

THE GREENERSIDE

Official Publication of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey

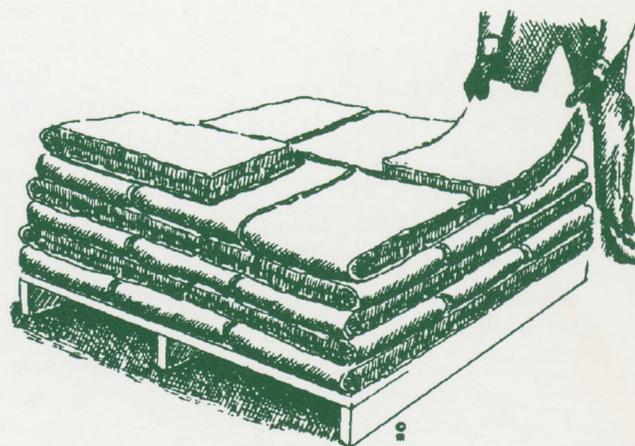
Turfgrass Equipment, Irrigation, and Suppliers Field Day

by Steve Malikowski, CGCS

With a record number of golf course superintendents already preregistered for Field Day, Tuesday, October 3, 1995, it appears that the change to a golf course site was the way to go. What better way for superintendents to see the latest in equipment than to see it used on actual golf course conditions. Our hosts for the day, Superintendent Ron Alfieri and Chip Kern, the senior vice president of Shearon Golf, have been most accommodating and promise ideal weather conditions as well.

The Field Day Committee has put together what we believe is a great agenda. All who attend should find the day to be not only informative in respect to equipment suppliers, but also educational and fun at the same time. We in the green industry have had a long year, and our suppliers were there when we needed them. Let's show them a little thanks and support by attending the Field Day. Remember, this is our Association's largest fund raising event.

Our Committee has arranged for a great caterer who will supply and serve a large assortment of food and beverages. For those who wish to indulge, beer will also be available. Golf course superintendents who have not already preregistered using the self-addressed stamped post card *must register at the site. Only golf course superintendents will be eligible for the special drawing.* The drawing will be held at 1:00 p.m., and one lucky person will go home with a golf trip for two to Myrtle Beach for four days and three nights including air fare.



The agenda for the day will be as follows:

Registration	9:00 a.m.
Equipment Demos	10:00 a.m. - noon
Speaker	Noon
Closest to pin competition	10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

See you there!

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EDITORIAL



Ilona Gray

Three and 56/100ths%

by Ilona Gray

Recreation and entertainment are industries that conjure up an image of big time Hollywood movies, rock concerts, and theme parks. On a less glitzy and more personal scale, the golf course industry

is an integral part of this industry. Golf course superintendents are faced with a small dilemma. Do they position themselves at a course as the authority on turf management, or do they seek a broader role as part of the recreation and entertainment programs of the club?

On one side, the professional image is very important. Once tarnished, a reputation is difficult to polish to better luster. Balancing this is the need to fulfill roles other than that typically conducted by the superintendent. This is an option. It's outside of the paycheck and outside of the job description. It may even be outside of what is usually done at your particular course. All of this may appear too risky to some, an adventure or just plain fun to others.

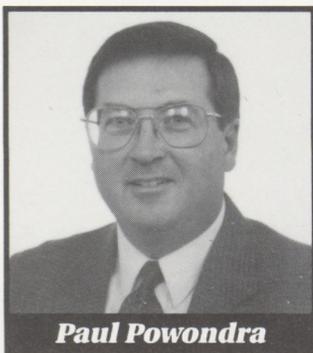


In many clubs there are opportunities for extra curricular fun and work on the job. Whether it's donning a Santa suit during the holiday times for the club party or helping with a particular fund raising event, when the superintendent participates it is a career activity. You have to use your best judgment on what is appropriate and how best to address the opportunity in a non-traditional function.

The risk from a professional perspective is minimal in most circumstances, and the gain is being viewed as a complete personality by the club's management and committees. Everyone on the course today is part of the entertainment and recreation provided to the players. It's a strange role that remains 97 and 44/100ths percent superintendent, but that extra 3 and 56/100ths percent can be fun too. No, I haven't lost my calculator. I know that all superintendents give 101% on the job!

I'm only suggesting that you think about how you would approach the job of golf course superintendent if you viewed the course as part of this recreation and entertainment industry. When the game is played, is the course set to be enjoyed from an aesthetic as well as practical aspect? Are there features that enhance the golf experience including the landscaping near the club house or car paths? Walk your course one evening thinking about recreation and entertainment values and ask yourself, am I doing everything I can do?

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Paul Powondra

Lessons learned (hopefully)

With the advent of fall weather, with those wonderful cool nights, it comes time to assess what worked and what didn't in getting us through the tough summer months. I know I tried to apply lessons learned in that incredible stretch of heat and humidity in 1994 to this season, as did virtually every other superintendent (and plant protectant supplier, for that matter). What we did was try to attend as many seminars and read as much as possible in the so-called "off season" in order to prepare ourselves for the year ahead. We never know enough, but we press forward in the attempt. I admire such top-notch people as Drs. Bruce Clarke and Jim Murphy when they say "I don't know" in response to some of our queries on turf problems. Even they are continually striving to learn more. I would encourage GCSANJ members to attend the upcoming GCSAA seminars:

- Basic Principles of Turfgrass Management (1.4 CEUs)
November 14-15
East Brunswick
- Personal Stress Management (.7 CEU)
December 11
Atlantic City

The December seminar will be held at the Taj Mahal on the Monday before Expo starts. The Expo room rate will be available as early as Sunday night for those attending this seminar, which has become one of GCSAA's more popular offerings. GCSANJ anticipates having a get-together on Monday evening to which all are invited. More details later.

Many times over the past few years, as our profession has become more and more complicated and hectic, and as Mother Nature seemed to enjoy tormenting us, I tried to find the lighter side of things. I would often think back to a popular column in *The Greenside* written by Willet Wilt, wondering what ol' Willet would have to say about this or that calamity. After years of begging his literary agent, Ken Kubik,

to get Willet to resume writing, I found some old columns (and asked Ilona to see about reprinting them). I think you'll see that although our profession is dynamic and changing, some things about the business don't really change at all. I hope you enjoy Willet as much as I do.

CALENDAR

- October 3** **The 30th Annual Turfgrass, Equipment, Irrigation, and Suppliers Field Day**, Mattawang Golf Club, Hopewell. 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- October 19** **GCSANJ October Meeting - The Championship** at Green Brook C.C. Host: Joe Kennedy. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- November 4** **The Sixth Annual Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School and Alumni Awards Banquet**, Ramada Inn, East Brunswick. Contact Cook College Office of Continuing Professional Education, Missy Marciante, (908) 932-9271.
- November 7** **GCSANJ Annual Meeting**, Hollywood G.C. Host: Jan Kasyjanski. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- November 7-10** **NYSTA Turf and Grounds Exposition**, Rochester Riverside Convention Center, Rochester, NY. Contact NYSTA, (800) 873-TURF.
- November 21** **The Alliance for Environmental Concerns' Annual Environmental Seminar**, Fiddler's Elbow, Bedminster. *Recertification credits awarded.* Contact Ilona Gray, (201) 595-7172.



GCSANJ NEWS

THE GCSANJ PROMOTES ITSELF

by Shaun Barry

June 15, 1995, was the first round of the U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills G.C. on Long Island, New York. It also was the finals of the N.J. State Amateur Tournament, which was held at White Beeches G. & C.C. As would be ex-



After the NJSGA Amateur Championship, Paul Powondra, president of GCSANJ (right), presented a plaque to Armand LeSage, host superintendent at White Beeches G. & C.C., as Paul Meseck, golf pro at the club, looked on.

pected, the golf course was in great shape and the tournament went off without a hitch.

There was a surprise, however, for Armand LeSage and the gallery at the awards ceremony. Paul Powondra was there to present a plaque to Armand from the GCSANJ. This practice of honoring the host superintendent of the major events at the conclusion of play started with Dave Pease. Chris Carson and Paul have continued to make the effort to promote the host superintendent and the GCSANJ. Long may this tradition continue!

KEN'S DAY TO REMEMBER

by Shaun Barry

1995 will be remembered for many things that happened 50 years ago. Some good and some bad. Many (!) of us were not around in 1945 but we are here now, so if you get a chance, please wish Ken Kubik a happy birthday.



Keith Kubik, Root Jr., (center) along with Jay McKenna (right), the Assistant Root, celebrating the Root's (Ken Kubik) 50th birthday.

As you can see by the picture, he was surprised but happy with the dinner in honor of his day. It was either that or it was an expression of relief because he was on the opposite side of the table from Armand LeSage and John Wantz. Maybe that is why Paul Powondra chose to stand.

The evening ended early because Ken had an early appointment, but not before we toasted Ken's birthday and all of the wonderful people in our industry. Maybe that is why we all look younger than we actually are.

HOMINY HILL MEETS THE CHALLENGE

by Shaun Barry

Recently the state of New Jersey and Hominy Hill G. were the site of another USGA event. This time it was the Women's Amateur Public Links. Like any USGA event they have standards that require a lot of effort.

Continued on page 5

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GCSANJ NEWS

Continued from page 4

Ron Luepke and Dave Pease attended the 1994 tournament to acclimate themselves to the conditions that were expected. They came back knowing that their normal conditions would be good, but that was not good enough for them. They decided to set the standard.



Heidi Olsen, USGA official, thanks Ron Luepke, host superintendent of Hominy Hills G.C., at the completion of play of USGA Women's Amateur Public Links Championship.

If you noticed that Ron has not been visible at meetings this year, you now know why. Every week was longer than the last. Finally the tournament started and everybody began to relax. Well, almost everyone. Steve Curry was seen with a glazed look in his eyes after he left the TV trailer. He thought he was seeing the Masters.

At the end of play each day an army of machinery roared to life and headed out to keep perfection perfect. They succeeded. Then on the final day everyone grabbed a rope and helped with crowd control. When Ron accepted the accolades from the USGA, he did so in the name of everyone who helped. He was right. He couldn't have done it without them, but they couldn't have done it without him. Congratulations to all and can the U.S. Amateur be far away?

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Greenside welcomes the following new members:

John F. Alexander	B	Cranbury G.C.	Dist. 3
Christopher Boyle	B-1	Essex County C.C.	Dist. 2
Steven M. DeLellis	B-1	Bunker Hill G.C.	Dist. 3
Tod Jackson	D	Cherry Hill C.C.	Dist. 3
John Long	B-1	AGC South Shore G.C.	Dist. 2
Marc McMullen	B-1	Essex County C.C.	Dist. 2
Michael Miner	A	Montammy G.C.	Dist. 1
Eric Neville	B-1	Somerset Hills C.C.	Dist. 2
Richard G. Patrick	B-1	Stone Harbor G.C.	Dist. 4
Frank Polizzi	A	Flanders Valley G.C.	Dist. 2
Jeffrey Staeger	B-1	Stone Harbor G.C.	Dist. 4
Joseph C. Stegman	B	American Golf Corp.	Dist. 4

Changes

Rolf Strobel B-1 to B Concordia G.C.

Reinstatements

Brian Remo B-1 Lake Mohawk G.C. Dist. 1
 Gary Stedman A Battle Ground C.C. Dist. 3

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER OF THE GCSANJ FAMILY

*by Gerald Fountain
 Seacoast Labs*

John and Jill Gasper have added a little girl, Julia Marie, to their family. She was born on June 14, 1995, at 8:15 a.m. and weighed 8 lbs. 15 oz. Julia Marie has an older brother named

Continued on page 6

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GCSANJ NEWS

Continued from page 5

Jarrold who is three years old. John is the superintendent at the Ridgewood Country Club.

DISTRICT III GOES BACK TO SCHOOL

by Shaun Barry

District III recently held their August Meeting at Peddie School G.C. This was the first chance that many of our members had to play the course, while many others did not even know that the course existed.

At the end of the day everyone praised the great job George Thompson and his small, but dedicated, crew had done. It was hard to tell that we were in the middle of a "summer to forget." If George had known what was in store weatherwise before he volunteered, I'm sure he would have opted for a December meeting.

The day of the event, however, was beautiful, and everyone seemed to relax. Jim Woods continued his winning ways with a 77. He beat Mark Kriews by one shot. On the net side, Shaun (Mr. Yipes) Barry one-putted the last four greens for a winning score of 67. Gene Stiles and Mark Peterson were closest to the pin. M. Kriews, M. Peterson, and Brad Simpkins won the long drive contest for their flights. Making the District Team were J. Woods (77), M. Kriews (78), S. Barry (81), Harry Harsin (82), Kevin Giles (82), and Fran Owsik (83) on a match of cards with Ken Mathis and Tony Toto. Steve Chirip, Pat Wall, and Joe Lucas had one skin each while S. Barry and Steve DeLellis came away with two.

Many thanks to John Bolla and all of the people at Peddie for allowing us to have such a wonderful day. I hope we can do it again.

JULY MEETING: SPRINGDALE C.C.

by Steve Chirip

Another promising day, another monthly meeting. It is always new! Springdale C.C. and Charlie Dey were our hosts for the day. After a light lunch our 1:00 p.m. shotgun went off right on time. The format for the day was a Modified Scramble. It's funny how Shaun Barry always comes up with these kinds of tournaments when he is out of town. The weather held and some great golf was played.

The winning team of Mark Kriews, Ken Mathis, Mark Peterson, and Rolf Strobel shot 305. In second was the team of Harry Harsin, Jeff Wetterling, Bob Prickett, and Steve Willard with a score of 317. The other prize winners for the day were on Hole #2, Angelo Petraglia, closest to the pin; on Hole #15, Mark MacDonald, closest to the pin; and long drive was won by John Farrell.

There were three skins that held up for the day; they were Doug Larson, Dave Campion, and Tony Toto. There was also one semi-final match played in our two man best ball event. The team of Jim Cross and Jim Woods defeated the team of Dennis Shea and Steve Chirip. This was done on the 1st playoff hole as the match ended even after 18 holes. Congratulations and good luck to the Jims.

If you left early you missed a great steak and seafood dinner; also a very informative talk on water conservation by Steve Malikowski. Actually Steve was third choice, Nigel was busy and Ed Walsh was looking for shoelaces for those work boots.

Thanks again to Charlie Dey, Springdale, Steve, and a special thanks to all those who helped at check in: Gerald, Ed, Clyde, and John. Sorry if I left anyone out. Thanks again.

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Reflections

Ilona Gray's excellent editorial in the May-June *Greenside* caused me to pause and reflect about Memorial Day. She mentioned in the next to last paragraph that many GCSANJ members may have memories of our last three wars. *Are there any other WW2 veterans out there, still active? You remember four wars ago. Or am I the last dinosaur? Fellas, please let me know if there are any of you out there?*

Reflections on Bob Leslie. A couple of years ago, I had the pleasure of playing golf with Bob at Somerset Hills. The others in the foursome shall remain nameless. I think Bob had the lowest score in our group and did not seem upset with what the rest of us did. A truly patient man!

Sky Bergen, Jr.

To the Editor:

I recently read "A Perfect Ten," in the May/June issue. I began to laugh and feel a sense of relief!

- My husband always gets undressed on the back patio.
- Everyone on the street and all our family members abuse him because his feet are so white, and he appears to be wearing socks and shoes (when he's not).
- We buy more "work" clothes every year because everything is full of dirt or grease.
- It is helpful to know that I don't have the only living room that looks like a recently cut fairway.

Thank you, Barbara Beam, for making me feel better, and remember, you are not alone!

Sue Brennan
Spouse of Rod Brennan, Asst. Supt.
Springdale G.C., Princeton

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Reminder: GCSANJ scholarship deadline nears

The GCSANJ Turf Scholarship Program is once again accepting scholarship applications for academic year 1995-96. Students meeting the following criteria are encouraged to apply.

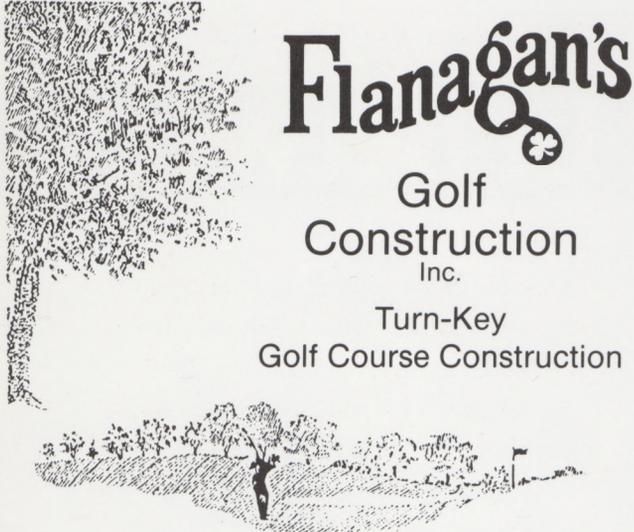
- Two-year turf management students (including Winter School) who have completed the first year of the program.
- Four-year turf management students who have completed the second year of the program.
- Graduate students enrolled in a turf management program.
- Employed at a GCSANJ member's golf course for two seasons. Can be a summer worker.
- Committed to a career as a golf course superintendent.
- Recommended by their GCSANJ member employer.
- Recommended by their academic advisor.

To obtain the necessary application forms, contact GCSANJ Scholarship and Research Committee, 66 Morris Ave., Suite 2A, Springfield, NJ 07081 or call Judy Policastro at (201) 379-1100.

The deadline for all applications is November 3, 1995. GCSANJ scholarships are awarded without regard to race, sex, creed, age, or national origin.

Wanted: Vintage turfgrass equipment

The New Jersey Turfgrass Association has announced it is seeking vintage turfgrass equipment for a special display at The Silver Anniversary NJTA Expo in Atlantic City, which is scheduled for December 12-14. Contact Bob Dickison at (201) 916-5391.



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RU ready for turf research tour

by Dr. Bruce Clarke

On the afternoon of August 3, there was a tour of the research facilities at Rutgers University's Cook College, Turf Research Farm off of Ryders Lane in New Brunswick. A barbecue dinner, sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey, followed the tour. Hopefully, this will be the first of many because this function was designed to encourage superintendents to meet with the research faculty of Rutgers and discuss the latest results on golf course turfgrass management, pathology, and breeding. We had about 45 people attend and hope next year to double the attendance. This was quite a different and separate event from the annual Rutgers Research Field Day, and I would like to share the highlights with you.

The tour permitted us to view the bentgrass cultivar evaluation trials under green and fairway cutting heights. Those attending also had the opportunity to discuss the fungicide trials including test plots for basal stem rot anthracnose, brown patch, dollar spot, and summer patch. Further

into the tour we viewed the aerification and top dressing fertilizer studies and some phytotoxicity trials. Rutgers has some

If U2 want 2B informed about the latest developments in turf research, come to next year's tour.

endophyte programs ongoing and these, coupled with the biological disease control test plots, perhaps point to some significant changes in the future of golf course turf management. If U2 want 2B informed about the latest developments in turf research, come to next year's tour.

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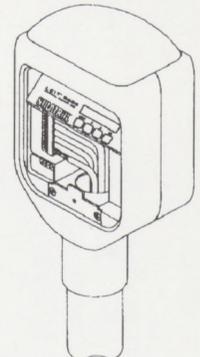
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- * Many local golf courses are currently using these heads. References are available upon request.

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Exciting times at Cook College

by Chris Carson

Cook College's nationally known and respected turf program is undergoing a positive metamorphosis, and the goal of all involved is to develop the best turf research/teaching/extension program in the world. Dr. Bruce Clarke recently spoke with me about changes that are taking place in the turf program, and our conversation included a review of where they have been, what they have achieved, and where they are going in the future. Stimulating times indeed are in store for all of us interested in the education of future superintendents and in research of our turf problems.

"The most exciting thing that has happened to me and Cook in the last 14 years," is how Bruce describes the hiring process that is now going on. "Of the ten total positions being filled this year at Rutgers University, six are in support of turfgrass, and the enthusiasm and momentum that have resulted from this unprecedented support has reinvigorated our already strong program." Rutgers University and Dean Daryl Lund have identified turfgrass as one of the strongest research and extension areas that now exist and have made these supportive moves to promote and improve an already "shining star."

"We are trying to build a teaching program to match our already strong research, and we would like to be known as the place to go for the best undergraduate and graduate turf education in the country," continued Bruce, who, as director

"The most exciting thing that has happened to me and Cook in the last 14 years," is how Bruce describes the hiring process that is now going on.

of the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Turfgrass Science (CISTS), has the role of coordinating the work of more than 30 scientists focusing on turf related problems. "Also, with our new people coming on board and the continued enthusiastic work of our existing CISTS scientists, we expect many new and exciting directions in our research and support work."

Two examples of how the interdisciplinary approach to problem solving has already worked are the recent completion of a DNA probe that can sense the presence of summer patch pathogens in a sample in a matter of minutes as opposed to the previous method of growing out and waiting weeks, and a genetically altered bentgrass that is immune to the herbicide Roundup . . . spray it and the bent survives and the poa dies! "These successes are a true reflection of the spirit of cooperation that exists here at Cook College," continued Bruce, "and have come about because the Center (CISTS) has given us the means of establishing goals and having many different scientists in varied areas of expertise work together to achieve these goals."

The six positions being filled are:

- *Extension specialist in weed science.* Tenure track, assistant professor.
- *Extension specialist in entomology.* Tenure track, assistant professor.
- *Turfgrass ecologist/turfgrass physiologist.* Tenure track, assistant professor.
- *Turfgrass pathologist/mycologist.* Tenure track, assistant professor.
- *Fine turfgrass scientist.* Tenure track, assistant or full professor.
- *Turfgrass position to be named later* (to fill in areas of need after the first five positions have been filled).

The interview process has begun, and the quality of candidates that have already been interviewed has been outstanding . . . in some cases world-class. In an era when most other turf schools are cutting back on positions and support, the addition of these new people to the already strong program of Drs. Funk, Murphy, Clarke, and the entire CISTS team bodes well for the future of turfgrass studies, research, and extension in New Jersey.



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Finding answers in Monmouth County

by Karen A. Plumley, Ph.D.
Storr Tractor Company

Golf course personnel and landscape professionals searching for answers may find them at a little known place in Monmouth County (I am not referring to Kelly's Pub). Brookdale Community College (Lincroft, New Jersey) offers courses in its Ornamental Horticulture Program that will help to unravel the mysteries of turfgrass science. In the fall, Richard Buckley teaches a course entitled *Plant Pests and Diseases*. Many of you are already acquainted with Rich through his other job as coordinator of the Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Clinic (I'll bet most of you don't like to admit just how well you do know Rich). The seemingly endless stream of samples sent into the Plant Diagnostic Clinic ensures that there is never a shortage of infested plant material for his students. Rich covers pest biology and identification, IPM, and control. For those students who are certified pesticide applicators, recertification credits are available.

In the spring, David Pease teaches *Turfgrass Management*. Many of you already know Dave through . . . suffice it to say that many of you already know Dave. For those of you

who don't know Dave, he's the general manager of golf courses for the Monmouth County Park System. Over the course of a 15-week semester, Dave covers topics which include turfgrass anatomy, identification, establishment, culture, and maintenance. A field trip to a reputable golf facility (can you guess which one?) is usually included.

Also offered in the spring is a course in *Soil Science*, taught by me. Many of you already know me as either 1) a Storr Tractor employee, 2) a Rutgers University student, or 3) a superintendent's wife. I teach soil science from the perspective of plants and how the condition of the soil impacts upon them. The course material ranges from soil formation to interpreting a soil test report.

All three courses are offered in the evening to accommodate students who work full time. Brookdale Community College has an open enrollment policy (anyone over the age of 18 is admitted), and courses can be taken without entering a degree program. Please contact the Admissions Office for further information.

In case you're wondering why I wrote this article, it's not only meant to be a public service to the turfgrass community, it's a free "plug" for my course, and I hope to see you in it!

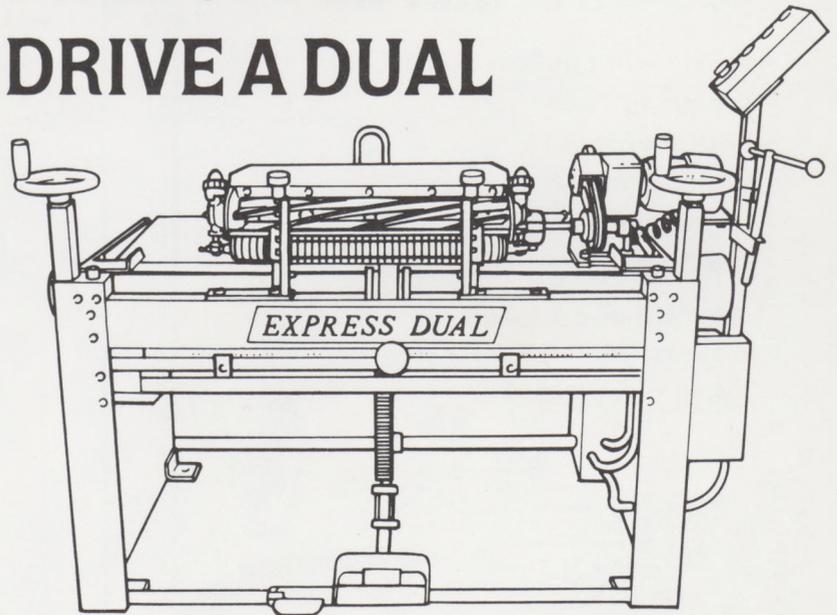
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On the road to the Open

by Shaun Barry

There are trips of a lifetime and then there are "Trips of a Lifetime." Recently two superintendents decided independently of each other to do just that. According to a reliable source, Steve Cadenelli, CGCS, (Metedeconk National G.C.) and Paul Latshaw (Congressional C.C.) were seen in the birthplace of golf. Both were there because it was St. Andrews and because it was "The Open."

BIGGA (British and International Golf Greenkeeper Association) had its headquarters off the 17th hole. Here you could sit with a pint and a sandwich while discussing turf with people from all over the world. Then you headed out to enjoy the experience. Palmer said good-bye, Nicklaus had a ten, Paul walked the course as an active member of the divoting crew, Steve became one with the people and the country, and Rich and Nancy Hurley had a great time even without their clubs.

There were many lessons learned during this trip. Some were that forward is not always the proper direction for hitting out of bunkers and don't ever play a greenskeeper by the name of Iain Macleod for money. Just play for the pure

pleasure of watching him hit the ball.

The whole experience is one everyone should make happen. Yes, it is in the middle of the summer but Steve is already planning on returning in the year 2000 if it is at St. Andrews. I believe there might be a few rooms available. Think about it.



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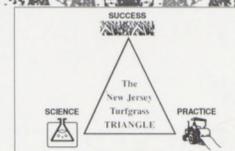
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Quotes and misquotes

by Doug Vogel

"Greenskeeping is 90% physical, the other half is environmental." *Golf sage Yogi Berra*

"Good golf is played between the ears." *Golf great Bobby Jones*

"The six inches between the ears is the distance that matters the most." *GCSAA member Arnold Palmer*

"There is no good golf between these ears." *Ken Krausz, CGCS*
"Give me camera or give me death." *Unknown patriot in his impassioned plea to the GCSAA intelligentsia*

"Golf is for the birds." *Environmental vision of NYAS found-*

ing member Teddy Roosevelt

"Four score and seven outings ago." *Jim Pelrine when asked when did his handicap drop to a 2.*

"One if by land, two if by sea." *Shaun Barry's tournament stroke counting system*

"Nay Sunday play." *Old Tom Morris*

"No Monday play." *Old Ed Walsh*

"We have play Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, . . ." *Old Steve Malikowski*

"There is not a sprig of grass that shoots uninteresting to me." *Early turf pioneer Thomas Jefferson*

New faculty at Rutgers

by Dr. Bruce Clarke

To help Rutgers prepare for the future, we recently have hired Dr. Jim White from Auburn University in Alabama. Dr. White will start this September and comes to us with eight years experience in turf mycology. He is a world authority on endophytes in turfgrass. Of more im-

mediate interest, the leadership of the GCSANJ and the Center for Turfgrass Research has been working to double the bentgrass area for bentgrass research in New Brunswick. This will permit us to evaluate the changes in the USGA greens construction recommendations. If you would like more information on this project, please contact Dr. Jim Murphy or me.

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Don't get green at green speeds

by Jozsef L. de Kovacs CCM, Director of Operations
Deal Golf and Country Club

Angelo Petraglia and I ventured over to several other courses to see if Deal Golf & Country Club was truly in the slow lane when it came to green speeds. We had received member comments that our course was not as fast as others and recognized the need to address these. As superintendents and club managers, we know that there are many factors that can affect green speeds, and the situation at Deal is not unique. Nevertheless, we have to be in a position to explain the basis for green speeds so that it can be addressed with concerned members. An outline guide was prepared for this and is shared with you below. The bottom line is that some players will prefer the faster greens, while others will find them too much of a challenge and a frustration in the game. The speed answer is different for different courses. The role of the superintendent is to make the game fun and challenging for the players. I hope the outline we used at Deal can help you do this.

I. Green speed is affected by the following factors:

1. Soil Type

- A. Sandy Soil = Faster Surface
- B. Silt & Clay = Slower Surface

2. Drainage

- A. Good Drainage = Faster Surface
- B. Poor Drainage = Slower Surface

3. Sunlight

- A. Full Sun = Faster Surface
- B. Shady = Slower Surface
- C. Cloudy Day = Slower Surface

4. Moisture/Rain

- A. Rain = Slow Surface
- B. Humidity = Slow Surface

5. Height of Cut

- A. Low Cut 1/8" = Fast Surface/Weak Turf
- B. Moderate Cut 5/32 - 9/64 = Medium - Fast Surface/Hearty Turf

6. Fertility

- A. Starving Turf = Fast Surface/Poor Color & Weak Turf
- B. Proper Diet = Medium - Fast Surface/Healthy Turf
- C. Too Much Fertility = Slow Surface/Weak Turf

7. Wind

- A. Windy Day = Fast Surface/Dry Turf

8. Firmness

- A. Hard Surface = Fast Surface/Balls bounce over green
- B. Medium - Hard Surface = Medium - Fast Surface/Balls from fairway hold

9. Density of Turf

- A. Thin Turf = Fast Bumpy Surface/Weak Turf
- B. Dense Turf = Medium - Fast Surface/True Roll

10. Frequency of Cut

- A. Double or Triple Cutting = Fast Surface
- B. Single Cutting = Medium - Fast Surface

11. Top Dressing

- A. Frequent - Light Top Dressing = Firmer, faster surface
Requires six hours of maintenance time per treatment

12. Verticutting

- A. Temporary speed increaser, but stresses turf in hot weather

Continued on page 16

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Don't get green

Continued from page 14

13. Rolling

A. Temporary speed increaser, but compacts soil and can ruin drainage if done in wet weather

14. Undulations

A. Severe undulations will be scalped when mowed too low = Dead Turf

15. Turf Type

A. Bentgrass = Truer Roll & Faster Surface

B. POA = Bumpy Roll & Slower Surface

II. Program at Deal

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2. Removal of trees near greens for better sunlight and air circulation.
3. Reduced watering times on sprinklers for dryer surface.
4. Height of cut lowered as low as is possible dictated by

the most severe undulations.

5. Turf is fertilized to maintain proper health and recuperating potential.
6. Fast green speeds are attained when possible, based on weather and time available to perform maintenance for speed.

III. Green Speed Advantages

1. Some players prefer fast greens.
2. The game is more challenging with fast green speeds.

IV. Green Speed Disadvantages

1. Most players can not handle fast green speeds. Instead of 1-2 putting each green they will be 3-4 putting each green. Scores will increase.
2. Slow Play - caused by people spending too much time on the greens 3-4 putting. 5-6 hour rounds likely.
3. Hard Greens - players balls will bounce over greens. Greens will not hold their shots from the rough or poorly hit shots from fairway.
4. Poor Color of Turf - Golfers will be putting on browns not greens.
5. Turf quality will decline in the hot, humid weather.
6. Cost - More money spent on fungicides, herbicides and insecticides. More money spent on overtime work. More money spent on machines.
7. Reality - Not all greens can be fast at all times. Even U.S. Open greens are not fast all year. They are made fast for one week out of the year. The greens health are sacrificed for the money earned that week.

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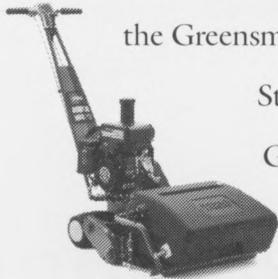
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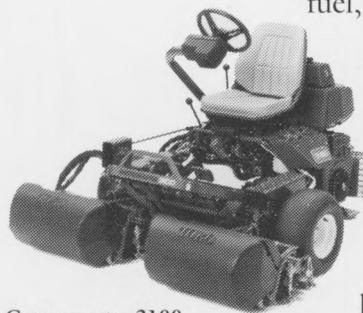
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Willet Wilt says:

Editor's Note: Paul Powondra requested us to reprint this Willet Wilt from the September-October 1986 issue of The Greenside.

The autumn brings to mind a comparison that can be considered quite apt: that of the golf course superintendent and the football coach. On TV you see a harried coach pacing up and down the sidelines studying his eleven players on a 50 by 100 yard field. That doesn't seem as tough when you consider that the golf course superintendent is trying to manage his crew over 150 acres plus. At least the football coach can see his players. The golf course superintendent is lucky if he can find his.

The coach has eleven guys on the field plus at least thirty on the bench, while the golf course superintendent is praying that his assistant will show up on the weekend to change the pin placements and at least a portion of the crew will show up to mow the greens.

The football coach has a limited number of game days, whereas for the golf course superintendent practically every day is a game day—rain or shine.

Crew appearance must also be noted. The football coach

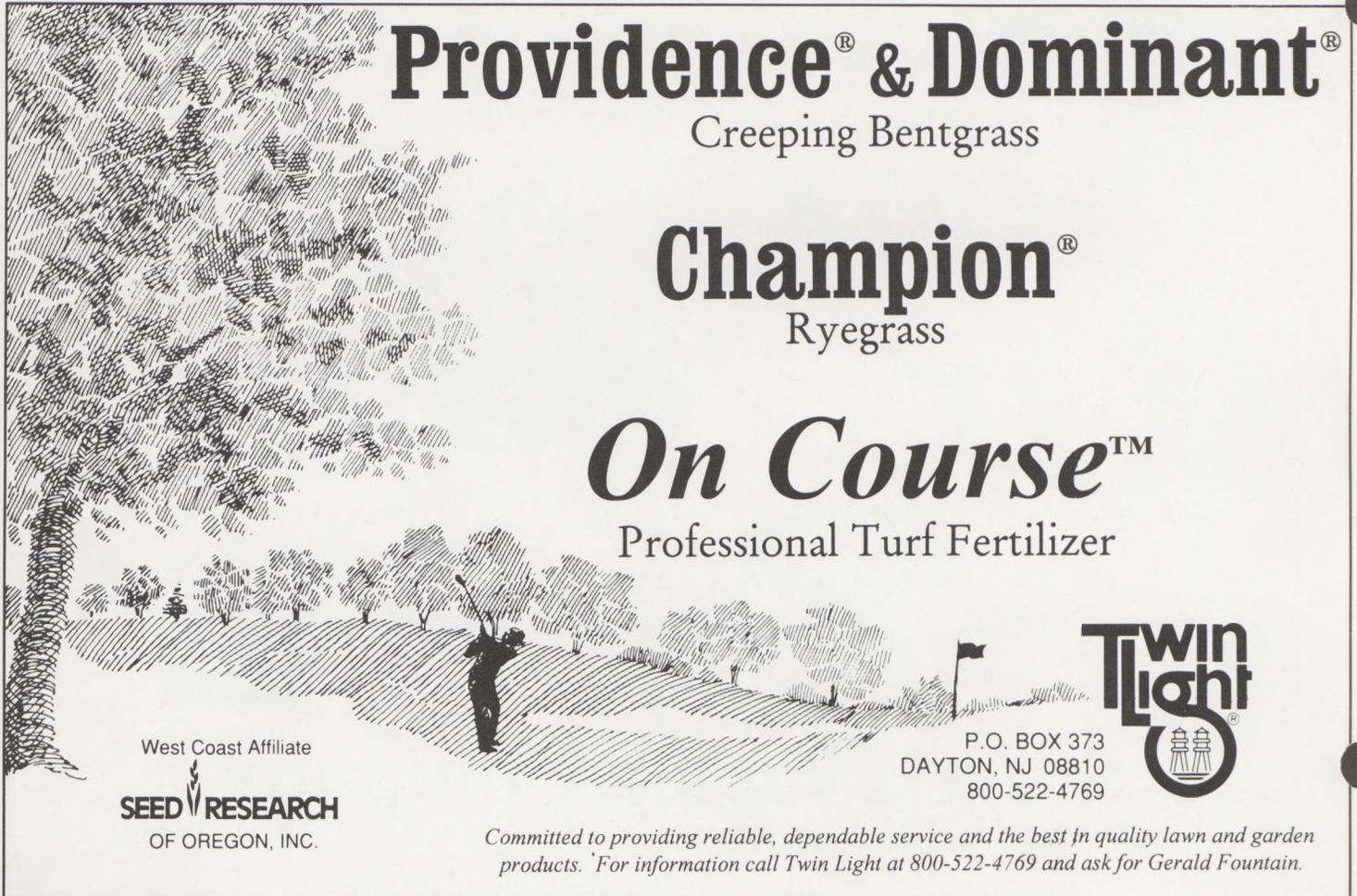
has his team start out each game in clean uniforms, while the golf course superintendent's crew usually dresses as if they were going to be extras in "Rambo III."

The coach goes into a game hoping for a win; the golf course superintendent starts the day just praying for a tie. The coach hopes it doesn't snow, whereas the golf course superintendent says, "Let it fly!"

You also note that football players and golf course workers have a strong tendency to do a lot of grunting and groan-



Continued on page 19



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Retirement: when less is more

by James K. Woods

Registered representative with
New England Securities,
Investment, and Insurance Planning

Discipline is more tolerable when the goal is in sight. That is certainly the case when it comes to investing. Why is it easier to put money away for next year's vacation than for something that's 20 or 30 years off . . . retirement?

Getting an early start on investing for retirement is one of the most important steps you can take to help secure your future.

"Time lost is lost forever." - Will Rogers

Kurt and John didn't give much thought to retirement during the early steps of their careers. Immediate financial needs always seemed to outweigh those in the future.

But as the years passed and their incomes increased, they both began to think more seriously about their retirements.

When Kurt turned 30 he started investing \$166.66 per month (\$2,000 per year) in an IRA. He continued this for ten

years and then stopped. John chose to wait until he was 40 years old before making the same investment. He, however, stayed with his program until his 65th birthday.

What was the price of waiting?

Kurt (age 30)
\$2,000/year
10 years
Total amount invested: \$20,000
Value at age 65: \$379,890

John (age 40)
\$2,000/year
25 years
Total investment: \$50,000
Value at age 65: \$216,364



Both investments assume the same 10% rate of return. Even though John invested 2 1/2 times more money over a longer period of time, he paid a substantial price for waiting.

The keys to accumulating retirement assets are time and discipline, start now and contribute regularly. Until you put time to work for you, it works against you.

Willet Wilt says:

Continued from page 18

ing as they perform their respective tasks. On the football field, the teams line up on their respective forty yard lines and start the game. With this summer's golf course crews you were lucky if they found the course.

Another interesting attitude that must be noted is that the football coach wants a longer season and the golf superintendent hopes for a shorter one.

An often asked question of the golf course superintendent and the football coach is why do they do what they do. The answer always is, "It's a dirty job, but somebody has to do it."

If you have any comments about this column or would like to purchase the new video board game, "The Jersey Superintendent Meets Godzilla," please get in contact with Ken Kubik, Mt. Freedom, NJ.

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Departures

By Jozsef L. de Kovacs, CCM, CHA, Director of Operations
Deal Golf and Country Club

Plagued again by the onslaught of Canadian Geese, the Deal Golf and Country Club traded their feathered mascots for a furry one . . .

An estimated 63,000 Canadian Geese made themselves at home in the Garden State this year. The majority of them, it seemed, landed at the Deal Golf and Country Club where they wreaked havoc on our greens, our equipment, and, most importantly . . . our members.

The problems presented by the Canadian Geese were not new to us. We have been struggling with their growing numbers since the 1980s when these migrating geese first discovered our fresh water ponds and lush greens.

Convinced that the problem could be solved without the drastic measures suggested by Department of Agriculture's Animal Damage Control, we took to noisemakers and other "scare tactics" including, most recently, Meg, a well-trained working Border Collie from Yardley, Pennsylvania.

Every morning at 5:00 a.m. and every evening at 7:00 p.m., Meg and I went to work. Providing her own version of the "hunter ambush approach," Meg threatened the geese's security by wading through their ponds and chasing strays until her command, "that'll do, Meg," sounded from the golf cart to where she diligently returned.

After only four weeks of work, Meg had successfully scared the feathered squatters from the course, and it was time for her to leave. My job now was ultimately the most difficult of all. I sat Meg down and let her know her job was done, it was done well, and now it was time for her to go.

Looking into her brown eyes, I remembered her head bobbing along the pond's surface as she waded with the geese; the way she would always lose her balance in the golf cart, never prepared for a turn; the way she wagged her tail when I brought her a bone from the kitchen; and I wondered if she was as sad as I for her to leave.

She spent the next five days in her cage on our course



watching me, until her owner arrived, and I knew we shared not only a sense of accomplishment, but a deep sadness. For that week we had to say good-bye to the departing geese and on that morning we said good-bye to each other.

Do dogs mourn? Like us, dogs form deep relationships and grow very attached not only to humans but to other animals as well. I wonder how my Meg will spend the rest of her life, in a cage, perhaps, or under the front steps waiting for me to call on her again.

.....

New turf management course for college credit

The University System of Georgia has recently announced the availability of an independent study course in turfgrass management. Through the use of detailed lesson plans, textbook, lab manual, and videotapes, an individual can earn college credit while completing this course in the comfort of their home or workplace. All the basic principles of turfgrass management for both cool-season and warm-season turfgrasses are thoroughly covered. For example, some of the topics include: turfgrass selection, soils, establishment, mowing, fertilization, irrigation, thatch control, pest control, etc. In addition, the course offers laboratory-type exercises on turfgrass and seed identification, spreader and sprayer calibration, pest identification, etc.

For more information call the University of Georgia Independent Study Office at (706) 542-3242 or fax (706) 542-5590.

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GCSAA NEWS

GCSAA TO SPONSOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

Schoolchildren will soon be able to learn about nature from such things as bird feeding stations, nature trails, and wildlife gardens, thanks to the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's (GCSAA) sponsorship of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Schools.

The Audubon Society of New York State will administer the program with help from GCSAA. The GCSAA Board of Directors recently authorized sponsorship of the program, designed to teach elementary and secondary schoolchildren about the environment. GCSAA will provide financial support as well as professional services such as developing videos and training materials.

The purpose of the program is to teach students about

nature, wildlife, water, and waste. The children learn by participating in hands-on habitat enhancement and conservation projects in the classroom and on the school grounds.

GCSAA President Gary Grigg, CGCS, said he is pleased with GCSAA's involvement with the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Schools: "GCSAA is very proud to sponsor a program that brings schools and golf courses together to teach the benefits of good environmental practices. We believe this program will help students understand the importance of green spaces such as golf courses in their communities," Grigg said.

Tim Hiers, CGCS at Collier's Reserve in Naples, Florida, has had more than 300 students from kindergarten through college visit the Reserve, which was designated the first Audubon Signature Cooperative Sanctuary Golf Course after

Continued on page 22

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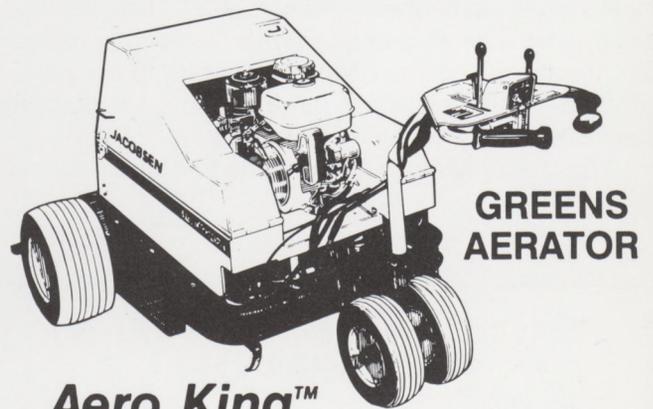


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GCSAA NEWS

Continued from page 21

its opening in January 1994. "I focus on the positive aspects of environmental compatibility by showing the students habitat enhancement and retention, and the quality of interspersion (food, cover, water, space) that exist on the property and how these things benefit wildlife," he said. "The latest technology utilizing energy efficiency, water conservation, and waste management is clearly illustrated to the students."

Of the 300-plus letters of thanks that Collier's Reserve has received from the students, a significant number said that although they had always heard that golf courses were not environmentally friendly, they were glad to see firsthand that this negative perception is not true.

GCSAA JOINS PESTICIDE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has announced it will participate in the federal government's new Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program. Under the program, GCSAA will work in partnership with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to develop a strategy that further reduces risks from the use of pesticides on golf courses.

"We are absolutely committed to using responsible management practices that pose little, if any, environmental risk," said GCSAA President Gary Grigg, CGCS. "Through this partnership, we'll be able to work with the leading federal authorities to find new and innovative ways to use pesticides effectively and safely and to minimize any potential harm to people, wildlife, and the environment."

The stewardship program is the first under a commit-

ment made by the three agencies before the U.S. House of Representatives in September 1993. The program commits the agencies to work jointly with pesticide user groups.

In a news release announcing the pesticide initiative, Carol M. Browner, EPA administrator, said, "I congratulate the companies and grower groups that are joining with us for their forward-thinking approach to environmentally sound pesticide use practices and look forward to seeing others follow their lead."

The EPA's Anne Leslie, who will coordinate GCSAA's strategy development, said, "We are very pleased that GCSAA has joined our Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program, and I look forward to working with this professional organization in developing their strategy."

The framework for the strategy emphasizes education,

Continued on page 23

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Water works

How safe is our drinking water? Very safe, thank you. Yet there are organizations that would like to exploit this question in the media. Individuals working in the pesticide industry or who utilize pesticides in their work need to know the facts. So here they are:

Public Drinking Water - The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish and enforce public drinking water standards for 84 different contaminants, including various pesticides. The standards are based on extensive health and safety testing and indicate the legal limit, called the *maximum contaminant level* (MCL), permissible for a pesticide in drinking water supplied by public water systems.

Setting Pesticide Safety Limits in Drinking Water - In setting pesticide MCLs, the EPA requires many studies with laboratory animals, fed at very high doses of pesticides, to look for potential signs of cancer, behavioral or growth changes, and birth, reproductive and other effects.

Drinking Water Safety Limits Extremely Protective - To protect every member of society, including pregnant women, children, the elderly and the infirm, MCLs are set at least 100-fold to 1,000-fold lower than the pesticide dosage found to have no biological effect at all in the laboratory animals.

Safety Limits Very Conservative - Pesticide MCLs are based on conservative assumptions that: 1) persons consume all of their water from the same source for their entire lives; 2) the lifetime's supply contains the maximum contaminant level; 3) each person daily drinks more than two quarts of the supply.



GCSAA NEWS

Continued from page 22

training, research and continued development, and careful use of pest control products that pose risks. According to Leslie, superintendents are already doing many things very well. "GCSAA has already demonstrated a commitment to educate its members in less risky pest control methods by initiating an IPM curriculum as a part of their certification program. GCSAA has also established its own Environmental Stewardship Awards program, which highlights the efforts of individual superintendents to reduce the risk of pesticides to the environment. A large number of superintendents have enthusiastically adopted the New York Audubon Society's Cooperative Sanctuary Program, which is an important part of this," she said.

Plans call for the strategy to be developed in 1995 and announced during the Environmental General Session of the GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show next February in Orlando, Florida.

Humanly Impossible to Exceed Safety Limits - Over an average life span of 70 years, a person would have to drink thousands of gallons of tap water each day to even approach the MCL for a typical corn or soybean herbicide.

Public Water Suppliers Strictly Regulated - Unlike bottled water, which is not regulated by the EPA, public water suppliers are required to meet both federal and state drinking water standards. To do so, they routinely monitor their supplies and filter or otherwise treat the water most Americans drink.

EPA Water Study Affirms Safety - The most recent study (1991) by the EPA of the nation's well water concluded that 96 percent of America's 10.5 million rural wells (whose water is unpurified) are completely free of detectable traces of any of the 120 pesticides looked for. The Agency predicted that greater than 99 percent of the wells tested were free of any pesticide traces exceeding federal safety limits.

Agriculture Protects Water Supplies - A wide variety of pollution prevention practices have been adopted by farmers and growers in recent years, thereby reducing agriculture's impact on water quality. At the federal level,

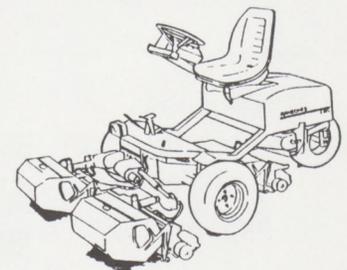
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Water works

Continued from page 23

agriculture is also working with the states, the nation's public drinking water suppliers, the EPA, and others to include pollution prevention measures in the Safe Drinking Water Act reauthorization.

WHAT THE EXPERTS ARE SAYING

"It's time for us to recognize that a whole industry exists to invent, propagate and then alleviate health scares... There's too much at stake for the health scare industry to admit to the shortcomings of epidemiology."

Philip E. Ross, Forbes Magazine, August 14, 1995

"Even in those relatively few situations where pesticide concentrations exceed drinking water standards, adverse health effects are unlikely because of the safety factors incorporated in the standards."

Dr. David Baker, Director of Water Quality Laboratory, Heidelberg College

"There is little evidence that pesticides currently in use are causing any damage to human health or the environment ...

We have a system in place for analyzing the risk of very small amounts of pesticides in food, the same approach applies to water."

Dr. R. Don Wauchope, Research Chemist, USDA/Agricultural Research Service

"These survey results indicate that the proportion of wells nationwide found to contain any particular pesticide or pesticide degradate is low... Survey results do not demonstrate any immediate widespread health problems."

National Pesticide Survey, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

"... the system appears to be capable of maintaining overall risk at acceptably low levels, because of the use of safety factors which are thought to be conservative... The pesticide uses allowed by the current regulatory system appear, with occasional exceptions, to keep U.S. water and food within established safety limits and there is no conclusive evidence that allowed concentrations are the source of any human health effects."

Pesticides in Surface and Ground Water, Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, Issue Paper, April 1994

More money, more money, more money?

Our government is out to save big bucks and that's great. The latest deal sounds like a real winner. With 100 sponsors, the U.S. House of Representatives has proposed a bill to issue a one dollar coin. I don't know why it's a bill to introduce a coin, but that's another subject for a "Back Nine" article. At any rate, this new dollar coin will cost about eight cents to make versus three cents for a dollar bill

made from paper. A dollar bill lasts only 17 months. The ones my wife lets me have last about as long as a cup of coffee and a donut. The coin in theory will last thirty years, according to the bill's sponsors. We know better. The coins will last indefinitely, because they probably won't be used. Just ask the friends of the 1978 Susan B. Anthony dollar, if you can find any.

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Don't delay: Be ready to plant turfgrass

By Ilona Gray

Edited by Dr. James Murphy

Late summer is the best time to plant turfgrass and many ornamentals. Cooler weather and more reliable rain fall generally occur during this time of year, providing good conditions for germinating seeds and young seedlings. In addition, summer annual weed pressure is not a great problem compared to summer plantings; however, annual bluegrass (a winter annual) germination can be a serious concern. An early seeding date and selection of a well-adapted variety should minimize the problem of annual bluegrass invasion into a new seeding.

There are many factors that must come together for successful establishment of turf. We can't control rainfall, but we can control soil pH and fertility, variety selection, and planting date. Consider the items described below to help increase the likelihood of a successful planting of turfgrass and ornamentals.

Test your soil. Take soil samples for pH and fertility analysis. Applications of limestone and fertilizer, if required, should be applied as recommended prior to planting to

help improve soil conditions. Don't forget that most species prefer a soil pH in the range of 6.0 to 6.7. If large quantities of nutrients or limestone are required, they are best incorporated into the soil before planting to increase fertility in the root zone of turf.

Choose species and varieties that are best adapted to the site you are planting. Consider the environmental conditions including soil pH, fertility and drainage, air circulation, exposure to sunlight (shade), and tree root competition. Also select varieties that are recommended by Rutgers Cooperative Extension for New Jersey. Consult the 1994 *Rutgers Turfgrass Proceedings* or your extension specialist in Turfgrass Management for assistance with species and variety selection.

Plant at the right time. In New Jersey, planting should be done between mid-August and mid-October. This means that now is the time to plant and overseed turfgrasses.

These recommendations will help increase the successful establishment of a new seeding, planting, or overseeding on your golf course. Contact your state extension specialist for more information.



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Back Nine

TGIF: The Turfgrass Information File is billed as the industry's largest single source of turfgrass information. It's available on line (via a modem) or a hard copy. For more information, please contact (517) 353-7209.

HGE, a New Tick Born Disease: A recently identified disease proves that tick bites are more dangerous than ever. HGE, or Human granulocytic ehrlichiosis, is a sometimes fatal bacterial disease transmitted by the Deer Tick. This is the same vector that brought us Lyme Disease. The new disease has similar symptoms as Lyme except they are more intense. HGE does not produce the bullseye rash making early diagnosis more difficult. HGE can debilitate its victim in hours. No cases have been reported in New Jersey, though New York has had 17 cases reported. Four deaths have been reported nationwide.

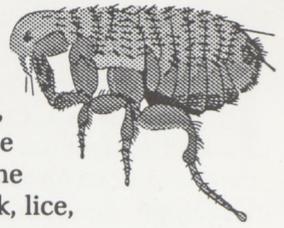
New Dean of Cook College: Dr. Tim Casey has assumed the position of acting dean of Cook College replacing outgoing dean, Daryl Lund. Dr. Casey has been with Cook College for 17 years and this experience makes him very familiar with both Cook and its mission.

Strategy to Advance Regulatory Reform (STARR): This is a government initiative sponsored by Governor Whitman: "We can make the regulatory process smarter without losing the gains the state has made in environmental protection. I assure you we will continue to use our resources to focus on the bad polluters."

Hey, Big Spender: Americans coughed up over 25.9 billion dollars last year for their lawns and gardens. This is more than

the gross domestic product of many small countries put together, and it is more than the U.S. spends on its nuclear arsenal.

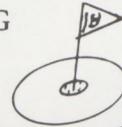
Rotenone: Most of the uses of this organic pesticide will not be reregistered because of costs. These include all agricultural uses and ornamentals, grasses, and wood structural parts. The registrants plan to maintain rotenone uses for fish control and for flea, tick, lice, and mite control on dogs and cats.



Quotes and Misquotes Rebutted by Ken Krausz, CGCS: A certain contributing writer for The Greenside has made disparaging remarks about my golf game! I would like to remind him that in my office is a plaque which shows that in the 1993 GCSANJ Championship at Deal Golf & C.C. I was 3rd Low Net in the C Flight. I also represented District 1 in the Long Drive contest as I outdrove everyone in the C Flight (and kept it in the fairway) at Walkill C.C. that same year. I believe my quote was "I have good golf in distant memories". I would hope that Mr. Vogel gets his quotes accurate in the future! Mr. Vogel is a member of District 1 and should remember that he did not outdrive me that day.

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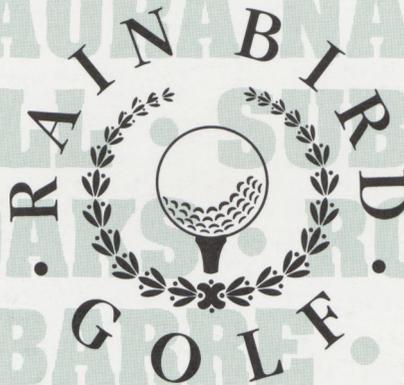
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