



THE NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents

Association OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

Sponsors and administrators of the Troll-Dickinson Scholarship Fund — Awarded yearly to deserving Turf Management Students.

July 1995

Four GCSANE supers prepare courses for prestigious USGA tournaments

July Meeting

Monday, July 10, 1995
Indian Ridge Country Club
Andover, Massachusetts

Host Superintendent
Roger Brink

7:30 a.m. Golf (Supt. Championship)
Shotgun start, with lunch and
regular meeting to follow.

Cost: Lunch only - \$17;
Golf & Lunch - \$40

Reservations Required
Call by July 5, 1995
(508) 632-0252

You must pay by check - No cash!
Checks payable to GCSANE

Roger Brink has been the golf course superintendent at Indian Ridge C.C. since 1989. Prior to that he was the assistant superintendent at Worcester C.C. for three years. Roger has also worked at The Country Club, The Orchards G.C., Fairway Oaks Golf and Racquet Club in Abilene, Texas, and at Bristol Harbour G.C. in Canandaigua, N.Y. He is a 1986 honors graduate of Stockbridge and a former Lawrence Dickinson / GCSANE scholarship recipient. Roger and Dee Brink and children Brenna (10) and Kyle (8) reside in Londonderry, N.H. In his spare time, Roger enjoys golf and spending time with his family.

Directions: From I-495, take exit 43A (Rte. 133 East), take right at first traffic light onto Lovejoy Road. Go approximately one-half mile and take left on Iroquois Ave. Club is 1/4 mile ahead. From Rte. 128 (I-95) take Exit 37N (I-93 North). Take Exit 42 (Dascomb Road) right towards Andover. Turn left on Lovejoy Road, then right onto Iroquois Ave., which leads to the club.

The United States Golf Association apparently likes the kind of golf course where the locals ply their trade. Or more specifically, that august guiding hand of the grand and ancient game knows a good layout when it sees one.

Which is one way of trumpeting the fact that four Golf Course Superintendents of New England Association members are putting the spit and polish of their grooming programs in place for prestigious USGA national tournaments this summer.

They are: The Public Links Championship at Stow Acres, July 17-22; the Junior Girls Championship at the Longmeadow Country Club, July 24-29; the National Women's Amateur Championship at The Country Club, Aug. 5-12; and the Women's Mid-Amateur Championship at the Essex County Club, Sept. 13-21.

Bob Dembek, in his first head super's post and only his fourth year in the profession since his graduation from Stockbridge School, is trying to dial in some low-key approach to the task at hand in what has been an eventful debut as Stow's main maintenance man.

I was nervous at first," he said, "but I have a handle on things now. Just say that I'm excited about everything since I took over for Andy Langlois last January. I'm kind of on a hot seat all right. However, the USGA people seem to be satisfied with what they see everytime they come here."

Dembek woke up on that hot seat very early in the season when Stow hosted the Massachusetts Golf Association four-ball championship. The public links field will be using the same North Course the MGA boys did and, as play in that event evolved,

nothing but raves on course condition came out of the locker room and 19th hole.

Therefore, Dembek is setting up the course just as he did for the four-ball affair. "We're talking 9 1/2-10 1/2 Stimpmeter reading for green speed and 2-3 inches for the rough," Dembek revealed. "As we

"I'm kind of on a hot seat . . . however, the USGA people seem to be satisfied with what they see."

Bob Dembek
Stow Acres

speak (June 1), the course is in pretty good shape, and don't forget, we opened early (Mar. 14). I guess my time, as assistant here under Andy (the two also played high school golf on the same state championship team at Easthampton) really helped. Anyway, I'm keeping a close eye on the turf and hoping the other elements cooperate."

Longmeadow superintendent Rich Derby, who was a top high school player in his own right, has a simple formula for getting the course ready for the invasion of the 18-and-under young women players.

"I just got the course condition to where members want it and hope to keep it at that level for the rest of the summer," he said. "I've had two or three visits from USGA officials like Tim Moraghan and Kendra

continued on page 2

**PRESIDENT**

Edward L. Brearley
189 Matfield Street, West Bridgewater, MA 02379
508-584-6568
Evergreen Valley Country Club

VICE PRESIDENT

Robert DiRico, CGCS*
326 Fuller Street, West Newton, MA 02165
617-527-6968
Brae Burn Country Club

SECRETARY

Kevin F. Osgood
14 Inman Lane, Foxborough, Ma 02035
617-630-1950
Newton Commonwealth Golf Course

TREASURER

Robert Ruzala
69 Gellinas Drive, Chicopee, MA 01020
413-256-8654
Hickory Ridge Country Club

TRUSTEE

John T. Hassett
110 Montgomery Avenue, Lowell, MA 01851
508-458-7300
Mount Pleasant Golf Course

TRUSTEE

Scott Reynolds
543 Dedham Street, Newton Centre, Ma 02159
617-244-7741
Charles River Country Club

TRUSTEE

James B. Conant, CGCS*
606 River Road, Marston Mills, MA 02648-1735
508-362-1136
King's Way Golf Club

FINANCE CHAIRMAN

James Fitzroy, CGCS*
357 W. Squantum St., North Quincy, MA 02171
617-328-1776
Presidents Golf Course

GOLF CHAIRMAN

Michael J. Hermanson
100 Eaton Street, Gardner, MA 01440
508-632-2713
Gardner Municipal Golf Course

EDUCATION CHAIRMAN

Richard Duggan, CGCS*
93 Warren Avenue, Marlboro, MA 01752
508-369-0879
Concord Country Club

NEWSLETTER CHAIRMAN

Michael Nagle, CGCS*
51 Lincoln Avenue, Holden, MA 01520
508-853-6574
Worcester Country Club

PAST PRESIDENT

Stephen A. Chiavaroli, CGCS*
6 Birch Street, Paxton, MA 01612
508-752-0031



Newsletter Editor . . . Michael F. Nagle, CGCS
Associate Editor . . . Stephen Chiavaroli, CGCS
Contributing Editor Gerry Finn
Business Manager Robert Ruzala

Information contained in this publication may be used freely, in whole or in part, without special permission as long as the true context is maintained. We would appreciate a credit line.

continued from page 1

Graham, and they have only one message for me: 'Don't change a thing'."

The junior girls layout will be set up somewhere between the yardage from the men's regular tees (6,200) and the shorter tees (5,700). Derby figures middle ground to be about 5,900 yards. "I'm very fortunate," Rich remarked. "We have good, healthy turf here and we'll be watching and monitoring the weather to see that no serious problems occur. The only variation from the norm I've had to do is build a temporary practice facility for the girls a few hundred yards down the road. My crew (19 turf-oriented personnel) did a good job on that, as it has ever since I became head super a couple of years ago. Otherwise, it's just a normal routine around here."

Almost as unassuming and obviously not intimidated by the challenge, stands The Country Club's Bill Spence, who took that stately course on a successful USGA Open ride in the year of Curtis Strange (1988).

The Women's Amateur isn't old hat to Spence, but he doesn't appear to be overwhelmed by the assignment of readying a course for some top-notch players.

"I suppose my experience with the Open kicks in somewhere," Bill advised. "But I can't afford to over-react to the situation. My biggest concern is the timing of the tournament, the dogs days of August when the humidity can be a killer. The ladies will be playing our regular course, not the Open course. After numerous visits by Tim (Moraghan) and Kendra (Graham) I've come away feeling they want a moderate playing field with no tricks. We're thinking 9 1/2 on the Stimpmeter, and concentrating on producing good turf. If course conditions come through, my biggest concern will be TV, or accommodating the large contingent it brings to a tournament site."

Pat Kriksceonaitis, in his fifth year at Essex, is hoping for a repeat in a sense that if he sees in September what USGA officials described after playing Essex in May and June, he'll be home free for the mid-amateur shooting.

"They gave the place a glowing review," Pat said. "They'd like to set somewhere in the vicinity of 6,000 yards as the yardage

"I'm looking forward to the tournament. I think I may even enjoy it."

***Pat Kriksceonaitis
Essex County Club***

"If course conditions come through, my biggest concern will be TV – accommodating the large contingent it brings to a tournament site."

***Bill Spence
The Country Club***

target But this place can play hard at 5,800. Whatever the final count, it will give the women a good test, with all the aesthetic side effects of an early American course.

"We try to maintain that natural style in our grooming attempts. It seems to please our membership and I guess it's rubbed off on the USGA, whom I like to describe as an undemanding guest at our club. So far the only guideline I've heard is in the area of green pace (9 ft.), where consistency appears to overrule speed. I'm looking forward to the tournament. I think I may even enjoy it."

GERRY FINN

Calendar

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| July 10 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting & Superintendent Championship Tournament
Indian Ridge C.C.
Andover, Mass. |
| Aug. 14 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Ponkapoag G.C.
Canton, Mass. |
| Sept. 11 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting & Team of Two Championship Tournament
Westminster C.C.
Westminster, Mass. |
| Oct. 16 | GCSANE Turf Research Tournament
Salem C.C.
Peabody, Mass. |
| Oct. 18 | Shanahan Memorial Pro-Superintendent Tournament
Willowbend Club
Cotuit, Mass. |
| Nov. 6 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Hopedale C.C.
Hopedale, Mass. |
| Nov. 28-29 | GCSAA Regional Seminar
Golf History, Theory, Construction, and Maintenance
The International
Bolton, Mass. |
| Jan. 15-17, 1996 | 65th Mass. Turf Conference & 20th Industrial Show
Boston Marriott - Copley Place
Boston, Mass. |

The Super Speaks Out:

This month's question: What are your thoughts on the change of site and time for the Massachusetts Turf Conference, from Springfield and March to Boston and January?

Greg Misodoulakis, Bellevue Golf Club: "First, let me put in my strong two cents' worth for a definite in-favor vote for the move."

"Why? Because we have to grow and this is the way to do it. The conference had its day, its time in the Springfield area. But we have to take a step forward, in this case many miles east. Regardless, the idea of changing the site to Boston is monumental. There is no comparison."

"I'm not trying to put the knock on Springfield. It has served the conference well, but let's face it, Springfield is an old and tired city compared to Boston, which has the attractions to pave the way for a bigger and better turf conference."

"As a member of the New Hampshire turf conference committee, I've tuned into the situation very closely. A lot of us on that committee have gone on the record as approving the changes and perhaps we see the day when other groups can join the GCSANE to turn the conference into a gigantic regional production."

Dave Barber, Wellesley Country Club: "I'm looking forward to the changes

for no other reason than the fact that a change was necessary. It's the time when Joe and Lonnie Troll have decided to take it easy after guiding the conference over the rough spots and hand over the controls to us (GCSANE)."

"There is no comparison between the sites of Springfield and Boston. After all, Boston has the reputation as a triple-A convention city. It has all the facilities and tourist attractions that can make conference-going a tremendous experience for attendees and their guests."

"I also like the idea of having everything under one roof. If it is desired, a person can check into the hotel and never leave it while taking in all phases of the confer-

ence. In conclusion, I ask: 'Where would you rather spend a day or two . . . Springfield or Boston?'"

Manny Francis, Jr., Green Harbor Golf Club: "This might turn into somewhat of a geographical issue. Those west of Worcester prefer to stay in Springfield, those east want to switch to Boston. Or is that too simple?"

"Geographically, the move is more convenient for me. However, my personal outlook bypasses the physical convenience. And I lean on sentimental values by stating that I think the conference should stay in Springfield."

"That's my heart talking. It's also the country side of me saying that the change from Springfield (relatively rural) to Boston (definitely urban) may be too much of a culture shock. We'll see."

"As for the timing, January instead of March, I wonder how many supers will have to change vacation plans to make the new date? I mean, is it really worth all this to upset something this established?"

Mike Hermanson, Gardner Municipal Golf Course: "Of course, I am a member of the GCSANE board and have my convictions in the direction of making a change. They are obvious. I'm all for the move."

"As for convenience and expense, I think I stand out as a middle of the roader to the degree that in Gardner I'm dead-even as far as travel goes. It's so many miles to Springfield, the same to Boston."

"In the past, I have commuted because of less taxing traffic conditions. This time I'll have to stay over, so the convenience factor suffers. Then, on the other hand, the time change makes it easier for me to block out open dates on my basketball officiating schedule. Overall, that makes it a standoff."

"Going to the bottom line means going head to head . . . Springfield against Boston. Result? No contest. But ask me the same question a year from now. And ask others. In other words, let's give the changes a chance to see if they work."

Kevin Killoy, Quaboag Country Club: "They're taking the conference out of my backyard (Monson) and putting an-

other factor into my decision to attend the conference in Boston. That factor is the cost factor. My club doesn't have the funds for overnight outlay. So, if I go, it will be a one full day to and from."

"I really haven't had a chance to discuss the other variables involved in moving from Springfield to Boston. Some salesmen seem to like the idea of being able (they think) to spread and expand their sales-talking boundaries."

"Whatever, the time change is a positive with me. We're always at the mercy of the weather, whether it be in August or March. So, when the weather allows me to get a jump on my work in March, the course is where I'm going to be. My club obligations come first."

"Right now I'm undecided about going to Boston. I may give it a chance, see what develops. I really don't know. We'll see when January gets here."

Charlie Passios, Hyannisport Golf Club: "I remember talking about some-

thing like this . . . the association becoming more involved and a move a possibility. That was six years ago and the guy doing the talking was Joe Troll."

"I think it's a great move, but emphasize that the first beginnings of the new site and time should serve as a tribute to Joe and Lonnie Troll who put heart and soul into the conference for so long. They kept it going and now it's our commitment to bring it to another level."

"When you analyze the overall picture, it's clear that a change was in line. The conference had a long run in Springfield but I sense it was becoming stagnant. Therefore, the change to Boston is a clear-cut plus for the conference. We're going to a first class city and a first class facility, and the convenience becomes the conference's keynote speech in a nutshell."

"As for the time change, it fits my perspective. Hit the Boston show, move to the national, then back to the club recharged for the long season. It's a move and change for the betterment of all. Let's do it."

GERRY FINN



GCSANE help is needed to save critical teaching position at UMass

Dr. Richard Cooper has left the University of Massachusetts and Stockbridge School of Agriculture to accept the position of Associate Professor of Turfgrass Science at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. Dr. Cooper was an Associate Professor in the Department of Plant & Soil Sciences, Program Coordinator for the Stockbridge Turf Management Program, Coordinator of the Turf Winter School, managed the Turf Research Facility in South Deerfield, participated in Extension Turf Program educational outreach activities, and conducted research in the areas of turf fertility, cultural management, and fate of pesticides.

Since Dr. Cooper's resignation, Dr. Patricia Crosson, Provost of UMass, has refused to allow Dean Robert Helgesen of

Stockbridge to refill this vacant position. We all know that Stockbridge has produced high quality turf managers in the golf course as well as lawn care fields. If this position is not filled, a large void will be left in the Stockbridge Turf Program for future students and also for present superintendents and turf managers who depend on turf research in their daily maintenance routines.

We need your help! If this vacant position is to be filled, we all must write to the administration of UMass. Remember, it's a numbers game: The more people who mail or fax letters to these decision-makers, the better chance we'll have to get this critical position filled. Please take the time to write and tell them your concerns and wishes for the Stockbridge Turf Program

and Turf Research. With your help, I'm sure they will hear us.

Here are addresses and FAX numbers of the members of the UMass administration who should receive letters:

Chancellor David K. Scott, The Chancellor's Office, 374 Whitmore Administration Building, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003, FAX: (413) 545-2328.

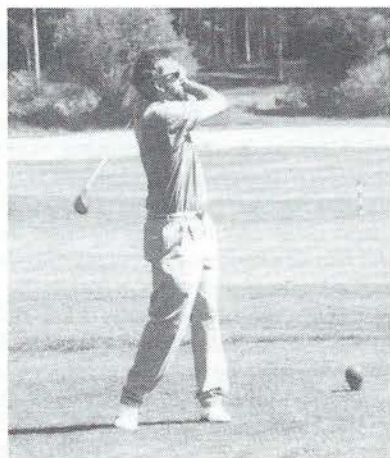
Dr. Patricia Crosson, Provost, Whitmore Administration Building, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003, FAX: (413) 545-2328.

Dr. Robert Helgesen, Dean, College of Food and Natural Resources, Stockbridge Hall, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003, FAX: (413) 545-1242.

MIKE NAGLE

Scenes from the GCSANE Scholarship & Benevolence Tournament May 22 at Poquoy Brook C.C.

Below, at the 8th tee at Poquoy Brook C.C., Chris Cowan launches another scud. At right at the 6th tee are (l. to. r.) Ed Savage, Mark Savage, Dr. Prasanta Bhowmik, and Bob Ruzala. Below right, at the Poquoy Brook putting green, the field gets in some last-minute practice putts.



Turfgrass clipping management: To remove . . . or not to remove clippings?

Dr. William M. Dest,
University of Connecticut

It has become a common practice over the last 15 years or so to remove grass clippings from home lawns and other turf grass areas. Although there are situations in which grass clippings must be removed such as on putting and lawn bowling greens or when clippings are so excessive as to smother turf, the sensible approach is to return grass clippings to other turf areas.

Several problems with removing grass clippings are 1) the cost to bag and/or haul them away, 2) places to dispose of them, and 3) their potential as a point source of water contamination if stored in a single location.

Two studies on clipping management were recently completed at Plant and Soil Teaching and Research Farm, University of Connecticut, Storrs on a perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne* L. var. Blazer II, Fiesta II, Jazz) and Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis* L. var. America) turf. The first was a three year study investigating the effects of grass clippings on the biological activity in a turfgrass community, their effect on the physical and chemical properties of soils, and nutrient recycling under a turfgrass sward. The second study was to determine how much nitrogen fertilization could be reduced by returning grass clipping in place of the practice of removal and still maintain turfgrass quality.

It was found that the total clipping yield in all three years was greater where grass clippings were returned compared to the treatment in which clippings were removed, an indication of the difference in turfgrass vigor. The fresh weight of clippings ranged from 10,776 to 12,835 pounds per acre when clippings were returned and

from 6823 to 9,800 pounds per acre where removed. The fresh weight of clippings also provided information on the amount of grass clippings that are potentially hauled to landfills and other disposal sites when clippings are removed from lawns. Further, the difference in yield between the two practices is a reflection of nutrient recycling, particularly nitrogen. This was also apparent by nitrogen deficiency symptoms that were experienced at certain periods over the three growing seasons where clippings were removed, even though 3 lbs. N per 1000 sq. ft. divided into three applications was applied each year to the plots.

The treatments in which clippings were recycled returned 135, 118, and 135 lbs. N per acre in each of the three years respectively, while 108, 78, and 67 lbs. N per acre was removed from plots in which clippings were collected. This is a substantial loss of nitrogen being equivalent to 1.5, 1.8, and 2.5 pounds of nitrogen per 1000 square feet in each of the three years, nitrogen that would be reutilized in part by the plant thus reducing some of the need for fertilizer nitrogen. This was substantiated by our second study in which we were able to reduce the nitrogen treatment of 3 lbs. N per 1000 sq. ft. per year to 1.5 lbs. N per 1000 sq. ft. and still maintain a quality turfgrass sward where we returned clippings. However it should be recognized that reducing nitrogen rates by one-half is not feasible in all situations. The amount of reduction that can be obtained would depend on the present amount of nitrogen fertilizer being applied over the growing season, soil texture, and its organic matter content. This is something the professional turf manager will have to experiment with and adjust nitrogen fertilizer application rates accordingly.

Diseases of red thread, rust, and leaf spot were evident at certain periods over all growing seasons, with the greater disease incidence occurring in the clipping removed plots. Severe damage on the clipping removed plots from pink snow mold occurred in March in two out of the three years. The difference in disease severity between the clipping treatments probably was a result of a more healthy grass plant from nutrient recycling in the clipping returned plots, although disease suppression may have been due to differences in diver-

sity and/or population differences in microflora. This needs to be studied to ascertain if this is occurring.

Earthworm activity was greatly enhanced in the clipping returned treatment during the three years compared with plots in which grass clippings were removed. The added clippings served as organic litter for the earthworms resulting in an increase in their population. Subsequently, water infiltration rates, determined by using double ring infiltrometers, was substantially increased in the plots in which clippings were returned compared to clipping removal. The difference is probably a result of a larger number of macropores left by the greater earthworm activity in the clipping recycled plots. This led to preferential flow of water down the macropores.

The studies showed important benefits to be gained by returning grass clippings back to the turf. Recycling the essential plant nutrients, reduction in disease incidence, and the promotion of earthworm activity with its contribution to better soil conditions contribute to a healthier environment for plant growth.

There is presently a national movement by some parts of the turfgrass industry to promote clipping recycling. It is hoped that the results from this study will provide information on the benefits to be derived by doing so and strengthen the industry's effort in promoting national awareness on this important issue.

From Turf Notes,
March/April 1995.

The studies showed important benefits to be gained by returning grass clippings back to the turf.

Recycling the essential plant nutrients, reduction in disease incidence, and the promotion of earthworm activity (with its contribution to better soil conditions) contribute to a healthier environment for plant growth.

Thunderstorm & lightning safety: How you can stay prepared . . . and safe

Be prepared before the storm . . .

- Know the county in which you live and the names of nearby major cities. Severe weather warnings are issued on a county basis.
- Check the weather forecast before leaving for extended periods outdoors.
- Watch for signs of approaching storms.
- If a storm is approaching, keep a NOAA Weather Radio or AM/FM radio with you.
- Postpone outdoor activities if thunderstorms are imminent. This is your best way to avoid being caught in a dangerous situation.
- Check on those who have trouble taking shelter if severe weather threatens.

What to do when thunderstorms approach . . .

- Remember: if you can hear thunder, you are close enough to the storm to be struck by lightning. Go to safe shelter immediately!
- Move to a sturdy building or car. Do not take shelter in small sheds, under isolated trees, or in convertible automobiles.
- If lightning is occurring and a sturdy shelter is not available, get inside a hard top automobile and keep windows up.
- Get out of boats and away from water.
- Telephone lines and metal pipes can conduct electricity. Unplug appliances not necessary for obtaining weather information. Avoid using the telephone or any electrical appliances. Use phones *only* in an emergency.
- Do not take a bath or shower.
- Turn off air conditioners. Power surges from lightning can overload the compressors.

- Get to higher ground if flash flooding or flooding is possible. Once flooding begins, abandon cars and climb to higher ground. Do not attempt to drive to safety. Note: Most flash flood deaths occur in automobiles.

If caught outdoors and no shelter is nearby . . .

- Find a low spot away from trees, fences, and poles. Make sure the place you pick is not subject to flooding.
- If you are in the woods, take shelter under the shorter trees.
- If you feel your skin tingle or your hair stand on end, squat low to the ground on the balls of your feet. Place your hands on your knees with your head between them. Make yourself the smallest target possible, and minimize your contact with the ground.
- If you are boating or swimming, get to land and find shelter immediately!

Warnings and watches: What to listen for . . .

Severe Thunderstorm Watch: tells you when and where severe thunderstorms are more likely to occur. Watch the sky and stay tuned to know when warnings are issued. Watches are intended to heighten public awareness and should not be confused with warnings.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning: issued when severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate imminent danger to life and property to those in the path of the storm.

Myths and facts about lightning

MYTH: If it is not raining, then there is no danger from lightning.

FACT: Lightning often strikes outside of heavy rain and may occur as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall.

MYTH: The rubber soles of shoes or rubber tires on a car will protect you from being struck by lightning.

FACT: Rubber-soled shoes and rubber tires provide NO protection from lightning. However, the steel frame of a hard-topped vehicle provides increased protection if you are not touching metal. Although you may be injured if lightning strikes your car, you are much safer inside a vehicle than outside.

MYTH: People struck by lightning carry an electrical charge and should not be touched.

FACT: Lightning-strike victims carry no electrical charge and should be attended to immediately. Contact your local American Red Cross chapter for information on CPR and first aid classes.

MYTH: "Heat lightning" occurs after very hot summer days and poses no threat.

FACT: What is referred to as "heat lightning" is actually lightning from a thunderstorm too far away for thunder to be heard. However, the storm may be moving in your direction!

**From A Preparedness Guide
by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce,
NOAA, and the National Weather
Service, January, 1994.**

***Postpone outdoor activities
if thunderstorms are imminent.
This is your best way to avoid
being caught in a dangerous
situation.***

***Remember: If you can hear
thunder, you are close enough
to the storm to be struck by
lightning. Go to a safe shelter
immediately!***

Consider causes of insecticide "failure": Diagnosis, application rate & timing, . . . and water

Dr. Patricia J. Vittum,
University of Massachusetts

Sometimes turf managers use insecticides to control insect populations and report that those applications did not work as well as they had expected or had hoped. However, in many cases the applicator does not sample the insect population before he treats an area, and therefore does not know how many insects he had to start with. For example, an area might have an average of 25 white grubs per square foot before an application is made. A week after the material is applied, a count might reveal five grubs per square foot. If a turf manager does not know what the original population was, he might think that the material "failed" because he still has five grubs per square foot. But in fact the material worked quite well, killing 80% of the population.

So the first question to ask is, "*Did the material really fail?*"

There are virtually no circumstances where we can expect a traditional insecticide to control every single insect in a turf area. In other words, we can never hope to eradicate an insect population - and we are being unreasonable if we expect a chemical to give us 100% control.

Usually a turf manager will have a pretty good guess as to what the problem is - the damage looks similar to something he has seen before, the insects he finds in the turf look familiar to him, or a neighbor down the street compares notes and reports that he is having a problem with "pest x". However, sometimes the insects do something unexpected. Occasionally we find large numbers of insects blowing in with spring storm fronts. Sometimes insects change their feeding habits and attack plants they have not attacked before.

So sometimes a turf manager may not know what kind of insect is attacking the turf, or might make a *wrong diagnosis*. Several insect species look very similar. For example, the grub stage of the Japanese beetle, European chafer, oriental beetle, masked chafers, and black turfgrass atenioides looks virtually identical, but the life cycle for each is quite different - and the best timing for chemical control depends on which species is dominant. So it is absolutely critical to have the right

identification of the insect pest before any effort can be made to control that insect.

Most insects have certain stages of their development which are susceptible to control and other stages which cannot be controlled with any insecticide currently available on the market. As a general rule insect eggs and pupae are virtually impossible to control with chemicals while larvae and adults are more likely to be susceptible to control. Some insecticides are more effective against adults than larvae, while some are more effective against larvae than adults. So *timing of application* is critical to the success of a control effort. An application which is made when most of the target insects are in the egg or pupa stage is probably doomed to failure. Similarly, an application of an adult-active material which is made when most of the target insects are larvae probably will not work very well. Small larvae usually are easier to control than large larvae, so if an application is made when most of the insects are small larvae, that application will have the greatest chance of controlling the target insects.

Most insecticides have a range of rates on the label. These rates have been established after several years of laboratory and field testing and are on the label for a reason. Some of the insecticide "failures" which have occurred can be traced to inaccurate applications. Sometimes an applicator fails to overlap adequately and leaves strips which are not treated. Perhaps even more frequently an applicator fails to calibrate the application equipment frequently enough. Note that pre-season calibration is a great idea, but will not last through an entire growing season.

In other words, *applying materials at the wrong rate* will invariably lead to less than ideal performance of the product. While it is intuitively obvious that applying too little material may lead to loss of control, applying too much material may also lead to problems. In some cases insecticides may serve as repellents at high rates, so insects are driven away from the treated area but not controlled. And of course there are several environmental, as well as legal, concerns which come into play when materials are applied above the labeled rate.

Many insecticide labels stipulate the use of water immediately before or after an application. These requirements may be on the label to enhance the effectiveness of the

material (for example, thorough watering after a white grub application moves the material through the thatch and draws the grubs up into the thatch so that the grubs come in contact with the material) or may be on the label to reduce environmental exposure concerns. In any case, *use of water before or after application* can make a tremendous difference in the effectiveness of an insecticide.

Lawn care applicators often have an extra challenge because many of the materials they use should be watered in as soon after application as possible, particularly when they are trying to control grubs. Unfortunately, most homeowners do not understand what must be done to irrigate a lawn with half an inch of water, so the material may already be at a disadvantage. Some insecticides break down very rapidly in water with high pH (very alkaline). Determining pH indicates how acid or basic (non-acid) a material is. Pure water is neutral, with a pH of 7; pH values higher than 7 are basic or alkaline. If the water supply which is used to fill a tank has a pH of 8.0 or higher, some insecticides will begin to break down in the tank very quickly. For example, if the pH is 8.5, Proxol or Dylox will begin to breakdown in a matter of minutes.

High water pH is an often overlooked reason for insecticide failure. In spite of all the news about "acid rain", several city water supplies in the Northeast tend to have fairly high pH. Fortunately there are several acidifying agents or buffers which can be purchased from turf suppliers and added to the tank to adjust the pH so that the material does not break down as rapidly. *So check your pH and adjust it if necessary!*

So there are several reasons why insecticides may not work as well as expected. But before you blame the material, review what you did and be sure that you gave the material every chance to work as well as it could. Make sure you know what the insect pest is and what stage it is in, be sure the equipment is calibrated properly, use water before or after the application as directed, and use a material that is labeled for the insect pest you are trying to control. All of these steps should help to improve the performance of the material.

Reprinted from New York State
Turfgrass Association Newsletter,
Fall 1994.

Please Patronize These FRIENDS OF THE ASSOCIATION

A-OK Turf Equipment

8 Boulder Dr., Coventry, RI 02816
Buy & sell used turf equipment.
Mike Comicelli - (401) 826-2584

AA Will Materials Corporation

168 Washington St., Stoughton, MA 02072
Top dressing & bunker sand, loam, decorative stone, & landscape materials. Est. 1886.
Frank Will, Dan Graziano, Kevin LaPorte
1-800-4-AAWILL

Agriturf, Inc.

59 Dwight St., Hatfield, MA 01038
Fertilizer, seed, and chemicals for turf.
Bruce Chapman, Paul McDonough,
Chris Cowan
1-800-346-5048

Baker Golf Cars

40 Walker St., Swansea, MA 02777
Steve Fournier, Doug Hooper
(508) 379-0092

Bartlett Tree Experts

153 Rumford Ave., Newton, MA 02166
Tree maintenance, fertilization & consulting.
(617) 969-5990

Bayer Corporation

1516 Capella South, Goat Island
Newport, RI 02840
Baylton, Merit, Dyllox, Tempo, Nemacur.
Brad Herman - (401) 846-3515;
FAX (401) 846-8012

Best Bent Turf, Inc.

P.O. Box 318, Raymond, NH 03077
Alan Anderson - (603) 895-6220

The Borden Company

Maynard, MA
Bulk limestone dealer.
Jack Borden - (508) 897-2571

Boston Irrigation Company

Dedham, MA
Distributor, irrigation supplies & accessories.
John Ramey, Paul Kenyon, Robert Barbati
(617) 461-1560

Brennan Sales

P.O. Box 1082, Scarborough, ME 04070
Turf care products.
Bob Brennan - (207) 883-5799

Caldwell Environmental

5 Cross St., Acton, MA
(508) 263-4586

The Cardinals, Inc.

166 River Rd., P.O. Box 520
Unionville, CT 06085
Golf course & landscape supplies.
John Callahan - (203) 673-3699

Geoffrey S. Cornish & Brian Silva

Golf Course Architects
Fiddlers Green, Amherst, MA 01002

Country Club Enterprises, Inc.

P.O. Box 820, Cataumet, MA 02534
Club Car golf cars, carryalls, utility cars.
Jim Casey, Dave Farina, Ed Maguire
(508) 563-2284

Country Golf, Inc.

4852 Westchester Dr., Traverse City, MI 49684
Golf course construction & reconstruction;
specialists in Donald Ross courses.
Jerry Deemer - (616) 947-5751

Doering Equipment

P.O. Box N, Franklin, MA 02038
Distributor of John Deere golf & turf equipment.
Mark Doering - (508) 520-3629

Elanco Products Company

31 Old Town Trail, Narragansett, RI 02882
Stephen C. Dolinak - (401) 789-9017

F.D.I., Inc.

(Fairway Design Illustration)
55 Railroad Ave., Warren, RI 02885
Custom granite signs & markers.
Joseph K. Martin, Robert Page
(401) 245-7890 or 1-800-358-8337

Gold Star Wholesale Nursery & Sod Farm

Bill Thompson
Lexington, MA - (617) 861-1111
Canterbury, NH - (603) 783-4717

Golf Direction Associates

54 N. Grove St., Foxboro, MA 02035
Business forms, graphics, reports, resumes.
Nora Berard - (508) 543-9822
FAX (508) 698-0402

The Charles C. Hart Seed Co.

P.O. Box 9169, Weathersfield, CT 06109
Roy Sibley, Dick Gurski
1-800-326-HART

International Golf Construction Co.

5 Purcell Rd., Arlington, MA 02174
Golf course construction.
Antonio Paganis
(617) 648-2351 or (508) 428-3022

Irrigation Management & Services

21 Lakeview Ave., Natick, MA 01760-4252
Irrigation consultation, design and
system evaluation.
Bob Healey, ASIC, CID - (508) 653-0625

Tom Irwin, Inc.

11B A St., Burlington, MA
Jack Petersen, Wayne Ripley, Dennis Friel
Paul Skafas, Chris Petersen
1-800-582-5959

Ken Jones Tire Co.

Worcester, MA
Distributor of tires for lawn & garden, trucks,
cars, industrial equipment, and golf carts.
Gerry Jones - (508) 755-5255

Larchmont Eng. & Irrig. Co.

Larchmont Lane, Lexington, MA 02173
Steve Butler - (617) 862-2550

The Lawn Co., Inc.

P.O. Box 1540, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532
Fertilizers & pest controls applied;
fairway aeration & slice seeding.
Tom Fair - 1-800-660-TURF

Lazaro's Golf Course Accessories

dba Hammond Paint & Chem. Co., Inc.
738 Main St., Suite 223, Waltham, MA 02154
Joseph Lazaro - (617) 647-3361

LESCO, Inc.

20005 Lake Rd., Rocky River, OH 44116
Ron Tumiski, Mike Donohue
1-800-321-5325

Loff's Seed

22 Lantern Lane, Exeter, RI 02822
Victoria Wallace - 1-800-648-7333

D.L. Maher Co.

Box 127, Concord St., N. Reading 01864
Water supply specialists;
water wells & pumping equipment.
(617) 933-3210

Mass Natural

P.O. Box 363, Westminster, MA 01473
Manufacturers & suppliers of organic com-
post, enriched topsoil, custom planting mixes.
(508) 874-0744

Lawrence R. McCoy & Co., Inc.

100 Front St., 700 Mechanics Tower
Worcester, MA 01608
Wholesale resource for railroad ties, timbers,
bagged or bulk mulches, fencing, stakes,
planters, and ice & snow melt.
1-800-346-2269

Modern Aeration Service, Inc.

212 Kendrick St., Newton, MA 02158
Featuring water injection aeration.
Kevin Osgood - (617) 630-1950

Modern Tractor & Truck Service, Inc.

400 Pine St., Seekonk, MA 02771
Holliston sand/loam topdressing mixture, 1/2"
or 1/8" screened loam, underground tank
removal, Convault aboveground fuel tank.
Steven S. Howitt - (508) 761-5554

R.F. Morse & Sons, Inc.

W. Wareham, MA 02576
Larry Anshewitz, Jack Cronin
(508) 295-1553

Nardone Sand & Gravel Co., Inc.

37 Power Rd., Westford, MA 01886
Specializing in topdressing sand.
Greg Frederick - (508) 692-8221

Agri-Evo U.S.A. Co.

Wilmington, Delaware
David Sylvester - (203) 828-8905

Partac Golf Course Top-Dressing

Kelsey Part, Great Meadows, NJ 07838
Heat treated top-dressing, golf hole targets,
turf blankets, and other specialty golf supplies.
Jim Kelsey, 1-800-247-2326, (908) 637-4191

P.I.E. Supply Co.

For your irrigation needs; dedicated to sales
and service of quality irrigation equipment.
Frank Santos
(508) 420-0755 or (203) 878-0658

Pro-Lawn Products, Inc.

24 Johnathan Rd., W. Greenwich, RI 02817
Specializing in turf & ornamental needs.
(401) 397-8880

Read Sand & Gravel, Inc.

171 VFW Dr., Rockland, MA 02370
Topdressing; root-zone mixes; bunker sand;
3/4 & 3/8 screened loams; cart path materials;
mulch; drainage stone.
Joe Farina - 1-800-660-2955

J.P. Roberts Co.

Technical resource catalog; survey-weather-
testing-measurement & diagnostic equipment.
Barbara Piantadosi - (508) 456-6886

Safety Storage, Inc.

86 Sanderson Ave., Lynn, MA 01902
Prefabricated pesticide storage buildings,
gas & oil, storage cabinets.
(617) 599-5490

Sani-Mate Supply, Inc.

88 Shrewsbury St., Worcester, MA
Distributor of Karcher hot high pressure
equipment and bulk detergents, sales, service,
and rentals.
Barry Hackett - (508) 752-8888

Sawtelle Bros.

65 Glenn St., Lawrence, MA 01843
Bob Brown, Larry Bunn, Mike Hannigan,
Frank Higgins, John Lenhart
(508) 682-9296

Scotts Pro-Turf Div.

Allan Cumps, Regional Director
Randy Hamilton - (508) 528-4642
Richard Forri - (413) 534-8896

Sodco, Inc.

P.O. Box 2, Slocum, RI 02877
Matt Faherty, Joe Wagner
1-800-341-6900

Sports Club Management

104 Wyman Rd., Braintree, MA 02184
Hazcom and right-to-know
compliance implementation.
Ron Smith - (617) 848-5978

Sullivan Tire Co.

Goodyear specialty tires & tubes.
Tom Wilson
MA: 1-800-464-1144, (508) 580-2222
NE: 1-800-321-0042

Dahn Tibbett Professional Golf Services

d/b/a/ Weed & Feed, Inc.
20 Clark Lane, Marshfield, MA 02050
Specialists in golf course construction and
irrigation installation. We also offer a wire
tracing service.
(617) 837-3503, FAX (617) 834-2392

Tee and Green Sod, Inc.

Exeter, RI 02822
Bentgrass, bluegrass and blue/fescue sod.
Dave Wallace, Robin Hayes
(401) 789-8177

Tuckahoe Turf Farms, Inc.

Richmond, RI
Chris Beasley - 1-800-556-6985

Turf Enhancement Enterprises

Featuring Floratine Products, Precision Small
Engine Co. & Trion Lifts.
Tom Fox - (508) 865-9150

TurfNet Associates, Inc.

21 Brandywine Road, Skillman, NJ 08558
Communication...information...
market intelligence
Peter L. McCormick - 1-800-314-7929

Turf Products Corp.

7 Coppage Dr., Worcester, MA 01603
Distributors of Toro irrigation and maintenance
equipment, lightning detection systems, and
other golf-related products.
Tim Berge, Ed Fallow, Rick Moulton,
John Winkowicz
(508) 791-2091

Turf Specialty, Inc.

15 Londonderry Rd., Londonderry, NH 03053
Turf & ornamental supplies.
Bob Flanagan, Kevin Lyons,
Dave Schermerhorn, John Lensing
1-800-228-6656

United Horticultural Supply

P.O. Box 7, Sodus, NY 14551
Fertilizer, seed, chemicals, and IPM.
Glen Larabee - (508) 223-4931
Ed Wiacek - (401) 254-1674

Varney Bros. Sand, Gravel & Concrete

Bellingham, MA
Concrete golf cart paths.
Kenneth Mooradian - 1-800-441-7373

Winding Brook Turf Farm, Inc.

240 Griswold Rd., Wethersfield, CT 06109
1-800-243-0232

Winfield Nursery

1320 Mountain Rd., Suffield, CT 06109
Wholesale nursery trees & shrubs.
Jeff Rogers

Philip Wogan

Golf Course Architecture
17 Walker Rd., Topsfield, MA 01983

Zip Type Service

50 Kent St., Newburyport, MA 01950
Design, printing, mailing,
advertising specialties.
Sheila Johnson - (508) 462-9358

Please Patronize These FRIENDS OF THE ASSOCIATION

A-OK Turf Equipment

8 Boulder Dr., Coventry, RI 02816
Buy & sell used turf equipment.
Mike Comicelli - (401) 826-2584

AA Will Materials Corporation

168 Washington St., Stoughton, MA 02072
Top dressing & bunker sand, loam, decorative stone, & landscape materials. Est. 1886.
Frank Will, Dan Graziano, Kevin LaPorte
1-800-4-AAWILL

Agriturf, Inc.

59 Dwight St., Hatfield, MA 01038
Fertilizer, seed, and chemicals for turf.
Bruce Chapman, Paul McDonough,
Chris Cowan
1-800-346-5048

Baker Golf Cars

40 Walker St., Swansea, MA 02777
Steve Fournier, Doug Hooper
(508) 379-0092

Bartlett Tree Experts

153 Rumford Ave., Newton, MA 02166
Tree maintenance, fertilization & consulting.
(617) 969-5990

Bayer Corporation

1516 Capella South, Goat Island
Newport, RI 02840
Baylton, Merit, Dyllox, Tempo, Nemacur.
Brad Herman - (401) 846-3515;
FAX (401) 846-8012

Best Bent Turf, Inc.

P.O. Box 318, Raymond, NH 03077
Alan Anderson - (603) 895-6220

The Borden Company

Maynard, MA
Bulk limestone dealer.
Jack Borden - (508) 897-2571

Boston Irrigation Company

Dedham, MA
Distributor, irrigation supplies & accessories.
John Ramey, Paul Kenyon, Robert Barbati
(617) 461-1560

Brennan Sales

P.O. Box 1082, Scarborough, ME 04070
Turf care products.
Bob Brennan - (207) 883-5799

Caldwell Environmental

5 Cross St., Acton, MA
(508) 263-4586

The Cardinals, Inc.

166 River Rd., P.O. Box 520
Unionville, CT 06085
Golf course & landscape supplies.
John Callahan - (203) 673-3699

Geoffrey S. Cornish & Brian Silva

Golf Course Architects
Fiddlers Green, Amherst, MA 01002

Country Club Enterprises, Inc.

P.O. Box 820, Cataumet, MA 02534
Club Car golf cars, carryalls, utility cars.
Jim Casey, Dave Farina, Ed Maguire
(508) 563-2284

Country Golf, Inc.

4852 Westchester Dr., Traverse City, MI 49684
Golf course construction & reconstruction;
specialists in Donald Ross courses.
Jerry Deemer - (616) 947-5751

Doering Equipment

P.O. Box N, Franklin, MA 02038
Distributor of John Deere golf & turf equipment.
Mark Doering - (508) 520-3629

Elanco Products Company

31 Old Town Trail, Narragansett, RI 02882
Stephen C. Dolinak - (401) 789-9017

F.D.I., Inc.

(Fairway Design Illustration)
55 Railroad Ave., Warren, RI 02885
Custom granite signs & markers.
Joseph K. Martin, Robert Page
(401) 245-7890 or 1-800-358-8337

Gold Star Wholesale Nursery & Sod Farm

Bill Thompson
Lexington, MA - (617) 861-1111
Canterbury, NH - (603) 783-4717

Golf Direction Associates

54 N. Grove St., Foxboro, MA 02035
Business forms, graphics, reports, resumes.
Nora Berard - (508) 543-9822
FAX (508) 698-0402

The Charles C. Hart Seed Co.

P.O. Box 9169, Weathersfield, CT 06109
Roy Sibley, Dick Gorski
1-800-326-HART

International Golf Construction Co.

5 Purcell Rd., Arlington, MA 02174
Golf course construction.
Antonios Paganis
(617) 648-2351 or (508) 428-3022

Irrigation Management & Services

21 Lakeview Ave., Natick, MA 01760-4252
Irrigation consultation, design and
system evaluation.
Bob Healey, ASIC, CID - (508) 653-0625

Tom Irwin, Inc.

11B A St., Burlington, MA
Jack Petersen, Wayne Ripley, Dennis Friel
Paul Skafas, Chris Petersen
1-800-582-5959

Ken Jones Tire Co.

Worcester, MA
Distributor of tires for lawn & garden, trucks,
cars, industrial equipment, and golf carts.
Gerry Jones - (508) 755-5255

Larchmont Eng. & Irrig. Co.

Larchmont Lane, Lexington, MA 02173
Steve Butler - (617) 862-2550

The Lawn Co., Inc.

P.O. Box 1540, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532
Fertilizers & pest controls applied;
fairway aeration & slice seeding.
Tom Fair - 1-800-660-TURF

Lazaro's Golf Course Accessories

dba Hammond Paint & Chem. Co., Inc.
738 Main St., Suite 223, Waltham, MA 02154
Joseph Lazaro - (617) 647-3361

LESCO, Inc.

20005 Lake Rd., Rocky River, OH 44116
Ron Tumiski, Mike Donohue
1-800-321-5325

Loft's Seed

22 Lantern Lane, Exeter, RI 02822
Victoria Wallace - 1-800-648-7333

D.L. Maher Co.

Box 127, Concord St., N. Reading 01864
Water supply specialists;
water wells & pumping equipment.
(617) 933-3210

Mass Natural

P.O. Box 363, Westminster, MA 01473
Manufacturers & suppliers of organic com-
post, enriched topsoil, custom planting mixes.
(508) 874-0744

Lawrence R. McCoy & Co., Inc.

100 Front St., 700 Mechanics Tower
Worcester, MA 01608
Wholesale resource for railroad ties, timbers,
bagged or bulk mulches, fencing, stakes,
planters, and ice & snow melt.
1-800-346-2269

Modern Aeration Service, Inc.

212 Kendrick St., Newton, MA 02158
Featuring water injection aeration.
Kevin Osgood - (617) 630-1950

Modern Tractor & Truck Service, Inc.

400 Pine St., Seekonk, MA 02771
Holliston sand/loam topdressing mixture, 1/2"
or 1/8" screened loam, underground tank
removal, Convault aboveground fuel tank.
Steven S. Howitt - (508) 761-5554

R.F. Morse & Sons, Inc.

W. Wareham, MA 02576
Larry Anshewitz, Jack Cronin
(508) 295-1553

Nardone Sand & Gravel Co., Inc.

37 Power Rd., Westford, MA 01886
Specializing in topdressing sand.
Greg Frederick - (508) 692-8221

Agr-Evo U.S.A. Co.

Wilmington, Delaware
David Sylvester - (203) 828-8905

Partac Golf Course Top-Dressing

Kelsey Part, Great Meadows, NJ 07838
Heat treated top-dressing, golf hole targets,
turf blankets, and other specialty golf supplies.
Jim Kelsey, 1-800-247-2326, (908) 637-4191

P.I.E. Supply Co.

For your irrigation needs; dedicated to sales
and service of quality irrigation equipment.
Frank Santos
(508) 420-0755 or (203) 878-0658

Pro-Lawn Products, Inc.

24 Johnathan Rd., W. Greenwich, RI 02817
Specializing in turf & ornamental needs.
(401) 397-8880

Read Sand & Gravel, Inc.

171 VFW Dr., Rockland, MA 02370
Topdressing; root-zone mixes; bunker sand;
3/4 & 3/8 screened loams; cart path materials;
mulch; drainage stone.
Joe Farina - 1-800-660-2955

J.P. Roberts Co.

Technical resource catalog; survey-weather-
testing-measurement & diagnostic equipment.
Barbara Piantadosi - (508) 456-6886

Safety Storage, Inc.

86 Sanderson Ave., Lynn, MA 01902
Prefabricated pesticide storage buildings,
gas & oil, storage cabinets.
(617) 599-5490

Sani-Mate Supply, Inc.

88 Shrewsbury St., Worcester, MA
Distributor of Karcher hot high pressure
equipment and bulk detergents, sales, service,
and rentals.
Barry Hackett - (508) 752-8888

Sawtelle Bros.

65 Glenn St., Lawrence, MA 01843
Bob Brown, Larry Bunn, Mike Hannigan,
Frank Higgins, John Lenhart
(508) 682-9296

Scotts Pro-Turf Div.

Allan Cumps, Regional Director
Randy Hamilton - (508) 528-4642
Richard Forri - (413) 534-8896

Sodco, Inc.

P.O. Box 2, Slocum, RI 02877
Matt Faherty, Joe Wagner
1-800-341-6900

Sports Club Management

104 Wyman Rd., Braintree, MA 02184
Hazcom and right-to-know
compliance implementation.
Ron Smith - (617) 848-5978

Sullivan Tire Co.

Goodyear specialty tires & tubes.
Tom Wilson
MA: 1-800-464-1144, (508) 580-2222
NE: 1-800-321-0042

Dahn Tibbett Professional Golf Services

d/b/a/ Weed & Feed, Inc.
20 Clark Lane, Marshfield, MA 02050
Specialists in golf course construction and
irrigation installation. We also offer a wire
tracing service.
(617) 837-3503, FAX (617) 834-2392

Tee and Green Sod, Inc.

Exeter, RI 02822
Bentgrass, bluegrass and blue/fescue sod.
Dave Wallace, Robin Hayes
(401) 789-8177

Tuckahoe Turf Farms, Inc.

Richmond, RI
Chris Beasley - 1-800-556-6985

Turf Enhancement Enterprises

Featuring Floratine Products, Precision Small
Engine Co. & Trion Lifts.
Tom Fox - (508) 865-9150

TurfNet Associates, Inc.

21 Brandywine Road, Skillman, NJ 08558
Communication...information...
market intelligence
Peter L. McCormick - 1-800-314-7929

Turf Products Corp.

7 Coppage Dr., Worcester, MA 01603
Distributors of Toro irrigation and maintenance
equipment, lightning detection systems, and
other golf-related products.
Tim Berge, Ed Fallow, Rick Moulton,
John Winkowicz
(508) 791-2091

Turf Specialty, Inc.

15 Londonderry Rd., Londonderry, NH 03053
Turf & ornamental supplies.
Bob Flanagan, Kevin Lyons,
Dave Schermerhorn, John Lensing
1-800-228-6656

United Horticultural Supply

P.O. Box 7, Sodus, NY 14551
Fertilizer, seed, chemicals, and IPM.
Glen Larabee - (508) 223-4931
Ed Wiacek - (401) 254-1674

Varney Bros. Sand, Gravel & Concrete

Bellingham, MA
Concrete golf cart paths.
Kenneth Mooradian - 1-800-441-7373

Winding Brook Turf Farm, Inc.

240 Griswold Rd., Wethersfield, CT 06109
1-800-243-0232

Winfield Nursery

1320 Mountain Rd., Suffield, CT 06109
Wholesale nursery trees & shrubs.
Jeff Rogers

Philip Wogan

Golf Course Architecture
17 Walker Rd., Topsfield, MA 01983

Zip Type Service

50 Kent St., Newburyport, MA 01950
Design, printing, mailing,
advertising specialties.
Sheila Johnson - (508) 462-9358

Sharing space with wildlife calls for balance

Creating a beautiful landscape and enjoying the sights, sounds, and diversity of wildlife are primary benefits of managing your land with the needs of wildlife in mind. Yet as soon as that once-graceful deer eats your shrubbery down to twigs, or flocks of Canada geese leave small piles of surprises that make walking a hazard, your fondness for wildlife may begin to wane. Such conflicts with wildlife behavior or boundaries may even lead you to question the sanity of managing property as a shared space with wildlife. Throw in a neighbor's complaint about your efforts and being a cooperative sanctuary manager can sometimes pose quite a challenge.

Striking a balance between the needs of people and those of wildlife is key to every successful cooperative sanctuary. But given the divergent values, perceptions, and experiences that people have of wildlife and nature, this is not always easy. We offer the following suggestions to help you reap the greatest benefits from sharing space with wildlife:

1. Carefully consider your needs and surroundings when planning to enhance your property. By outlining your goals and any limiting factors up front, you'll avoid most problems later. For example, consider the relationship between your cat and your bird feeding activities, or your needs for maintained play space with your desire to create "wild" habitat areas.

2. Recognize your role and your limits as sanctuary manager. You'll save yourself a lot of frustration if you understand that you can't control wildlife. Your job is to provide conditions that support wildlife survival, tinker where needed, and try to work in harmony with your land.

3. Beware of "The Bambi Syndrome." All wildlife species, not just those that are "cute and fuzzy," have a place in nature. While it's often the more beautiful or charismatic species that we want to attract, chances are these species depend on the less glamorous for survival. Strive to provide the most diverse and healthy habitat that you can, from soil to plants to insects, rodents, birds and mammals. By doing this you'll create favorable conditions for your favorite species and a healthy ecosystem with plenty of natural checks and balances.

4. Deal with any concerns or complaints directly. As a sanctuary manager, you're bound to encounter situations where your efforts to enhance and attract wildlife are feared, misunderstood, or generally unwelcome. Dealing directly with people's views and feelings is often the best way to communicate your goals, educate people about wildlife habitat, and invite support. Let people know that you're participating in the ACSP and that you're following a carefully thought-out management plan. Often, when people understand

what you're trying to do, they'll be much more supportive of your efforts.

5. When wildlife problems arise, don't ignore them. As human expansion and habitat loss force wildlife to share ever smaller quarters with people, it's inevitable that some conflicts with wildlife will arise. Evaluate each situation to be sure you fully understand what's happening. For instance, are you dealing with someone's fears or perceptions, or with actual property damage? Knowing the scope and nature of the problem will help you choose the most appropriate solution. Also, learn about the species that's causing problems. Often you can change some element of their habitat to reduce the conflict.

6. Step back to evaluate and enjoy what you've created. Although day-to-day stresses and problems may periodically cloud your vision, maintaining your sanctuary at your home, school, golf course, or business should be a fun and rewarding experience. Your commitment to sharing space with wildlife is vital to sustaining a healthy environment. Take credit and enjoy your good work!

From Field Notes,
a publication of the
New York Audubon Society,
May/June, 1995

FIRST CLASS

First Class Mail
U.S. Postage
PAID
Newburyport, MA
Permit No. 61

THE NEWSLETTER



Return to:
MIKE NAGLE
51 LINCOLN AVE.
HOLDEN, MA 01520