

THE

GREENERSIDE

Official Publication of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey

Soil fertility management practices to control summer patch disease

by Joseph R. Heckman, Extension Specialist in Soil Fertility and Bruce Clarke, Extension Specialist in Turfgrass Pathology

The causal agent of summer patch disease, *Magnaporthe poae*, is a fungus that affects *Poa* and *Festuca* species. The fungus forms dark brown to black septate runner hyphae on roots, crowns and rhizomes of turfgrass hosts. Symptoms first appear in early summer with circular patches or rings of wilted turf. Patches grow from two inches in diameter to more than two feet. High temperatures and frequent rains change the patch color from a grayish-green to light straw.

Summer patch can be differentiated from various stresses that may affect turfgrass by examining the roots, rhizomes and crowns. The presence of black to brown runner hyphae and root decay are indicative of summer patch.

Research at Rutgers University has repeatedly demonstrated that the form of nitrogen nutrition used on turf can have a significant influence on the susceptibility of turf summer patch disease. Among the various nitrogen fertilizers that have been evaluated, ammonium sulfate gives the best disease suppression. Nitrate sources of nitrogen enhance the severity of summer patch. These nitrogen fertilizer effects appear to be related to changes in soil pH. Ammonium nutrition causes soil pH reduction whereas nitrate nitrogen raises pH. The acidic environment caused by ammonium sulfate reduces the incidence of summer patch because a lower pH environment discourages the growth of the fungus.

The latest research conducted by Rutgers Cooperative Extension indicates that the use of ammonium sulfate must be balanced with an adequate liming program. Continued use of ammonium sulfate without limestone application may result in an excessively low soil pH and poor quality turf. Soil testing should be performed regularly to monitor soil pH changes. Golf course superintendents may want to obtain a portable pH

meter to check pH frequently.

The following management practices are recommended for maintaining the optimum soil pH needed for quality turf and the suppression of summer patch:

1. Apply ammonium sulfate frequently, but at low rates—about 0.25 to 0.5 lbs. N per 100^o square feet every three to 4 weeks during cool weather. Apply about 1/4-inch of irrigation immediately following the application of am-

Continued on page 4

In this issue



<i>Editorial</i>	2
<i>President's Message</i>	3
<i>GCSANJ News</i>	5
<i>GCSAA News</i>	10
<i>Fairway foxes</i>	16
<i>X-marks the spot</i>	17
<i>It's that time of year</i>	20
<i>Retirement: A long term game</i>	24
<i>Back nine</i>	26

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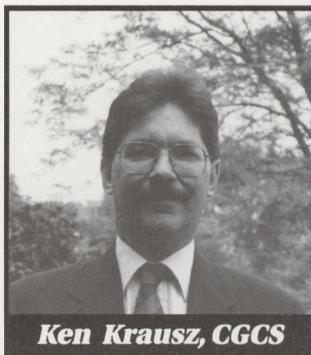
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EDITORIAL



Ken Krausz, CGCS

'Tis the season

It is the season for learning, the season for reflection. The tough seasons are over, and each and every one of us should be looking back and learning from our experiences (note that I did not say mistakes, as some of us never make a mistake). Many of us had great seasons, some of us did well, some of us are no longer employed at the same club where we started the year.

I did not have a great year, although I did OK. If someone told me that Summer Patch and Anthracnose would be a big problem for me this year, I would have thought that they were crazy. I have all the preventative applications down for Summer Patch. I also had Summer Patch this year. It was not that hot, but the spring did bring a lot of rain. Maybe moisture plays a bigger role than suspected before. In 1988, when the last big outbreak of Summer Patch sprung, it was wet and hot.

Anthracnose was never a problem at Paramus Golf Course before, but Dr. Jim Murphy diagnosed it this year. It is a good year for learning for me. At least my tees and fairways look better than ever. Golf course superintendents are their own worst critics, and this is a good thing. Most golfers thought my course looked fine, hardly any questions on conditions. One lesson I learned years ago came into play this season. If someone told me years ago that the course looked great, I would have answered, "Thanks, and we will get those greens back in shape soon." I learned a long time ago just to say thanks, because they may not notice the greens or any other problem if you do not mention it.

It is a season for learning, so I look forward to seeing many of you over the winter at all the seminars and shows, LEARNING, LEARNING and more LEARNING.

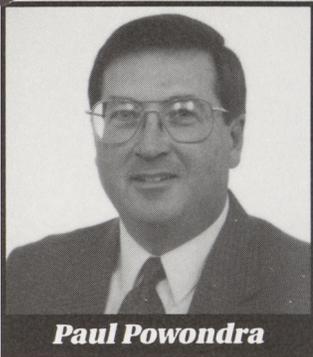
Check out the two articles on soil fertility and pH meters; they are written by some of the best researchers around. Joseph R. Heckman and Bruce Clarke write about controlling Summer Patch with soil fertility management. Joseph Heckman also has a piece about pocket-size soil pH meters. I know that both articles have helped me continue to learn.

Thanks to all who met the October 1 deadline. The deadline for the January/February 1997 *Greenside* is December 1.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



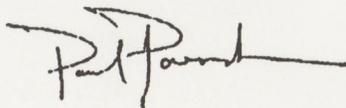
Make the call

Wrapping up my term as president of GCSANJ, I re-

flected back to the call I made in 1988 to Bruce Peeples. Bruce was a District 3 director at that time, and I told him I was a bit bored and would like to get involved and contribute to our Association. Shortly thereafter I heard from the editor of *The Greenside*, Ilona Gray, and I found myself traveling the state doing profiles of superintendents. By 1989 I got elected to the Board, Steve Finamore assigned me to the Government Relations and Scholarship and Research Committees, and I was also told to get in touch with Ilona again to act as a liaison to something called the Alliance for Environmental Concerns. Eventually, I joined the Alliance Board as well.

Now here I am looking back at having had the honor to be GCSANJ president, but the point here is not necessarily just about Paul Powondra, but rather it is about anyone interested in contributing to our Association. Some may comment that you have to be part of the "in crowd" or that we are cliquish, and to that I will disagree because I certainly knew very few people when I called Bruce Peeples years ago. Believe me, anyone offering to help out with committee tasks is more than welcome, especially from outside the Board. Some people find the involvement interesting enough to seek elective office, while others simply are not able to devote the time required, but contribute in their own way, such as helping out at Field Day or offering their course for a monthly meeting. In any event, it is all greatly appreciated. Don't hesitate to let your Association know you'd like to help out.

On that note, I'd like to thank GCSANJ for the opportunity to be a part of a group of people who are supportive and helpful when the chips are down, and a great source of advice, encouragement and, indeed, humor. It has truly been a growing experience.



Calendar

- Dec. 9-12, 1996** **New Jersey Turfgrass Expo**
Taj Mahal, Atlantic City
908-821-7134
- Jan. 17-18, 1997** **Lake Management**
Cook College, New Brunswick
908-932-9271
- Jan. 20-Feb. 7** **Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School**
Three-week preparatory short course
908-932-8451
- January 28-29** **Center for Turfgrass Science Annual Symposium**
(formerly Advanced Turfgrass Management)
908-932-8451
- January 29-30** **Stabilization and Restoration of Disturbed Sites**
Cook College, New Brunswick
908-932-9271
- January 30** **Internet for the Golf Course Professional**
Rutgers University
908-932-8451
- February 6-12** **GCSAA's 68th International Golf Course Conference and Show**
Las Vegas, Nevada
800-472-7878
- March 3-4** **Introduction to Golf Course Management**
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Pocket-size soil pH meters

by Joseph R. Heckman
Extension Specialist in Soil Fertility

Soil pH is a very useful measurement that is indicative of soil chemical and biological properties important to plant growth. The availability of plant nutrients, activities and nature of microbial populations, solubility of toxic substances and activities of certain pesticides are influenced by soil pH. With so many soil processes affected, it is not surprising that extension workers, golf course superintendents, commercial growers and home gardeners alike are especially interested in rapidly measuring soil pH for diagnostic purposes.

I recently evaluated the suitability of just a few of the relatively inexpensive (\$50 to \$200) pocket-size pH meters being marketed for soil pH measurement. They were compared to a research-grade pH meter. The results showed that the pocket-size meter pH measurements agreed closely with the

research pH meter. They were found to be suitable for measuring soil pH in the field for diagnostic purposes. They should not, however, be expected to take the place of soil fertility tests performed in the laboratory. The relatively low price, ease of use and portability make pocket-size pH meters ideal for routine monitoring of pH for the golf course, commercial crop production or home gardening.

Results of pH meter evaluation and a Fact Sheet (FS767) on procedures to measure soil pH are available on request from Joseph R. Heckman, Extension Specialist Soil Fertility, Plant Science Department, Box 231, Cook College, New Brunswick, NJ 08903; fax: (908) 931-9441, Attn.: Dr. Heckman; phone: (908) 932-9711 ext. 134; e-mail: heckman@aesop.rutgers.edu.

Soil fertility management practices

Continued from page 1

- monium sulfate to prevent fertilizer burn.
2. Check soil pH in the 0- to 2-inch layer in the spring and fall each year.
3. Apply limestone as needed to maintain soil pH near 6.0. Be careful to avoid excessive applications of limestone since this will enhance summer patch development.
4. Improving drainage, reducing compaction, and performing aeration and syringing to reduce heat stress also helps to control summer patch.

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GCSANJ NEWS

THE GREENERSIDE SUPER PROFILE

Mike Mongon of the Arcola C.C. has a simple philosophy and the results show it. "Everyday is a Member/Guest" is the approach taken by the superintendent, who for nine years has transformed Arcola into one of the premier private clubs in the state.



Mike Mongon

The path that led Mike down the road to a career in golf course management is not unlike that of many other superintendents. After a chance meeting with another superintendent, the future business management graduate liked the idea of working outdoors and enrolled in the Rutgers Turf School. After graduation, Mike worked under the tutelage of Larry Paklemla, CGCS, of the Woodway C.C. in Darien, Connecticut, before coming to Arcola.

Mike has hosted many prestigious tournaments at Arcola, including the Stoddard Cup, Williamson Cup, the MGA Senior Championship and the District 1 Picnic Cup. Mongon is an active member of many associations. He is on the Board of GCSANJ and METGCSA, serving as a district director and government relations chairman. He is also a past president of the Rutgers Turfgrass Alumni Association. In his spare time, Mike teaches at the Rutgers program, coaches high school sports, is president of the Paramus Little League and is the official voice of the GCSANJ Field Day.

The tee on the 5th hole is the highest point in Paramus, and it is Mike's favorite spot on the golf course. It's a great place for Mike to view the fruits of his labor and to contemplate what lies ahead.

Mike and his wife, Kathy, have been married for 14 years, and they have three beautiful children, Ryan, Katrina and Timmy.

GCSANJ WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

The Greensidewelcomes the following new GCSANJ members:

William Curran B-1
Ocean County G.C. at Atlantis

Bob Hogan A
Millburn Municipal Golf Course

Jeff Fabiano C
Koonz Sprinkler Supply, Inc.

Keith Kubik C
Grass Roots Turf Products, Inc.

Nancy Sadlon H
Alliance for Environmental Concerns

Bradley D. Sparta D
Great Gorge Country Club

There has been one change in membership category:

Kerry Boyer B-1 to B
Marlboro Country Club

Sleepy Hollow Farm Ent.
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GCSANJ NEWS

LOOKING GOOD AT ONE HUNDRED

by Shaun Barry

It has been a very good year. No, I did not win the lottery, but we did have 112 players at our July meeting. Back in April it looked like we would be meeting at a Holiday Inn. Then **Jeff Drake** said he would try to host this event. Did he know something that nobody else knew? That May would continue into August. I don't think so. What he did know is that although his club was celebrating its 100th birthday along with hosting the State Amateur Championship, we needed help. As usual Jeff and Forest Hill made room for one more. It turned out to be the best date that many of us have ever had with a 100-year-old.

Pete Siegel (76) came the closest to mastering the subtle but stern challenges of this classic. He was followed by **Tom Grimac** (77) and **Ian Kunesch** (78). Pete's boss, Mike Gesmundo, made it a complete sweep for Bruedan as he took low net honors with a 69. **Brad Rozzelle** (70) and **Bob Prickett** (70) represented District IV well with a second and third place finish. T. Grimac, 4'7", and **Bruce Reedy**, 7'4 1.2", split closest to the pin honors, while **Doug Larson** "tubed" his drive to collect the longest drive honors. It must have been close to 300 yards (uphill and into a breeze). What a shot!

The next award told us something that we already knew—**Sky Bergen** (133) is an honest golfer. **Fran Owsik** and **Tom Sauer** won their Leslie Cup match, while the Cross-Woods and Kriews-Mathis teams advanced in the consolation bracket. Walking away with one skin were **Rob Mylnarski**, **John Fitzgerald** and **Jim Waniak**, while **Jim Woods** was able to have two hold up.

This ended our golfing day but our memories of the meeting will linger. It was a perfect day and a perfect place to gather with 111 of your friends and associates. We offer our sincere thanks for your wonderful hospitality, and congratulations on your first 100. May there be many more.

DISTRICT II MEETING AT PINCH BROOK G.C.

Many thanks to **Bill Engler**, superintendent at Pinch Brook G.C., for an enjoyable day of golf on one of the best-maintained public courses that I have played. Twenty golfers tried their skill on the 4,700 yard par 65 course. Low man for the day was **Vince Bracken** with a 61 on a match of cards with **Jack Martin**. **Pat Campbell**, with a 63, took third.

District II's team for the championship that will be held at Trenton G.C. will consist of V. Bracken, P. Campbell, **Bob Dwyer**, **Pete Pedrazzi**, **Jack Martin** and **Jay McKenna**.

THE GATHERING OF THE DISTRICT

by Shaun Barry

District III finally had its meeting. Originally scheduled for the middle of August at Toms River C.C., jury duty for **Ed McSeamen** caused us to switch to late August at Mattawang G.C.

Continued on page 7

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GCSANJ NEWS

Continued from page 6

Mother Nature chose to change that date to September 26. With all those changes, it is surprising that anyone showed up, but 42 people did find the course. It turned out to be a great day. **Chip Kern** and **Ron Alfieri** were unable to be with us, but **Bill Gilligan** filled in as an able host. With a dad like Jim, what else would you expect.

On the course we had some good play, some extraordinary play and then there was the rest of us. **Jim Woods** and **John Alexander** tied with 72s for low gross, but Jim won on a match of cards. On the net side, **Blair** (I need a handicap adjustment) **Quinn** had a 55 (Yes, this is the extraordinary part. We are withholding his winnings until after the investigation is completed.). He also won one of the closest to the pins while **Rob**

Mylnarski took the other one. **Angelo Petraglia** took first place in the A portion of the long drive contest. **J. Alexander** and **J. Woods** also qualified. **Matt Dobbie**, **Craig Kinsey** and **Jeff Theibault** headed up the B division, while **Brad Simpkins**, **Joe Gunson** and **Ron Robbins** set the standard in the C flight. Without their partners, **Owen Regan** and **Shaun Barry** competed in the quarter finals of the consolation bracket of the Leslie Cup. Mr. Regan is now in the consolation bracket of the consolation flight (he didn't win).

Many thanks to Chip, Ron and Bill for having us as their guests. We really had a great time, and the best part is we are invited back.

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GCSANJ NEWS

THE FUZZY WHITE BALL AT SOMERSET HILLS

by Doug Vogel

Somerset Hills C.C. is a world-renowned golf course designed by celebrated architect A.W. Tillinghast. The meticulous maintenance of the famed layout is overseen by golf course superintendent **Bob Dwyer**. Bob and his staff have the unique task of maintaining 18 challenging holes of golf and also eight grass tennis courts. This gives Bob the honored distinction of being the only superintendent in the state who must deal with two hotly debated issues of turf management—"Green Speed" and "Ball Bounce."

The grass tennis courts at Somerset Hills open on Memorial Day and close the second week of October. They consist of a Bent/Poa mix and cover approximately 1 1/4 acres. A

triplex mower set at 1/4" cuts the courts four times per week, and on alternate days a roller is used to maintain firmness. The lines are painted on the courts every two weeks.

Aeration of the tennis complex is done twice a year during the spring and the fall. Plugs are removed and a hi-sand content topdressing is applied. A pesticide program similar to that of the greens is followed to combat insects and disease, but the real enemy of the turf is wear and tear. This damage is kept to a minimum by rotating the use of the courts. When it becomes a noticeable problem, it is usually along the baselines and is remedied by using a hexagon cutting repair tool.

Many big name tennis players have had the good fortune to have stroked the fuzzy white ball at Somerset Hills. During the turn of the century, club member William Larned was a seven-time U.S. National champion. Also gracing the courts with their tenacious skills have been "Big" Bill Tilden and **Ken "Root" Kubik**. Tilden was the Babe Ruth of tennis during the 1920s and Kubik wasn't. Both Tilden and Kubik had similar styles of play, although "The Root" will be quick to point out that those styles of play were strictly found only on the tennis court.

Two observations Dwyer cited about the tennis courts were interesting because of their simplicity. The first observation Bob made was that the courts are relatively easy to maintain due to the courts having been constructed properly. Second, the bentgrass thrives on the tennis courts because they don't get over-watered. Those are two basic tenets of turfgrass management and should be given consideration more often.

The world-class conditions at Somerset Hills are the result of a lot of hours and a lot of hard work. Green speed and ball bounce are consistently at their best. With Bob Dwyer in charge of their facility, the golf and tennis membership can be heard proudly boasting throughout the state—advantage Somerset Hills.

RIDGEWOOD C.C. RECOGNIZED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

The Ridgewood Country Club has achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System, a program of Audubon International, and endorsed by the United States Golf Association. Ridgewood C.C. is only the second in New Jersey and the 77th golf course in the nation to receive the honor.

Continued on page 9

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GCSANJ NEWS

Continued from page 8

In 1991, Ridgewood C.C. joined the program, which provides information and guidance to golf courses to help them preserve and enhance wildlife habitat and protect natural resources.

"Ridgewood Country Club has shown a strong commitment to its environmental program. They are to be commended for their efforts to provide a sanctuary for wildlife on the golf course property," said Maria Briggs, staff ecologist for Audubon International.

"To reach certification, a course must demonstrate that they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas," explained Briggs. These categories include: Environmental Planning, Wildlife & Habitat Management, Public Involvement, Integrated Pest Management, Wa-

ter Conservation and Water Quality Management.

"All of our efforts and accomplishments are part of an overall plan to not only maintain Ridgewood Country Club as one of the top golfing facilities in the United States, but also to make our club environmentally sound," said Ridgewood President Fred Nydegger. "The club is extremely committed to preserving the natural habitat on its 275-acre complex," explains Ridgewood greens superintendent, John J. Gasper, "and our Long Range Environmental Plan was created so that RCC can improve and sustain our desired level of environmental quality for years to come."

In addition to golf courses, the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System also includes programs for schools, individuals and businesses. For more information, contact Audubon International, 46 Rarick Rd., Selkirk, NY 12158; (518) 767-9051.

Editor's note: John Gasper has recently left Ridgewood C.C. to work as superintendent at Oak Hill C.C. in Rochester, NY. Good luck to John and his family.



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GCSAA NEWS

GCSAA 4TH ANNUAL DELEGATES MEETING: STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION

by Wayne P. Remo, CGCS
GCSANJ Delegate

On September 7-8, 1996, a meeting was held at the GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas. A total of 89 delegates were in attendance along with the present Board of Directors of the GCSAA and the prospective candidates for this year's election in Las Vegas. New Jersey was represented by its delegate, Wayne P. Remo, CGCS.

GCSAA President Bruce R. Williams opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. He began his report on the state of the association by reaffirming the now-shared direction and continuing trust between the GCSAA and the local chapters. He reported on the progress of the 1994 mandates of putting the

house in order, improving relationships and getting the membership involved. Most of the 45 recommendations in the 1993 Arthur Andersen Study have been completed, and the few that remain are tied to member database system implementation. As planned, there was another study performed in the spring of 1996 to review our progress toward achieving the initial study's recommendations. A summary of the findings follows.

The progress of the 1995 Mandates of Image, Environment and Chapters was reported. The main goal of image was to enhance the image of the golf course superintendent. This resulted in programs such as Par for the Course on ESPN, developing a web site, new public service announcements, creating joint efforts with allied associations, creating a lawmakers' information source, new member/chapter media and environmental guidebooks, a Greens & Grassroots Advocacy Manual and new image enhancement seminars.

Programs for the environment include: Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program, Water Quality Study, Wildlife Research Support, Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Schools, Government and Environment General Session, Environmental Management Program, Environmental Resources Library, and Environmental Principles.

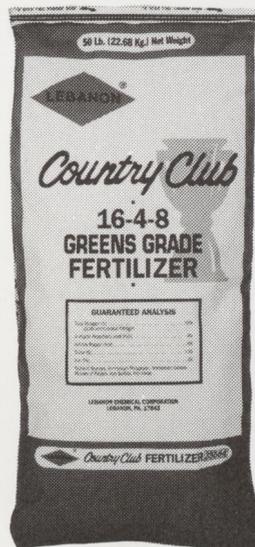
The mandate on chapters is to work with the chapters to serve members. This is being done with programs for the chapter and for the members through chapters. The affiliation process is moving along well, and I am happy to report that New Jersey will be in full compliance for affiliation as soon as GCSAA receives the final revised copy of our bylaws, which are now in conformity with the GCSAA. At the present time, only 11 chapters are at this stage toward completing the affiliation process.

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GCSAA NEWS

A new mandate has been added for 1996, which is Career Opportunities. The objectives are to improve marketability, create career opportunities, improve job stability, and to expand programs and services. These are being accomplished through programs such as: The Employment Referral Service, Resume and Cover Letter Assistance, A Career Development Resource Center, The Leader Board, and a Compensation & Benefits Survey.

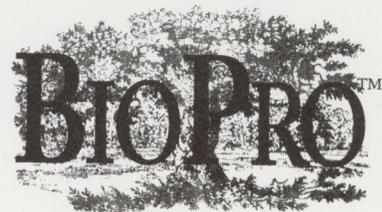
Steve Mona, CEO, spoke next about some of the savings GCSAA has realized through challenging vendors. He noted 1.2 million dollars have been saved since 1994 and will increase to 2.3 million ending June 1997. Challenging staff vacancies is still continuing to determine if a full-time position is required for that department. There have been four departments added at Headquarters since 1994, with 14 people in those areas. These departments are focused to increase mem-

bership services. Steve is very proud of the staff at GCSAA Headquarters, and all are dedicated to continuing to improve membership services.

I, as your delegate, was proud to represent GCSANJ for the fourth year in a row at the annual delegates meeting. I am the voice for the GCSAA, the GCSANJ, and also you. Your involvement is welcome and encouraged. The direction taken at elections on candidates and issues is also that of the Board and officers of the GCSANJ, and not solely the opinions of the delegate. There are still 12 of the 178 voting members who are not registered to vote by delegate. Your voice is not being heard unless you vote at the annual election. I will once again be contacting you to register to vote. If you have any questions, I can be reached at (201) 736-2154 by phone, (201) 325-1964 by fax, or by letter mailed to Wayne P. Remo, Superintendent, Rock Spring Club, West Orange, NJ 07502.

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Procedural and Operational Changes

Recommendations	Fully Impl.	Not Impl.	In Process	Comments
Establish Cash Collections/Lockbox	X			
Challenge Vendor Relationships			X	Vendor relations continuously challenged by management
Optimize Inventory Levels	X			
Streamline Purchase Process	X			
Develop Business Case Based Budgets	X			
Improve Cash/Investments Management	X			
Simplify Supplies Inventory Process	X			
Improve Service Surrounding Member Inquiries			X	Implementation of member database will improve call routings to key contacts
Establish Project Based Time Reporting	X			
Charge Graphic Designers' Time to Projects	X			
Give Managers Access to Sick/Vacation Time Balances	X			
Dispose of Unused Conference Materials On Site			X	Some unneeded conference material still shipped back
Perform Spring Cleaning (Storage Areas)	X			
Document Computer Systems Procedures	X			
Sell Vans	X			
Use of Technology				
Develop Long-Term Technology Plan			X	Long-range plan complete w/member database
Utilize Scanner for Articles	X			
Give Main System Access to Staff			X	Full implementation with member database
Use Fund Raising Software	X			
Give Home Access to Systems Operator	X			
Implement GCM Desktop Publishing	X			
Develop System Back-Up Schedules			X	Backup issue N/A with member database
Produce Certificates on Laser	X			
Produce Text Slides Internally	X			
Integrate Rosters/Registration	X			
Produce Name Tags on Computer	X			
Utilize Voice Mail	X			
Network Laser Printers	X			
Training				
Implement Staff Continuing Education	X			
Implement Software Training			X	Software training planned with member database
Implement Facilities Management Education	X			
Policy Issues				
Provide Adequate Job Tools	X			
Clarify Vacation Policies	X			
Openly Communicate Staff Changes	X			
Communicate Advancement Opportunity	X			
Challenge Salary Ranges Annually	X			
Develop Formal Grievance Process	X			
Develop Formal Upward Evaluations			X	Informal upward evaluations and Say-It-to-Steve program
Enforce Policy Consistently	X			
Extend to 40 Hour Work Week	X			
Organization Structure				
Realign Conference & Show Departmentally	X			
Finance Responsible for Budgets and Investments	X			
Establish Manager of Human Resources Position	X			
Establish Effective CFO/CEO Relationship	X			
Periodically Review Job Position and Titling	X			



GCSAA NEWS

MORE WATER QUALITY DATA NEEDED FOR STUDY

GCSAA's Golf Course Water Quality Study has received a number of responses—especially from golf courses in eastern and southeastern states—to requests for the results of water quality monitoring projects, reports Amy Svrjcek, project coordinator for Environmental & Turf Services Inc. of Wheaton, Maryland. However, more responses are needed.

If your golf course has conducted, or if you know of golf courses that have conducted, water quality monitoring for surface water or ground water, GCSAA would like to use that information in the Golf Course Water Quality Study. Please contact Svrjcek at (301) 933-4700.

SUPERINTENDENTS ANNOUNCE OFFICER AND BOARD SLATE

by Wayne P. Remo, CGCS
GCSANJ Delegate

Paul S. McGinnis, CGCS, has been nominated for the presidency of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA). The association's 1997 election of officers and directors is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 1997, during its annual meeting at the GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show in Las Vegas, Nevada.

McGinnis, superintendent at Moon Valley Country Club in Phoenix, Arizona, currently is vice president of GCSAA.



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GCSAA NEWS

Continued from page 13

The nominee for vice president is George Renault, III, CGCS, of Burning Tree Club, Bethesda, Maryland. Renault is currently secretary/treasurer of the association.

Nominees for secretary/treasurer are David W. Fearis, CGCS, of Blue Hills Country Club in Kansas City, Missouri, and R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS, of Valley View Golf Club, Bozeman, Montana. Both candidates are currently directors of the association; only Fearis' term is up this year.

Four candidates will vie for three director positions. The nominees are Jon D. Maddern, CGCS, Elk Ridge Golf Course, Atlanta, Michigan; Samuel R. Snyder, VII, CGCS, Hercules Country Club, Wilmington, Delaware; Michael Wallace, CGCS, Hop Meadow Country Club, Simsbury, Connecticut; and Tommy D. Witt, CGCS, Wynstone Golf Club, North

Barrington, Illinois.

Michael Wallace is currently finishing his one-year appointment by President Williams as director of the association. Wallace was also appointed as director of the association in 1995 for a one-year term by then president, Gary Grigg, CGCS. Tommy Witt is completing his two-year term as director of the association.

If Scott Woodhead is elected as secretary/treasurer, then the newly-elected president, in accordance with GCSAA by-laws, will make an appointment to fill the director's seat vacated by him. David Fearis could be nominated from the floor for one of the three director positions available.

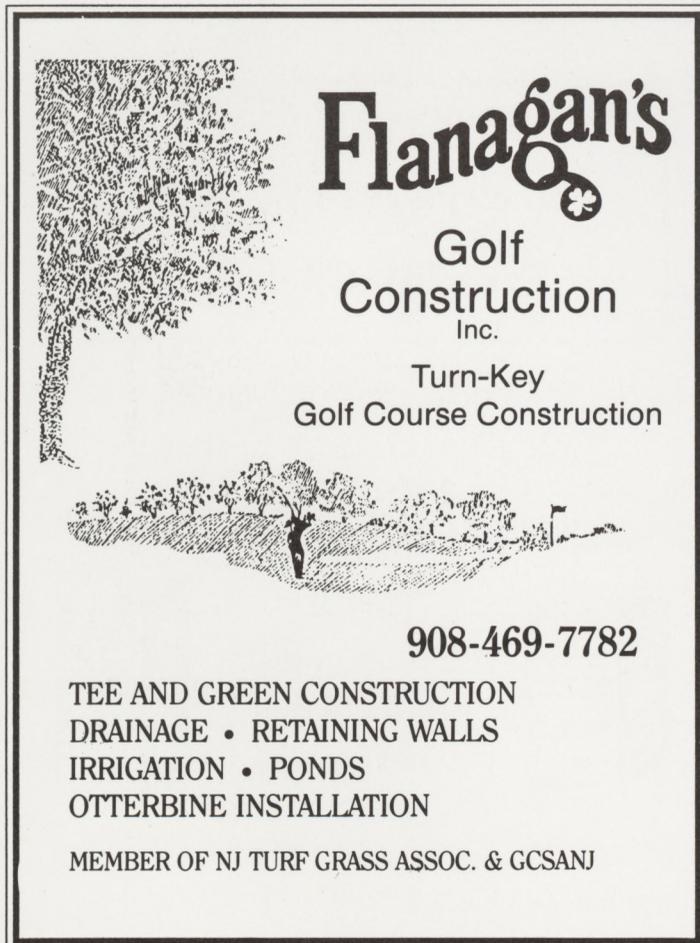
If David Fearis is elected as secretary/treasurer, there would not be an appointment by the newly-elected president for a director's position, as Scott Woodhead's term as director has one year left.

GCSAA's current president, Bruce R. Williams, CGCS, of the Bob O'Link Golf Club in Highland Park, Illinois, will continue to serve on the Board for one additional year as immediate past president.

Gary T. Grigg, CGCS, of the Royal Poinciana Golf Club in Naples, Florida, whose one-year term as immediate past president expires, will end nine years' service on the GCSAA Board.

Board member Ken Mangum, CGCS, of the Atlanta Athletic Club, Alpharetta, Georgia, has one year remaining on his current term.

GCSAA's International Golf Course Conference and Show will be held February 4-12, 1997, at the Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada.

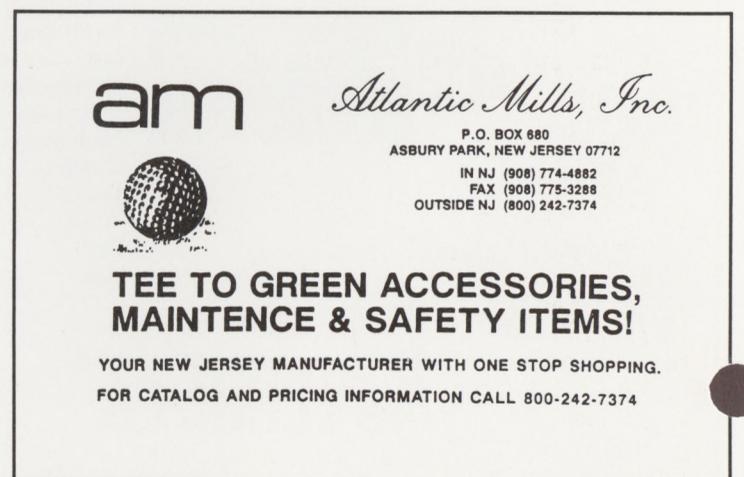


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Fairway foxes

by Brian P. Donovan
Packanack Golf Club

The time is 8:10 a.m. The dew clings tenaciously to each blade of grass, knowing its existence is numbered in minutes. I approach the first tee with anticipation, looking forward to a fine day, the camaraderie of my partners and the chance to observe wildlife. In particular, it is the red fox I am hoping to glimpse.

While most people would consider the red fox an animal to be found only in wilderness areas, they are increasingly sighted in more populated, suburban areas. Due to the expansion of the eastern coyote, red foxes have been forced into protected areas such as parks and golf courses.

Red foxes are found in most areas of North America, almost all of Canada and the United States except for Florida, some areas of Texas, the Rocky Mountains and coastal and Southern California. Red foxes are most commonly seen in early spring when vixens give birth to their kits. The male fox (dog) is with the vixen during mating season, January and February, and for some months after the litter is born. The dog helps with finding den sites (foxes move around to several dens to protect the kits from detection by predators) and providing food for the kits after they are weaned. Foxes live mainly on mice, squirrels, insects, fruits and an assortment of other food.

New Jersey was one of the first areas that red foxes were introduced to. They were brought over from Europe to develop a hardier breed of fox to improve hunting. The smaller and less durable gray fox prefers swamps and more thickly forested areas not suitable for horseback.

Though it seems these little members of the dog family (7-15 lbs.) have found a way to exist in our increasingly populated state, the limited boundaries of such areas as golf courses



provide a false sense of security to fox families. The young are forced to search for new, unoccupied areas they can call their own, and many are killed by traffic or starvation.

So the next time you are strolling down the fairway and you spot a fox, feel good knowing that the golf course is also a precious wildlife preserve.

Editor's Note: Doug Vogel spotted this piece at Packanack Golf Club. Brian P. Donovan is a 9 handicap golfer at Packanack and an avid naturalist.

.....

Are you attending the GCSAA Championship in Las Vegas?

For years, many GCSANJ members have attended the GCSAA Golf Championship and not participated as a member of any formal team. If you are going to Las Vegas and playing in the championship and want to be a member of a team sponsored by our state association, please contact Glenn Miller at (908) 528-6505 or Ed Walsh at (201) 731-1403.

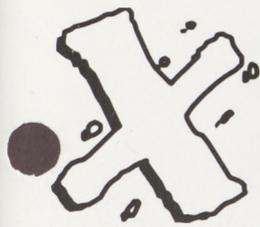
If you have participated in the past and want to maintain an existing team, we will accommodate those requests. Let's coordinate our efforts this year so every GCSANJ member attending the tournament is part of our team.

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MARKS THE SPOT

by Ed Walsh, CGCS

Why are some professional golfers so dumb? Now, that question could get me in a lot of trouble, but before you get your gun and/or lawyer, listen to why I make that statement.

If you're like me, you watch a lot of televised golf tournaments. As a matter of fact, since the introduction of the Golf Channel, I probably watch golf more than any other programming. A few weeks ago I was watching the Presidents Cup. On Friday, it looked like we were going to bury the international team as the USA took a commanding lead. But on Saturday, we sort of faltered, and the internationals came roaring back. Well, if you watched the event yourselves, you

know that the whole thing came down to the final singles match between Fred Couples and Vijay Singh.

Couples was plus one on the seventeenth hole and had a 25-foot putt for birdie, while Singh had a reasonably makeable 15-footer. Couples, we all know, rolled his in for the birdie and ran around the green high fiveing his teammates in a tremendous display of emotion. Singh stroked his putt confidently, but the ball rolled to the right of the cup, and we won the second Presidents Cup in what has to go down as an outstanding victory for the United States.

The next day we are all reading the accounts of the matches in the newspapers and see that Singh said his putt hit a SPIKE MARK which altered the direction of the ball. Now, as good as these guys are, I don't doubt that he did hit a SPIKE MARK, and it did push the putt away from its intended line. Isn't it a shame that a little SPIKE MARK could do such damage as to affect the outcome of a major event like the Presidents Cup?

Now, back to my original comment. That SPIKE MARK didn't have to have such a negative effect if one small item was considered. No, it's not one of those new putters that's won all the majors this year. No, it's not a titanium driver that hits it farther and straighter. No, it's not one of those wedges that can get you out of almost anywhere. The one small thing I am talking about is SOFT SPIKES. Yes, SOFT SPIKES.

Those little things that you put on the bottom of your golf shoes. Those little things that replace those hard metal spikes that can do damage to greens and, certainly, as Vijay Singh found out, produce marks on the putting surface that can alter the path of a properly stroked ball.

Now I could go on and on about the benefits of SOFT SPIKES, but Mr. Singh did enough by stating that his ball hit a mark made by a spike, and it altered the outcome of a very important event. Let me ask again, "Why are some professional golfers so dumb?" What else would you call a group of people who won't use, or suggest that people use, an item that will significantly improve the quality of the most important area of the courses we maintain, and they make their living on, the GREENS? I am sorry, but I've heard all the negative reasons for not using soft spikes, and none make any sense to me.

Let me state that all PGA Pros are not in this category, because there are many, Floyd, Colbert and Rodriguez from the Senior tour, who do use and recommend the use of SOFT SPIKES. Like Martin, Cameron, Pedrazzi and Koonz always tell me, "You got to be a little older before you really get smart."

NOTE: If you want to see a great report on the increased use of soft spikes in the metropolitan area, contact the MGA. Almost 200 clubs responded to their questionnaire, and over 80% have adopted a formal position or are giving strong consideration to adopting a position on banning metal spikes. Way to go, MGA!



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Alliance for Environmental Concerns appoints new executive director

The Alliance for Environmental Concerns (AEC) is pleased to announce the selection of Nancy P. Sadlon as the new executive director. Along with its new executive director, the AEC will have a new address and phone number. Contact the organization at P.O. Box 4292, Warren, NJ 07059-4292; (908) 563-9252 or fax (908) 560-8588.

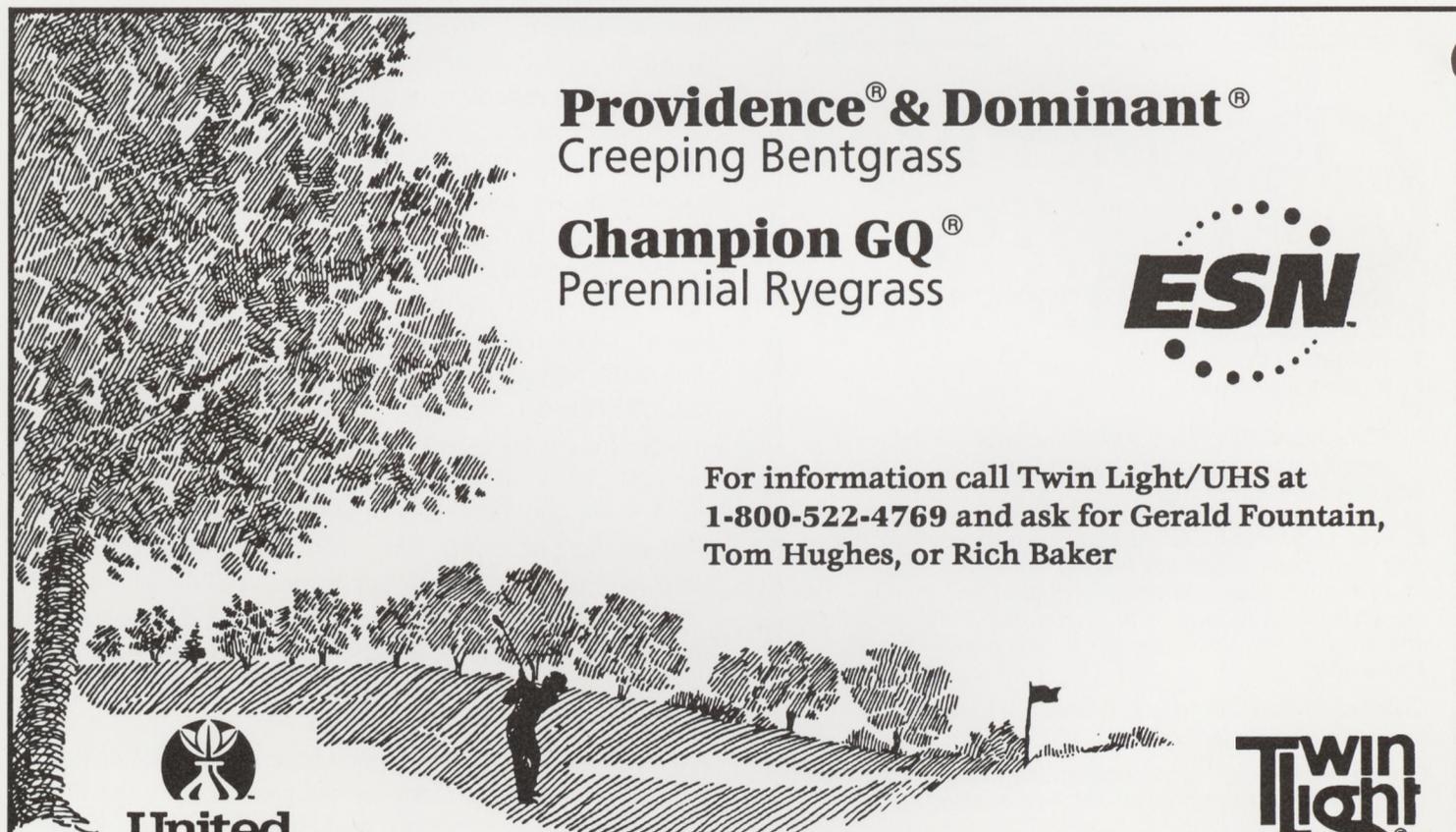
Sadlon brings to the position over 15 years of broad experience in environmental services and regulations. She has been involved with environmental issues and regulations for the past 14 years, most recently for the United States Golf Association as its environmental specialist. During her tenure with the USGA, Sadlon was responsible for the coordination and promotion of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP), a conservation program for golf courses. She has provided guidance on wetland issues, habitat enhancement, pond management, erosion control, integrated pest management, water conservation and other environmental

regulatory issues to golf courses throughout the nation as part of the USGA's Turf Advisory Service.

During her career, Sadlon has regularly made presentations on environmental issues, including updates on the USGA's Environmental Research Program efforts, the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program and regulatory issues. Additionally, she has been an instructor for continuing education programs offered by organizations such as the Golf Course Superintendents Association, Michigan State Turfgrass Association and Rutgers University, regarding various environmental issues.

Sadlon holds a B.S. in Landscape Architecture/Environmental Planning and Design from Rutgers University, where she continued her postgraduate studies focusing on Wetland Ecology and Environmental Issues. Currently, she is a principle of Sadlon Environmental, an environmental consulting

Continued on page 25



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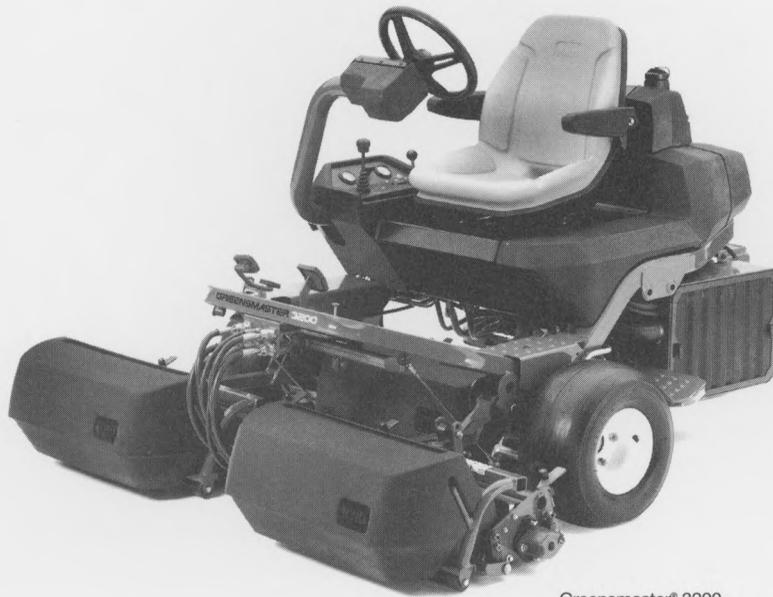

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It's that time of year

Deer Damage Prevention and Control Methods

The prevention and control of deer damage to agricultural crops, gardens and landscaping materials is a subject of concern to both farmers and homeowners in New Jersey.

A review of available techniques and materials for controlling deer damage is presented below.

Scare Devices: This technique can be used by both homeowners and farmers and, depending on the devices used, short term control may be achieved. A key to success with frightening devices is to take action at the first sign of a problem.

Homeowners may use devices such as a *radio* placed in a garden or *flashing strobe lights* to protect gardens of landscaping. *Pie pans* or similar items strung out so they bang together may be useful particularly in combination with other techniques. Dogs on a long run can also keep deer out of a limited area.

The best frightening technique for use by farmers is *gas*



exploders set to detonate at regular intervals. To use gas exploders, farmers must first obtain a permit from the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife.

Repellents: These materials are best suited for orchards, gardens and ornamental plants. They may, however, be used on row crops or pasture under certain conditions.

There are two kinds of repellents, contact and area. Contact repellents are applied directly to plants and repel by taste. They are most effective when plants are dormant. Generally, contact repellents should not be used on plant parts which are used for human consumption.

Area repellents are applied near the plants to be protected and repel deer by smell or odor alone. They are usually less effective than contact repellents, but can be used where contact repellents cannot.

The effectiveness of repellents depends on several factors. Rainfall dissolves several repellents, and some do not weather well. The number of deer in an area and the availability of more palatable food will also have a significant effect on the success of repellent applications. Repellents may be purchased at farm and garden stores. Usually the purchase of a small quantity is recommended until its effect can be evaluated.

The New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife also distributes limited quantities of both contact and area repellents to farmers and homeowners experiencing deer damage. Further information on this program may be obtained by contacting the Division's Wildlife Control Unit at the Clinton Wildlife Management Area, (908) 735-8793.

A summary of easily available commercial repellents are as follows:

Continued on page 21

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It's that time of year

Continued from page 20

- **Hinder:** This effective area repellent is unique since it may be used on food crops and may be applied in conjunction with pesticide sprays.
- **Thiram:** This fungicide is a common ingredient in a number of commercial contact deer repellents including: Chaperone, Nott Chew-Not, Hopkins 42-5 and Science Deer and Rabbit Repellent. Thiram-based repellents are most effective when applied to dormant plants.
- **Fermented Egg Solids:** This area repellent is relatively new and was developed for conifer plants in the west. Both liquid and powder forms are reliable and can be used in a wide variety of damage situations.
- **Bone Tar Oil:** This area repellent is applied by hanging rags, cord or sponge soaked in the material around the area to be protected. Information available indicates that this is one of the more effective area repellents.
- **Hot Pepper Sauce:** A formulation of two tablespoons of hot pepper sauce to 12 1/2 gallons of water containing an

additive such as Wilt-Proof or Vapor-Guard has been reported to repel deer from ornamental plants.

- **Moth Balls:** Can be used as an area repellent, either hung

A handful of human hair placed in a small mesh bag and hung on the plant to be protected can be useful.

in mesh bags or scattered on the ground. Effectiveness is usually short term due to evaporation.

- **Human Hair:** A handful of human hair placed in a small mesh bag and hung on the plant to be protected can be useful. Reports on the effectiveness of this material have been mixed.

Continued on page 22

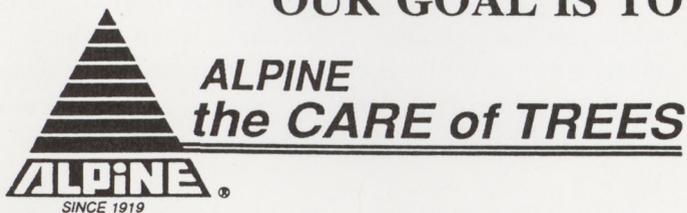
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It's that time of year

Continued from page 21

Exclusion or Fencing: The only sure way to eliminate deer damage is to fence the deer out. However, the cost of constructing fencing for extended areas may limit their use. Commercial farmers in New Jersey may reduce the cost of fence installation by utilizing the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife's Deer Fencing Program. This program provides high-tensile wire in limited quantities at no cost to bonafide farmers who are willing to erect deer control fence to set specifications. Further information on the Farmer Deer Fencing Program may be obtained by contacting the Division's Wildlife Control Unit located at the Clinton Wildlife Management Area, RD #3, Box 309, Hampton, NJ 08827; (908) 735-8793.

Two types of fencing have been used to reduce deer damage. The exclusion fence is made of mesh wire at least eight feet high. Mesh wire of lesser heights (five foot) may be used if combined with barbed wire to provide a total height of eight feet. Fencing of this type, although effective, is expensive. Costs average between \$5.00 to \$6.00 per running foot.

The second type of deer fencing is the conditioning fence,

which depends upon electric shock to provide a deterrent. Both permanent and temporary designs are available.

At the present time, the Penn State 5-wire or the 7-wire modification is the only permanent electric fence which is recommended for inclusion in the Division's Deer Fencing

The only sure way to eliminate deer damage is to fence the deer out.

Program. This design has been proven effective and cost efficient when used with the high voltage, low amp, pulsed charging units.

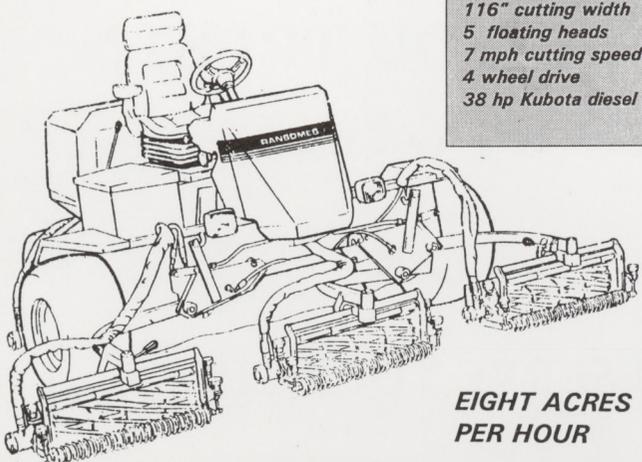
Various forms of temporary electric fences exist ranging from single wire systems to multi-wire units. These temporary fences are best used in home gardens or in situations in which only short-term protection is required.

Shooting: Regulated hunting during the legal season is no doubt the most feasible method to effectively control deer damage. Commercial farmers may, however, request from the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife permits to kill wild deer which are damaging crops. Farmers requesting this type of permit should contact the Division's Wildlife Control Unit located at the Clinton Wildlife Management Area, RD #3, Box 409, Hampton, NJ 08827; (908) 735-8793, to arrange for an inspection of the properties. If a permit is warranted, a farmer and/or his agents may kill deer causing damage within the permit guidelines. It should be understood that permits to kill deer usually provide only limited relief from damage and are extremely labor intensive.

In addition, bonafide farmers and immediate members of their families who reside on the farm are eligible for a free "Farmer Permit" for each of the three permit deer seasons currently authorized: permit bow and arrow, permit shotgun and permit muzzleloader. The bag limit is two deer of either sex/permit. Farmers are also permitted to apply for the non-farmer (regular) permits along with other licensed sportsmen and to purchase permits over the counter when available. Thus, the farm family has the opportunity of harvesting a substantial number of deer during the fall hunting seasons, providing another means of deer control and a source of recreation and venison.

If you have questions on any of the information presented here, please contact the Wildlife Control Unit for assistance controlling your deer damage problem.

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Guide to deer-resistant ornamental plants

Resistance of a plant to deer is related to the availability of other food and palatability which varies with plant age and the season. If there is an extreme shortage of natural food, few if any plant species are totally resistant to deer.

The conservation officer of the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife sometimes has repellents available. The office is in Clinton. The phone number is (908) 735-8793. There are many repellents commercially available also. All repellents must be replenished regularly.

The following should be considered as a general guide only. Deer will sometimes browse some of the plants listed, as they will sometimes avoid plants not listed. *The common names of plants that are particularly resistant have been capitalized.*

The list was developed in California where most deer are blacktails or mule deer. If you have made observations about ornamental plants that seem to be resistant to our white tails in the Northeast, please inform the Cooperative Extension Service at Cook College so that future lists may be made more useful for our conditions.

Botanical Name

Common Name

Abies spp	Fir
Acer negundo	Box elder
Ageratum spp	Flossflower, Ageratum
Althaea rosea	Hollyhock
Aquilegia spp	COLUMBINE
Arctotis atoechadifolia	African daisy
Berberia spp	Barberry
Buxus spp	BOXWOOD
Cactaceae spp	CACTUS
Calendula officinalis	Pot marigold
Cassia spp	Senna, Cassia
Catalpa bignonioides	Common Catalpa
Cercis occidentalis	Red Bud
Chrysanthemum maximum	Shasta daisy
Clematis spp	CLEMATIS
Coptinus coggygria	SMOKE TREE
Cotoneaster spp	Cotoneaster
Crataegus spp	Hawthorn
Cytisus Scoparius	SCOTCH BROOM
Delphinium spp	LARKSPUR
Dicentra spectabilis	Bleeding Heart
Digitalis spp	FOXGLOVE
Ficus spp	FIG
Ginkgo biloba	Maidenhair tree
Gymnocladus Dioica	Kentucky coffee tree
Hedera helix	ENGLISH IVY
Helianthus spp	Sunflower
Helichrysum spp	Strawflower
Helleborus spp	HELLEBORE
Ilex spp	HOLLY
Iris spp	IRIS
Juniperus spp	Juniper
Knopfia uvaria	DEVILS or RED HOT POKER
Lantana montevidensis	Trailing Lantana
Larix decidua	European larch
Lavandula spp	Lavender
Lupinus spp	LUPINE
Lysimachia nummularia	Moneywort
Maclura Domfera	Osage orange
magnolia spp	Magnolia
Mimulus spp	Mimulus, Monkey flower
Myosotis spp	Forget-me-not
Myrica californica	WAX MYRTLE
Myrtus communis	Myrtle
Narcissus spp	DAFFODIL, JONQUIL
Oxalis oregana	OXALIS, REDWOOD SORREL
Papayer orientale	Oriental poppy
Parkinsonia aculeata	Jerusalem thorn

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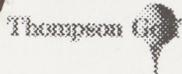
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WATERTRONICS



Continued on page 25

Retirement: A long term game

by James K. Woods, registered representative with the Berger Financial Group, L.L.C. Mr. Wood specializes in personal investment and insurance planning.

If you planted a tree on Monday, you probably wouldn't pull it out on Tuesday to see if the roots took. The same is true for growing your retirement savings. Short term market swings like the 170 point free-fall and 100 point gain on two consecutive business days last March by the Dow Jones Industrial Average can rattle any investor. But, you've got a retirement to plan.

Maintaining perspective is key to a successful investment strategy. Remember October 19, 1987? Dow dropped 22.6%, or 508 points—worst ever one-day fall. For a correction of the same magnitude to occur today, the market would have to drop 1,266 points.

How to weather the storms:

- Remember the market has gone up over time. Even after falling 508 points in 1987, the market gained 5 points that year.

- Diversify! By spreading your investments among different asset classes (stocks, bonds, money markets), you also spread the risk which can increase your total return over the long haul.

- Dollar-cost average. Investing the same amount on a regular basis helps you buy more shares when prices are low and fewer shares when prices are high. Ultimately, you pay a lower average price for each fund share.
- Hold on to your investment long enough to accomplish your financial objectives.

Time is your most valuable asset. Use it to your advantage.



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Guide to deer-resistant ornamental plants

Continued from page 23

Phaedranthus buccinatorius	Blood red trumpet vine
Picea spp	Spruce
Pinus spp	Pine
Rheum rhaponticum	Rhubarb, Pie plant
Rhododendron spp	RHODIES (except azalea)
Robinia pseudoacacia	BLACK LOCUST
Sambucus racemosa	RED ELDERBERRY
Solanum spp	NIGHTSHADE
Symphoricarpos albus	Snowberry
Syringa vulgaris	Lilac

Thuja spp	Arborvitae
Torreya nucifera	JAPANESE Torreya
Trillium spp	TRILLIUM, WAKE ROBIN
Valeriana spp	Valerian
Vinca spp	Periwinkle
Yucca spp	Yucca, spanish bayonet
Zantedeschia spp	CALLA LILLY

This information is provided courtesy of the Cooperative Extension Service, Cook College, Rutgers - University of New Jersey, New Brunswick.

Alliance for Environmental Concerns

Continued from page 18

firm providing professional expertise on various environmental issues.

Sadlon takes the reigns of the Alliance from its former executive director, Ilona F. Gray, who held the position since 1985. Gray leaves the position to relocate to Germany with her

husband. Her long-term contribution and long list of accomplishments has greatly strengthened the organization. The AEC is now focused on the future and excited about new ideas and opportunities for the organization with its new executive director.

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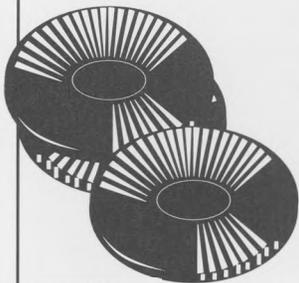
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Back Nine

THE COMPUTER: A \$2 ROLLS ROYCE

The computer on your desk is the result of the most rapid technological evolution in human history, the equivalent of moving from a Model T to an Indy race car overnight.

According to The Computerized Society (Time Life Books, 1993), if you compare the computer to a car, the stunning speed of the computer's development becomes apparent.

Consider this: one of the first really powerful computers was the Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer (ENIAC), which was installed at the University of Pennsylvania to calculate firing tables for World War II artillery. It was a marvel of calculation and was 1,000 times faster than previous calculating machines.

In size, it was 30 tons of equipment housed in a 30-foot by 50-foot room. It was expensive, well over \$3 million, and a glutton for special care. Its 18,000 vacuum tubes needed

humidity and temperature controls. Today, high school students use computers that are infinitely more sophisticated, many times faster than ENIAC, and far less expensive.

By comparison, if the automobile industry had progressed with the same efficiency and advancement, we would today be able to drive a \$2.75 Rolls Royce that would get 3 million miles to the gallon and which could cross North America in less than five minutes.

The fastest type of computer today is the supercomputer used to solve vast scientific research problems. It averages 10 billion operations per second. (By comparison, a personal computer used in business can do about 100,000 operations per second.) A problem a supercomputer solves in one second takes a personal computer about 33 hours to solve. Of course, the supercomputer can't match the honeybee. Its brain performs 10 trillion operations in a second.

Computers occupy a unique niche in our economy. They are highly reliable, but rapidly obsolete. A personal computer offered for sale one day and purchased the next already lags behind the state-of-the-art. A computer purchased in 1986 for \$2,500 would probably be worth from \$15 to \$50 in 1995, even if it is in perfect working order.

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FUNGUS, FUNGUS, EVERYWHERE

No, not on golf courses, but on residential homes, cars, office buildings, plants and, in at least one case, a woman's hind quarters. This fungus, which grows mainly on mulch, is called the artillery or shotgun fungus because the spores are forcefully ejected from the fungus. The spores adhere as brown or black globs to nearby objects, favoring white or light colored clapboard or vinyl siding. Dr. Larry J. Kuhn, an ornamental horticulture extension specialist at Pennsylvania State University in University Park, said an attacked house can look as if it were spray-painted. According to Dr. Kuhn, this is a "naturally occurring fungus that's involved in the decomposition of organic matter. It's not a hazard in any way." Hazardous or not, it still creates an unsightly mess, which is not easily rectified. (With the exception of the unfortunate woman who noticed spots on her butt which matched the ones on her rhododendrons . . . she was able to wash them off.) Chemicals don't work, and scraping can remove the gunk but leave stains, as does scrubbing. Dr. Kuhn said the cause for the increase of this fungus could be related to the fact that recently more wood has been added to mulch which had been primarily bark. The wood has more carbon, he said, which feeds fungus. He recommends buying mulch which has the logo of the National Bark and Soil Producers Association. That insures that the contents are at least 90% bark. Watch your mulch and your butts.

Source: New York Times, July 11, 1996.

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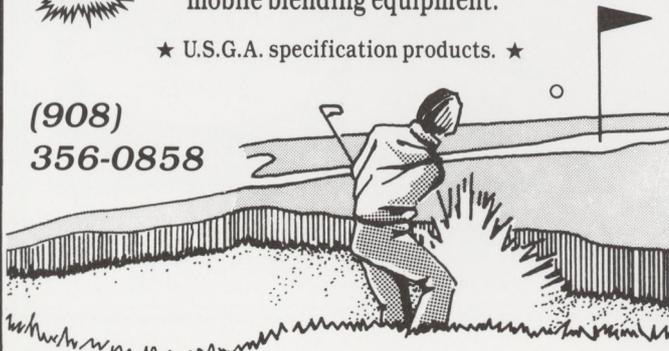
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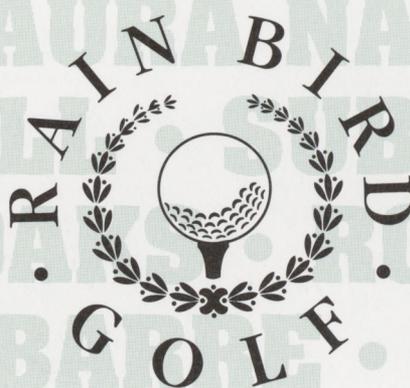
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