint USGA/GCSAA Turfgrass Research Committee to support research into turfgrass breeding and environmental considerations. GCSAA will make the

(Please turn to page 9)

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(Continued from page 8)

presentation to the United States Golf Association during the 1990 U.S. Open.

"We certainly appreciate the support that GCSAA has shown us — not just the financial support, but also the moral support that golf course superintendents have given us," said Dr. Mike Kenna, USGA research director.

Last year GCSAA — through its Scholarship & Research Fund — donated \$25,000 to the committee for general support of turfgrass research and an additional \$25,000 earmarked to fund a full review of all scientific literature on the environmental impact of golf course management practices.

Results of the review are now serving the starting point in the development of a comprehensive manual of best management practices. GCSAA's 1990 contribution will go into the committee's general fund and will support research that results from the review's findings.

According to Kenna, even though many superintendents already consider the environmental consequences of their management practices, the manual will provide needed documentation of environmentally responsible pest control. "I feel confident that we're in good shape to meet the challenges not only of the '90s, but of the next century as well, especially in the area of water use," Kenna said.

GCSAA MEMBERSHIP HITS 10,000

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has announced that its rolls officially exceeded 10,000 for the first time in the association's 64-year history.

Norma M. O'Leary, golf course superintendent at Silver Bay (Minnesota) Country Club, became the association's 10,000th member in late May. O'Leary said her membership in GCSAA, "will keep me in touch with current events in turf management, and the education and information programs will help me stay on top of my job."

GCSAA's growth is indicative of its active and visible role in golf. In 1983, the association had fewer than 5,000 members. GCSAA reached 9,000 members in October 1989. Overall, GCSAA's membership grew 108% in the last decade.

John Schilling, GCSAA executive director, said, "This has been a tremendous decade for all of golf, particularly for our members and our association." Janet Rose, GCSAA director of Membership, echoed Schilling's thoughts, "We are ecstatic to have added our 10,000th member to the GCSAA roster."

Founded on Sept. 13, 1926, as the National Asso-

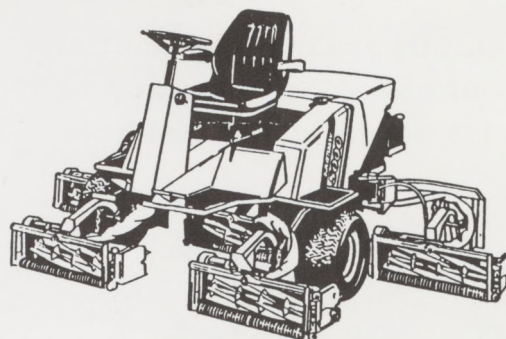
ciation of Greenkeepers of America, GCSAA was established as an association dedicated to informing and educating its membership. Today, GCSAA continues as the only international organization that serves the professional needs of golf course superintendents.

GCSAA members provide outstanding playing conditions for some 24,000,000 golfers who play approximately 500,000,000 rounds each year in this country. Currently, GCSAA is working with legislators and regulators to promote environmental protection and to communicate the importance of sound ecological management to its members through education and research.

New Jersey tops in crops

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Jim Gilligan's Column

"In the beginner's mind there are many possibilities, but in the experts, there are few."

Shunryu Suzuki

As I read each new issue of the "Greenerside," I know the deadline for the next issue is approaching. Since assuming a new responsibility, the will to write this essay is weakened due to a full mind and procrastination. Procrastination is a shortcoming that can be removed and a full mind can be emptied. To overcome these obstacles, I begin to write the first things that enter the empty mind and that starts the process. Once the pencil hits the paper, I'm no longer procrastinating. When a couple of pages are full, I stop and begin editing using a dictionary and thesaurus to cull the extraneous words and strengthen the writing. The rhythm picks up and the words become sentences and the sentences become paragraphs. It is necessary to give the process enough time; that is what is lacking.

This new job has rekindled my enthusiasm for

being a superintendent. It is refreshing going back to the basics and experiencing a new perspective. It is an opportunity to change practices, to use different products and to see things more clearly.

As the summer approaches, my thoughts have shifted to understanding the complexities of turbine pumps, valve-in-head sprinklers and PVC risers. All new items. Knowing the time will come when the irrigation system has to be filled, tested and operated, I stored this task in the back of my mind as we prepared the course through a cool and moist spring. The appropriate rainfall and cool weather provided a pleasant substitute for irrigation and stressful weather. This is not to minimize the serious flooding that some superintendents experienced. Richmond County drains well and remains playable through most heavy rains.

Inventory of the irrigation system is a necessity. Knowing what model and type of heads are out there, their nozzles and range is critical. Working with unfamiliar equipment presents some problems. It is imperative to understand their components and how to fix them. The thought of sprinklers sticking on or failing to come on is uncomfortable.

The sprinklers are the visible part of the system. The invisible parts: the pipe and wiring present more problems. They are difficult to locate. Only a swipe from a backhoe or a D-3's blade seem to uncover the web of pipe and wires. A patient process of reconnecting the wires and mending the broken PVC is necessary to restore the system and my well-being.

There is always a sense of relief when the irrigation performs as advertised. The thought of programming the system and driving to Jersey requires all the courage I can muster. In my previous life, I could venture out into the darkness and listen for the staccato beat of the impact heads, but now I'm 40 miles away and I'll never hear the silent revolutions of the gear-driven head. Trust in their reliability will be a necessity.

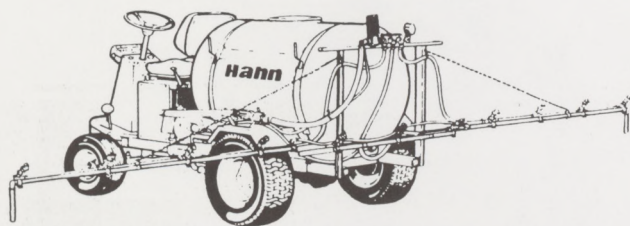
This system is powered by a two-stage turbine pump system connected to reservoir of adequate size; fed by the runoff from the streets of Staten Island. To overcome the difference in elevation, a booster pump is inserted in the line to maintain the pressure on the 620 yd. Par 5 Tenth hole.

It is mid-June and you can feel the warm weather becoming hot; I feel this system will be tested. Will it have survived the extreme cold of last December? Will I be too demanding in trying to squeeze every pound of pressure and gallon of water from the pipes to satisfy a thirsty soil? Were all the solvent welds made before Friday afternoon? In NASA lingo the countdown is on hold, but a "go" is imminent.

As I read this essay in July, I can be the judge of how we functioned. If we failed, it is back to traveling sprinklers for both of us. Have a good summer!

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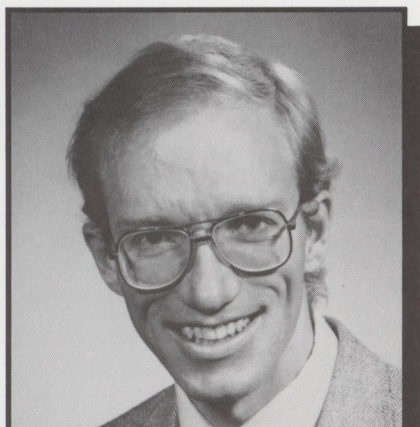
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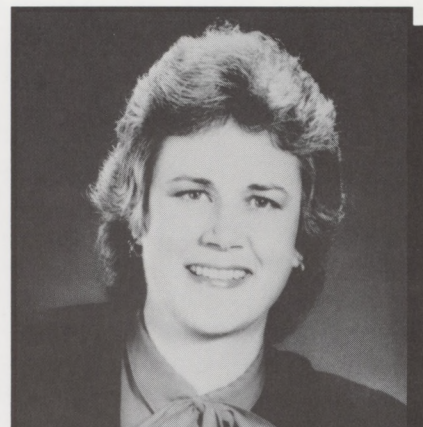
Three students receive Musser Foundation Grants



Melodee Kemp



Phil Allen



Virginia Lehman

The Musser International Turfgrass Foundation awarded \$4,000 Scholarship Grants to three doctoral candidates in various plant sciences.

The grant recipients are **Melodee Kemp**, Department of Crop Science, **Rutgers University**; **Phil Allen**, Department of Horticultural Science, **University of Minnesota**; and **Virginia Lehman**, Department of Soil & Crop Sciences, **Texas A & M University**.

The Scholarship Grant is awarded to a Ph.D. candidate in his or her final year of study, who has displayed high scholastic achievement and presented a well-conceived, relevant thesis problem with an element of "pioneering" toward problem orientation.

"Our financial support of these three doctoral candidates is the best investment we can make for the future of all sports turfgrasses," says Frank Dobie, president of the MITF and superintendent of The Sharon Club, Sharon Center, Ohio.

Kemp's doctoral thesis deals with the effects of some root-infecting fungi on fine fescues. She is studying turfgrass breeding under the tutelage of Dr. Reed Funk.

Allen, a horticulture major, is studying under Dr. Donald White. His doctoral thesis concerns the germination of grass seeds subjected to fluctuating moisture conditions.

"It is an honor to share this award," Allen said. "I was impressed to learn that many turf professionals who have impacted my education and philosophy are former students of Dr. Musser. He was clearly instrumental in bringing turfgrass science out of its infancy."

Lehman studies plant breeding with Dr. Milt

Engelke. Her thesis concerns root and shoot tolerance of creeping bentgrass.

Award winners were decided at the MITF annual board meeting on Feb. 25, 1990 at the GCSAA National Conference in Orlando. The selection committee included: **Dr. Joe Dulch, Penn State University**; **Dr. James Beard, Texas A & M University**; **Dr. Harry Niemczyk, Ohio Agricultural Research & Development Center**; and **Dr. James Watson, the Toro Company**.

The Musser International Turfgrass Foundation is dedicated to the memory of H.B. Musser's pioneering efforts in turfgrass research and education, and to the continuance of his dedication to the field. MITF achieves this through funding of basic turfgrass research by graduate students.

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Don't miss the big one! The 26th Annual Turfgrass Equipment, Irrigation and Supplies Field Day

On October 9, Rutgers Stadium and Golf Course in Piscataway will be teaming with people from the green industry. It's the number one fund raiser for Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey and, naturally, most of the members will be there.

Members can make this a terrific show by letting the rest of the green industry people know about it. So spread the word to the landscapers, ornamental businesses, sod farmers, arborists, turf care professionals and your fellow GCSANJ members.

Equipment demonstrations by experts, supplies of various kinds and a pretty good, inexpensive lunch make this a terrific day.

The Field Day is free to attendees so there is no excuse to miss it. Mark October 9 on your calendar now.

For further information contact **Judy Policastro** at (201) 379-1100 or **John Carpinelli** (609) 235-0150. John is this year's chairman of the Field Day and Judy is the Executive Secretary of GCSANJ.

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Fancy Facts from Fenwick

John Fenwick has done some fancy footwork to come up with some commercial trivia questions to test your knowledge of industry reps here in New Jersey. Look for the answers in the "Back Nine" section of this issue. Rather than have you call the special "900" number and hear the questions on John's special taped message (\$2.00 for the first minute; \$1.00 for each additional minute - always check with your parents to make sure it's OK to call), we've arranged for them to be printed in the "Greenerside" - another cost saving benefit!

- Question #1. Which of our turf supply sales representatives is an accomplished jazz musician?
- Question #2. Who was involved in golf course architecture in the Himalayas?
- Question #3. Name the five "K's" and a "G" at Grass Roots.
- Question #4. Which sales representatives have introduced their daughters to the business?
- Question #5. What company got its start in 1956 in Westfield, New Jersey?
- Question #6. Which two turf supply representatives recently became Pennsylvania residents?

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Quelling the pesticide alarm

There has been much negative publicity in the press recently regarding fertilizers and pesticides. Following is a letter from GCSANJ President Steve Finamore which appeared in the April 14, 1990 edition of the "Star-Ledger" on these issues. (See related story on the Cape Cod study on the cover of this issue of the "Greenside.")

University tests and, just recently, a study done on Cape Cod by Biospheric Inc. from Maryland have shown that pesticides used on lawns and golf courses, when applied properly, are safe to people and the environment.

All of us who apply pesticides must be licensed by the state Department of Environmental Protection. We must pass a written test and our license must be kept up by earning credits through continuing education. In addition, notification and posting is required of all turf areas that are treated.

A healthy lawn provides many benefits; oxygen production, reduced runoff, control of soil erosion, absorption of air pollutants and replenishing of ground water are but a few. We have an excellent record as applicators and hope that the millions of golfers and homeowners have not been unnecessarily alarmed by these false accusations.

**STEVE FINAMORE, PRESIDENT,
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS
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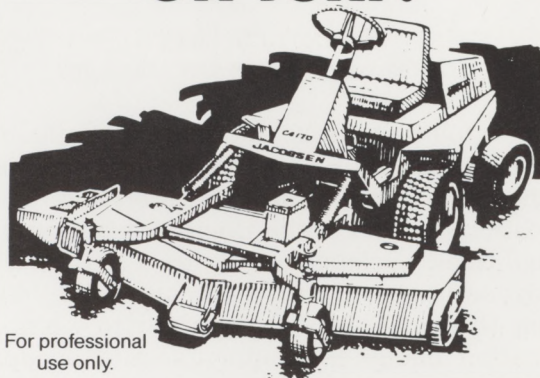
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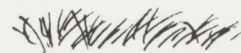
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New service available to New Jersey residents: Right to Know INFOsource

by Barry Schlegel
INFOsource Program Manager

A new toll-free public information telephone service called **Right To Know INFOsource** has been established within the Public Education and Risk Communication division of the Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute.

Anyone in New Jersey can call 1-800-843-0054, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., to get information about environmental and occupational health hazards.

Trained staff will respond to questions about:

- health effects and safe handling of chemicals, substances, or products present in the environment, home, school and work.
- media, government and industry reports concerning environmental and occupational health issues.
- Right to Know information such as Toxic Chemi-

cal Release Inventory Reports, New Jersey Community Right to Know Surveys, Material Safety Data Sheets and hazard warning labels.

- sources of additional information regarding environmental and occupational health hazards.

Right To Know INFOsource is funded by the New Jersey Business Roundtable to provide clear, accurate and objective information about health and safety risks concerning the public. Its development was the result of a recognized need by industry to help the public understand raw toxic chemical information now widely available as a result of state and federal Right to Know legislation. The New Jersey Business Roundtable is a non-profit organization composed of 20 of New Jersey's leading corporations.

The service is a direct communications link between university scientists, educators and the people of New Jersey.

In addition to answering questions, INFOsource

(Please turn to page 15)

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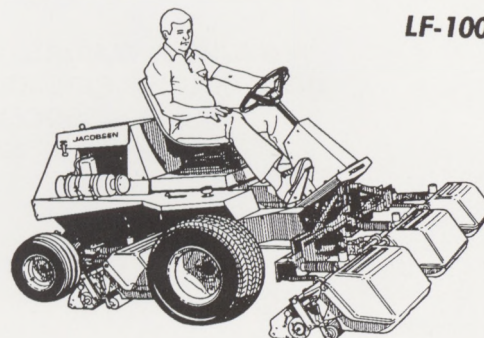
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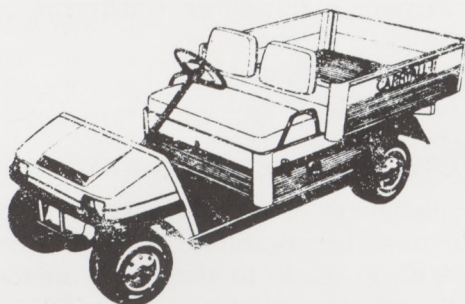
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New service available to New Jersey residents: Right to Know INFOsource

(Continued from page 14)

may send callers written materials such as INFOsheets on specific topics. INFOsource may also refer callers, where appropriate, to existing services provided by the state, federal government and non-profit organizations. It will not address specific legal questions, medical questions or emergency situations.

Through this service, it is hoped that the public will gain a better understanding of the issues. The citizens of New Jersey will then be in a better position to make informed decisions about the risks they may encounter in their day-to-day lives. The questions asked by the public will also be utilized as an aid in assessing the needs for developing additional informational resources and developing better methods of risk communication.

Pesticide contaminated clothing requires special attention

by **Tom Akins**
GCSAA Government Relations Manager

Applicator safety is a key component of any superintendent's overall management plan. In properly educating and training employees, turf managers invariably stress the need for pesticide applicators to handle the chemicals they work with in a safe and professional manner.

GCSAA, through educational offerings and service on the Environmental Protection Agency's Pesticide Packaging Committee, has taken a leadership role in continually reminding the turf industry and its professionals of the necessity for safe container design and handling.

At the beginning of every work day, while you are still fresh, it's easy to remember the basic rules of applicator safety. At the end of a long and tiring day spent maintaining acres of valuable turf, though, it's easy to forget that the clothing you've worn while

(Please turn to page 17)

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THE BACK NINE

FRAN OWSIK RECEIVES SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

At the recent John Caliendo Championship, the tournament committee awarded their prestigious "Sportsmanship Award" to Fran Owsik. Fran is the superintendent at Tamarack Golf Course and anyone who knows him would agree that he is deserving of such an award.

NEW JERSEY SHIFT

In our last issue, we said "au revoir" to **Bruce Cadenelli**, but we were remiss in not saying "welcome" to **Bob Tosh**, the new superintendent at Hollywood. **Jim Cross** is the new superintendent at Rumson and **Benny Peta** is new at Bedens Brook. In other people news, **Don Zeffer** left Chris Carson for Harkers Hollow; **Greg Vadala** moved to Montclair and **Mark Sinto** is running the course at Madison. To all of the superintendents new at their positions this season we wish you the best and a renewed welcome to GCSANJ.

Fancy Facts from Fenwick - the answers:

1. Sky Bergen
2. Steve Kay
3. Keith, Katie, Kristie, Karen, Ken, and Ginny
4. Mart Futyma's daughter Catherine and Jack Poksay's daughter Michelle.
5. Storr Tractor Company
6. Steve Chirip and Bryan Bolhala

PESTICIDE OPERATOR REMINDER

Pesticide Operator Training Verification Forms (VPA-028) must be submitted with a check/money order for \$10.00 made to the NJ Pesticide Control Program. Forms are available from the DEP by calling (609) 530-5468.

WHY DO MOSQUITOES BUZZ IN YOUR EAR?

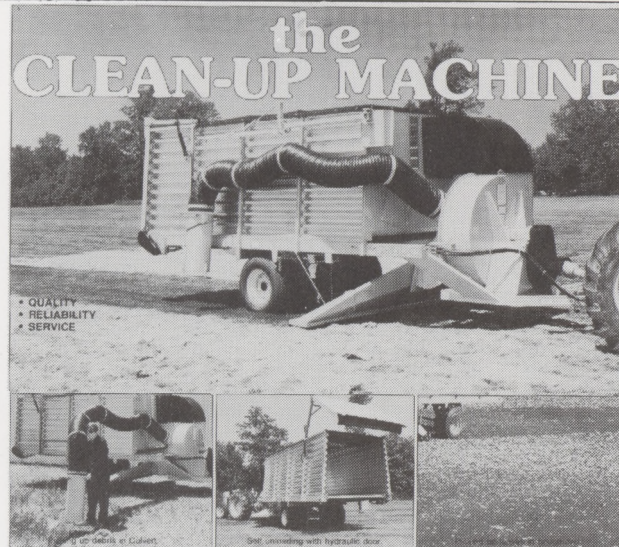
This year is shaping up to be a benchmark year for entomology. We've read about Mediterranean fruit flies spreading in California, giant Mormon Crickets gallop-
(Please turn to page 17)

To most, Summer Patch is an unseen mystery. Here's how to keep it that way.

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(Continued from page 16)

ing over Utah and Nevada by the millions; an aphid invasion of Los Angeles and Africanized killer bees in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas and biting imported fire ants throughout southern states. What's happening? Why are all these major "invasions" occurring? The weather has a lot to do with it. Drought in the western U.S. has spawned some of their problems. Wet weather here in New Jersey and elsewhere will undoubtedly be raising the perennial question, "Why do mosquitoes buzz in your ear?" Another reason is that our borders and the oceans no longer serve as a boundary against exotic insect pests. The thousands of planes, ships, trains and trucks that enter the U.S. each day have simply overwhelmed our ability to detect a single invading pest. When you couple this with the delays and frustration of trying to treat large areas with timely pesticide applications, you can easily envision more and more entomological news stories. In the meanwhile, these invasions are news because they document the damage that these pests are doing and what damage they can do if left unchallenged.

WINTER INJURY

The winter of 1990, on the average, was relatively mild temperature wise. Yet, many of our common hardy landscape plants are showing signs of winter injury. Extremes in winter temperatures are the primary cause.

Most of the damage occurred when we experienced very cold temperatures in mid-December which was much earlier than normal. The temperatures immediately preceding this cold snap were very mild and many of our woody landscape plants did not harden off completely in preparation for winter. In some cases, winter injury was more severe than normal because

plants in poorly drained areas suffered root damage last spring and summer due to the excessive amount of rainfall during this period.

Extensive injury has been noticed on holly, juniper, yews, hemlock, rhododendron, linden, oak and maple. We can expect that damage to other types of plants will become evident throughout the spring and summer. When deciding whether to prune plants affected by winter injury, wait until the plants have produced new growth, then prune out the dead branches.

BY RICHARD G. OBAL
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT

Contaminated clothing

(Continued from page 15)

applying turf chemicals demands special attention.

While many courses now have disposable covers, it's important to keep in mind these basic tips, supplied by Cornell University's Cooperative Extension Service, when laundering pesticide contaminated clothing:

- Don't wash your work clothing at home with your family clothes. Chemicals in your clothing can easily migrate to other clothes in the same washload. Consider providing a washing machine on-site, specifically dedicated to the washing of pesticide-contaminated clothing. (For some operations, an outside laundry service may be the best answer.)

- When pre-rinsing, use one of three methods: hose off the garment outdoors, rinse in a separate tub or pail, or agitate in an automatic washer. For garments that are heavily contaminated, be sure to use a concentrated-strength liquid.

- Wash garments that are contaminated with the same pesticide together.

- Wash only a few garments at once. Resist the temptations to load the washer as full as possible or to save up clothing for one big load.

- Be sure that you use a full water level and that you use HOT water, preferably 140 degrees or higher.

- Be sure to use the normal, full 12 minutes of your wash cycle.

- Use heavy-duty detergent in the amount recommended on the package. If your clothes are heavily soiled or if you have hard water, increase the amount of detergent.

- Use two full rinse cycles.

(Please turn to page 18)

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SUPERINTENDENT PROFILE

JO-ANN WARD

Driving into Sunset Valley Golf Course, my attention was immediately drawn to the enormous gash in the mountainside above the course, where Interstate 287 is under construction. I wondered what sort of impact all that work might have on Sunset Valley's superintendent, Jo-Ann Ward. She must have anticipated that reaction, as she had the photos of her problems ready when I got to her office.

Originally from Brooklyn, Jo-Ann's family had moved to Vernon Valley in 1968 after her father had driven through the area. Following high school she was employed in the Reservations Department at the Playboy Resort, where her father worked on the grounds. In 1975, she switched over to the grounds crew and by the 1978 season, Jo-Ann had been moved up to Golf Course Supervisor. That same year, her future husband, John Ward, came to the resort as assistant superintendent, having transferred from the Lake Geneva, Wisconsin Playboy facility.

The year 1979 saw John move on to Cedar Hill in Livingston as superintendent, and Jo-Ann started the Rutgers Winter School. By 1980, she had elected to go to High Mountain C.C. in Franklin Lakes as an assistant. The next year she was asked to return to the former Playboy Resort, renamed Americana Great Gorge Resort, as assistant superintendent. She and John were married in 1981 as well. Jo-Ann remained at Americana until 1984 when she went to Sunset Valley. By that time her husband had branched out to doing consulting work with golf course development firms in New Jersey.

Since arriving at Sunset Valley, Jo-Ann has really brought the course a long way. The facility has been on the nominations list for the "Golf Digest Magazine" top 100 U.S. public golf courses, and in the past several years has hosted the USGA Women's Amateur Public Links Qualifying Tournaments. Jo-Ann commented that from her Playboy/Americana experiences she learned the importance of catering to the golfer and the necessity of striving to be at your best as much as possible.

Our conversation turned to the subject of the road construction above her course. It turns out she's had to deal with a number of problems resulting from the I-287 project, including holding back mudslides, washouts, siltation of irrigation ponds, noise, dust and ongoing blasting. The roadbuilding had begun in August of last year, and by the next month she had experienced her first washout. The aforementioned photos showed a green and other course areas covered with silt and stone.

Although the challenges resulting from the I-287 project must be frustrating, I sensed a determined "I'll deal with it" outlook on it all from Jo-Ann. At least she takes every Saturday off to spend some time with her family, living in a home in a secluded part of the Sunset Valley property. Her husband had been in charge of the golf course at Tamiment Resort & C.C. in Pennsylvania from 1985 until 1989 when he became superintendent of Horticulture for the Morris County Parks Arboretum.

Jo-Ann remarked that her six-year-old daughter, Kate, had conveniently managed to be born in the "off season" on Christmas Day. She chuckled when she related that she didn't even tell the Americana grounds crew that she was pregnant until she was almost eight months along, wearing loose-fitting clothes and sweat-shirts up to that point. The crew's reaction was pretty much one of shock and disbelief. Why, she'd even been out digging with them on an irrigation project a short time before, and it took a while for the news to sink in.

I hope when I-287 is completed in a couple of years you can cruise on it and look down on your course in satisfaction, Jo-Ann. Have a good summer and thanks for the visit.

PAUL POWONDRA

Contaminated clothing

(Continued from page 17)

- Line dry your clothing to avoid any possible contamination of your dryer.
 - After the wash cycle has finished and you have emptied your clothes, run your washer through a complete, but empty, cycle. Use hot water and detergent during this empty cycle.
 - Wear waterproof gloves when handling highly contaminated clothing. Dispose of these gloves periodically.
 - Remove contaminated clothing, if possible, outdoors or in a specially-designated area. Be sure to empty your pockets and cuffs.
 - Save clothing that you wear while handling or applying chemicals for that use only.
 - Wash contaminated clothing after each use. When applying pesticides daily, wash clothing daily.
- Make these recommendations part of your applicator safety training to help ensure that your workers stay safe, healthy and on the job.

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