



# THE NEWSLETTER

October 2005

of the **Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, Inc.**

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

## ***Known for his turf care & ingenuity for 40 years, Joe Rybka set to retire from Thorny Lea Golf Club***

**By Bob DiCesare, Correspondent  
Brockton (Mass.) Enterprise  
(Published 9/27/05)**

**MONTHLY  
FEATURE** When Joe Rybka, CGCS, announced last week that he plans to step down as course superintendent at Thorny Lea Golf Club after a 40-year run, head professional Peter Norton offered the proper perspective to describe Rybka's legacy to the club.

"Thorny Lea Golf Club is what it is today because of Joe Rybka," said Norton. "He was responsible for most of the changes to the course over the years – the driving range, the watering system, and the reshaping of most of the holes.

"Joe was good at what he did. Steve Tasho said we never had a catastrophe and never lost a green because Joe knew what he was doing. He had people call him for advice from all over New England. That's how much he was respected," added Norton.

When Rybka came to Thorny Lea in 1966, he took over a course that was what he described as "very wet," and helped execute a five-year plan to install a new drainage system on more than half the holes. Over four decades, every tee box was either flattened, enlarged, or set back to make the course play longer, and there was always the annual battle with winter, which always posed a threat to Thorny Lea's precious greens.

Rybka's keys to success in preserving the greens were utilizing rubber strips

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"Thorny Lea has been like a second family to me. In 40 years, I've met a lot of nice people. I'll never forget the board members who helped me when I first started here at age 28, when I wanted to do a job and make improvements, and I had their support."

**Joe Rybka, CGCS  
Thorny Lea G.C.**

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from tires and sunflower seeds to absorb heat from the sun to melt snow and ice.

"The black coloring of the rubber was important, and we definitely needed sunflower seeds if there was ice," said Rybka, 67, a Whitman resident. "If we had ice problems, it usually occurred on holes 7, 10, and 14."

It was the utilization of these methods that helped Thorny Lea survive the winter of 2000-01, which altered the schedules of many golf courses in New England, including Salem Country Club, which had to do a major, intensive, hurry-up

job on its greens in order to host the U.S. Senior Open in June, 2001.

Another threat to Thorny Lea's layout was anthracnose, a destructive disease caused by fungi, which attacks various plants and shrubs. Rybka effectively neutralized anthracnose on several occasions by applying the right sprays.

Perhaps Rybka's greatest claims to fame came from the aftermath of a couple of hurricanes which swept through the region. In 1985, remnants of Hurricane Gloria brought down trees, branches, and debris, which threatened the start of the PGA National Assistants Championship about to be held at Thorny Lea. Rybka and his staff also performed a major cleanup after Hurricane Bob in August 1991.

"Getting the course ready for the National Assistants tourney was a key save," said Norton. "He got this place ready in a short period of time."

"Overall, I'd have to say we've been lucky through the years with the weather," said Rybka. "We have come out of the winters pretty well."

Rybka's decision to retire came suddenly to him as he was writing various reports.

"On each report, I kept writing in my 40 years length of employment here when I stopped and thought about it for a moment," said Rybka. "That's when I said maybe it's time. Time to take time off for myself and at least try retirement to see if I like it. I'm an 11-handicap because I don't play enough golf, so maybe it's about time I play more golf."

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# GCSAA elects to hold its Golf Classic in Houston as planned Feb. 5-7, 2006

The GCSAA National Championship and Golf Classic will be conducted in Houston (Feb. 5-7, 2006) as planned.

The following communication was received from GCSAA Chief Executive Officer Steve Mona:

We investigated the possibility of moving the event after the GCSAA

## GCSAA NEWS

Conference and Golf Industry Show (Feb. 6-11, 2006) was relocated

to Atlanta. Considerable feedback from the GCSAA Tournament Committee, Chapter Delegates, and the membership during the evaluation process was valuable in helping us make the decision.

I am also heartened by the support the South Texas GCSA has provided, not only in its initial application to host the event, but in its pledge to make it an enjoyable experience for all participants.

Lastly, I cannot say enough about the support we have received from The Toro Company. It has helped to elevate this

**A tournament registration brochure will be available in early November.**

golf championship into a high quality event and stands firmly behind us in this decision.

Registration for the golf championship opens Oct. 18 and ends Dec. 16. A tournament registration brochure will be available in early November, however registration can be conducted online via [golfindustryshow.com](http://golfindustryshow.com) or fax-back services at (888) 838-4419.

Again, thanks for your support in this process. I look forward to seeing you in Houston and Atlanta.

**Sincerely,  
Steve Mona, CAE  
Chief Executive Officer, GCSAA**

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## Joe Rybka set to retire from Thorny Lea Golf Club

*continued from page 1*

"Thorny Lea has been like a second family to me," he said. "In 40 years, I've met a lot of nice people. I'll never forget the board members who helped me when I first started here at age 28, when I wanted to do a job and make improvements, and I had their support."

Rybka will finish out the year at Thorny Lea before formally stepping down on Dec. 31. He will serve as a part-time consultant with the club in 2006. 🏌️

## CALENDAR...

Nov. 1 **GCSANE Monthly Meeting 9-Hole Meeting**  
Wampatuck Country Club  
Canton, Mass.  
Supt. - Edward Eardley

Dec. 16 **GCSANE Holiday Gala**  
Belmont Country Club  
Belmont, Mass.



# President Hermanson ponders the relentless rain, a rash of retirements, and a ride in a Rolls-Royce

I'm sitting here writing this on October 12 and wondering how our New England golf courses are going to survive the 8-plus inches of rain we have



received in the last few days, with much more predicted to follow. I can't believe I'm seeing black algae thriving in mid-October.

I would be remiss if I didn't tip my hat to a job well done recently

by the superintendents who hosted our last three meetings: Ken Crimmings, CGCS, at Marlborough Country Club; Frank Hancock and Brian Cowan at Eastward Ho! Country Club; Michael Luccini, CGCS, at Franklin Country Club; and Steve Curry at Berkshire Hills Country Club. Great job guys!!

Several of the legends in this industry are either retiring at the end of this season or slowly riding into the turf sunset of our profession. This honor roll

includes: Lennie Blodgett of The Kittansett Club; Brian Cowan of Eastward Ho! C.C.; Joe Rybka, CGCS, of

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thorny Lea G.C.; and longtime friend Roy Mackintosh of Twin Hills C.C. There's about 160 years of superintendent excellence among them. Great job my friends!

On a somber note, it unfortunately appears that Sawtelle Brothers will no longer be our New England Jacobsen distributor. This saddens everyone in this

industry. The members of GCSANE wish all the best to the employees who have lost their jobs by this unfortunate but not totally unexpected turn of events. I sincerely hope that Textron moves very quickly to fill the needs of the many superintendents who presently own or lease Jacobsen equipment.

I can't believe it was 34 years ago I was driving Chet Sawtelle's Rolls Royce on the cobblestone streets of Marblehead. Sadly it seems that Sawtelle Brothers, a legend in this business and a longtime supporter of GCSANE, may be no more.

October is a busy month for us, and by the time you read this, the Cape/Islands Tournament, the Pro/Superintendent, and the Joe Troll Fundraiser will already have taken place. Our next regularly scheduled meeting and our last time outdoors for 2005 is our annual 9-hole get together being held this year at Wampatuck Country Club.

Vice President Pat Kriksceonaitis may need to preside over this meeting as I believe I will be representing GCSANE at the official ribbon cutting of the new building at the Dr. Joseph Troll Turfgrass Research Center.

**Best Wishes,  
Michael J. Hermanson  
President, GCSANE**

**Several of the legends in this industry are either retiring at the end of this season or slowly riding into the turf sunset of our profession . . . There's about 160 years of superintendent excellence among them.**

## David Stowe, GCSANE Education Chairman, coordinates winter meeting sites & speakers

The duties of the Education Chairman for GCSANE are mostly related to the winter meetings. With the help of the membership, the education committee, and the respective clubs, we select meeting sites, dates, cost, and times. After discussing potential topics, we arrange for a featured speaker.

Prior to the meeting, the education outline is submitted to GCSAA for review and approval for education and/or pesticide credits. Once details are complete, the postcard is sent.

On the day of the meeting, the small but important details include the list of attendees, volunteers to run the check-in desk, name tags, receipts, and the raffle.

During the annual meeting, I lead the open floor discussion with members.

Related jobs include selection and scheduling of the GCSAA seminars. The seminars at Cyprian Keyes this fall will feature a visit from Dr. Rich Cooper speaking on soil microbiology, and John Miller, CGCS, on how to plan your way to better golf operations.

After many years as a regular meeting attendee, I am happy to be serving GCSANE as Education Chairman. If you are interested in speaking, or have heard a good presentation you think the membership may benefit from, please let me know. I can be reached by e-mail or at Newton Commonwealth.

**David A. Stowe CGCS**

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# GCSAA Chapter Delegate Pat Kriksceonaitis shares information discussed at Kansas meeting

Pat Kriksceonaitis recently attended the GCSAA Chapter Delegates meeting in Kansas. This one of a series of articles from GCSAA that Pat will share with us.

## Trends that Impact Golf

Discussions began with an analysis of how trends in lifestyle, technology, and demographics are having a big impact on society and the leisure and fitness industries, including golf.

## Time Crunch Convergence

Golf is particularly affected by elements of the "time crunch convergence." GCSAA Chief Executive Steve Mona summarized a presentation given by Madelyn Hochstein at the October 2003 Golf 20/20 Conference.

The presentation explained that the most powerful social change occurs when different types of trends converge, such as pressures for racial equality, gender equality, and sexual freedom during the 1960s. Currently, seven trends are interacting to create a "time crunch convergence" that is real and long-term:

(1) The technology trap of endless improvements. The more technology empowers you, the more you are expected to do. Conventional wisdom says, "These days, companies expect workers to get more done and get it done faster." Bureau of Labor statistics confirm that worker productivity increased 24% from 1992 to 2003. The technology trap also means that we are compelled to constantly update our devices, our knowledge, and even our values.

(2) The media trap of endless updates. A good chunk of today is spent catching up on yesterday's e-mails, voice mails, articles, news, and events.

(3) The marketplace trap of endless choice. Shopping takes a lot more energy, thought, and time when you have so many choices, plus now we have more categories of things to shop for (cell phones, PDAs, internet service providers, etc.).

(4) The experience economy. We have come to expect an "experience" to accompany or replace almost any

product purchase. More and different experiences are offered, and less consumer time is available, so businesses have to create smaller slices of the experiences they are selling (vacation stays, lessons, events, etc.) or increase the value of their larger slice.

(5) Lifestyle integration. In the interest of efficiency, people reduce the compartmentalization of their lives, integrating home, work, and even time in the car. Portability becomes a solution for everything from work and communication to entertainment and food. However, the rise of fluidity and portability mean people have no "down time." Consumers get used to "bite-size" relaxation, but hunger for longer, fuller "chunks" of pleasure.

(6) Child centeredness. Focus on the wants, needs, and desires of children has increased; social status is attached to a "child-first" attitude and parental guilt is attached to a "me-first" attitude, a significant shift from prior generations.

(7) Conspicuous activation. Instead of conspicuous consumption, people are showing off how busy they are and how many activities they are involved in to signal that they are young (or young at heart), healthy, and interesting.

## The Future of the Profession – Extracting a Vision from a Year of Strategic Conversations

### Environmental and Technological Trends

The group observed that golf would be affected by trends including:

- Water shortage forecasts and usage trends

- Land use restrictions, particularly in light of how changes in the technology of balls and clubs are making courses seem to play shorter.

- Advancing technology, such as unmanned mowers guided by GPS, trends toward electrical maintenance equipment to reduce noise pollution, growth of renewable energy sources, and improvement of artificial turf.

- Generational differences in adoption of technology. For example, a survey of core golfers in 1997 found that most

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Golf is particularly affected by elements of the "time crunch convergence." GCSAA Chief Executive Steve Mona summarized a presentation given by Madelyn Hochstein at the October 2003 Golf 20/20 Conference.

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players age 50 and up thought using GPS during a round of golf was inappropriate, while most under 35 thought GPS was beneficial to the game.

- Advances in technology in the sticks and balls market. Until recently, the USGA has not implemented rules to limit the golf ball, even though changes to make the ball go farther are significantly impacting the environment and land use requirements. Professional golfers have no incentive to limit the ball because balls are part of their endorsement opportunity. It was noted that golf is the only sport where players get to choose their own ball.

- Players talking on cell phones slow play, but the prohibition of cell phones can create a barrier for some individuals who would like to play.

- Water costs and restrictions are already a huge issue. Some courses are going out of business over costs. Water costs and availability are defining the future supply of golf courses in the West and some highly populated areas.

- Some courses are being built where they don't make good investment sense because cities are requiring them to be included in large residential developments for recreation and green belt.

- Years of extensive irrigation are beginning to change the climate in some areas.

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# UMass presents Extension Landscape Workshop series: 'Maintaining Environmentally Sustainable Landscapes'

UMass presents a full schedule of their Extension Landscape Workshops series: *Maintaining Environmentally Sustainable Landscapes – Training for Green Industry Professionals*.

The following are programs times and locations for the various workshops:

- *Protecting Watersheds from Landscape Chemicals*, presented by Ron Kujawski, UMass Extension Landscape, Nursery & Urban Forestry Program, November 3, 2005, 9:30 a.m. - noon at Regis College, Weston, Mass. Cost: \$50. Credits: 2 pesticide contact hours available for categories 29, 36, 37, and Applicator's License. MCH and MCLP credits requested.

- *Plant Identification*, presented by Roberta Clark, UMass Extension

Landscape, Nursery & Urban Forestry Program, November 8, 2005, 9:30 a.m.

- noon at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, Mass. Cost: \$50 (\$90 if signing up for both sessions this day). Credits: MCH and MCLP credits requested.

- *Great Plants for Sustainable Landscapes*, presented by Deborah Swanson, UMass Extension Landscape, Nursery & Urban Forestry Program, November 8, 2005, 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, Mass. Cost: \$50 (\$90 if signing up for both sessions this day). Credits: MCH and MCLP credits requested.

- *Plant Identification* (same as Nov. 8 session), 9:30 a.m. - noon; and Great

Plants for Sustainable landscapes (same as Nov. 8 session), 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. November 17, 2005, at Heritage Museum & Gardens, Sandwich, Mass. Cost: \$50 each half day (\$90 if signing up for both sessions). Credits: MCH and MCLP credits requested.

- *Tree Risk Assessment for Arborists and Climbers*, presented by Brian Kane, UMass Dept. of Natural Resources Conservation, November 30, 2005, 9 a.m. - noon at UMass Campus Center, Amherst, Mass. Cost: \$50. Credits: ISA, MCA, MCH, and MCLP credits requested.

For information or to register, please visit: [www.UMassGreenInfo.org](http://www.UMassGreenInfo.org).

## UMass Extension Press Release

## Pat Kriksceonaitis shares ideas from Kansas meeting

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Ideas and predictions included:

- Golfers will expect to be able to use cell phones everywhere on the course. This may create some backlash. Perhaps designate some courses where cell phones are OK and others where they aren't; or perhaps a course will designate some days for cell phone use and some for no cell phones.

- Golf course chemicals will have microchips on their containers. Courses will stock fewer chemicals, relying more on just-in-time delivery from sources.

- Robotic mowers with GPS will reduce the demand for mower operators.

- More golfers will use GPS.

- Golf balls will have microchips to prevent lost balls and speed play.

- Golf ball design, course setup, and conditioning will be controlled to protect par and speed play. Limits on golf balls will occur when pros decide it's the right thing to do.

- Golfers will increasingly select tee times and prepay online.

- Less water will be available to golf courses throughout the country, and whatever amount is available will be effluent.

- Technological advances will impact environment/land use issues.

- Golf courses will irrigate less acreage.

- There will be less golf course construction and less home construction in areas where water is expensive and in short supply.

- Golf courses will be built farther from city centers because of lower land and water costs.

- Golf course construction will include construction of water treatment facilities.

- Desalinization plants, which are already in use outside the U.S., may become more cost-effective options in the future.

- New grasses will be developed to require a lower quantity and quality of water (e.g. *paspalum* and genetically-modified organisms (GMO's)).

- Regulations will continue to increase, and without intervention, will become even less rational and more political/emotional.

### Global Trends in Golf and Golf Course Management

Observations included:

- More international people are coming to the U.S. for education in golf course management and to compete for jobs.

- There is a lot of growth in international golf course construction, but

maintenance practices are far behind U.S. standards.

- U.S. superintendents are willing to go to desirable international locations for a few years as long as there is a 25% pay premium and a safety net with guaranteed return home.

- The Japanese lack agronomic experience. GCSAA could work directly with management companies to provide information and education.

- Efforts to develop global golf course management standards were predicted.

**Water costs and restrictions are already a huge issue. Some courses are going out of business over costs. Water costs and availability are defining the future supply of golf courses in the West and some highly populated areas.**



# ***GCSANE Forum brings together superintendents concerned about impact of Sawtelle Bros. closing***

From time to time The Newsletter reprints selected postings from GCSANE's web site forum in order to reach a wider audience.

## **GCSANE FORUM**

### **Topic: So where do we get our Jacobsen/Textron Parts?**

**Scott Lagana**

(Posted 10/3/05)

Any word on who's covering what?

### **Responses:**

- I have been getting my parts from MTS in Manchester, N.H. (Paul Hallock)
- Scott, I talked with Larry Bunn, Jacobsen Regional Manager Pat Quinn, and Jacobsen Headquarters today. All assured me that steps were being taken to set up a new distributor. The obvious problem what do we do NOW, as I have a LF3400 that is down and was scheduled for road service last week. I was told by Pat Quinn to contact Moffett (member of the Assoc.) out of Albany. When I asked him if they were receiving support to handle all of N.E. he assured me they were. I have not contacted them yet but plan to do so tomorrow. As far as parts, I have been using MTS out of N.H. Although everyone I talked to said all the right things. I am very concerned as to the immediate future of the supply of parts and service for my equipment. Sawtelle Brothers and Jacobsen must have seen this coming and to schedule a road service appointment one day and close the doors on the next upsets me greatly. I feel I could go on and on but if anyone else has any other information please post or call me. (Ken Crimmings 508-460-8933; 508-380-5673 cell)
- I use MTS also. Dan used to work at Sawtelle Brothers. They have been much better at getting parts quickly and will work with other dealers to get what they don't have in stock 1-603-623-9268. (Steve Cronin)
- If you have Smithco stuff, Moffett is taking that over as well. Except in the Cape, Connecticut, and Rhode Island

where Steven Willand Company is handling those areas. (Russ Heller)

- Did I miss something? Is Sawtelle no longer the Jacobsen distributor? (Jim Fitzroy)
- This is from Smithco, posted on Turfnet: Some of you may be aware that Sawtelle Brothers Equipment Company is ceasing business operation in the New England market. They are an old line Jacobsen and Smithco distributor in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. For those of you with Smithco Equipment in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, excluding Cape Cod, parts and service will be covered by S.V. Moffett Company. They can be reached at 585-334-0100 or 888-708-5296. For those of you with Smithco Equipment in Connecticut, Rhode Island, and the Cape Cod area of Mass., parts and service

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**We just opened an account with Steven Willand Turf Equipment. We placed an order today and they had the parts we needed in stock! Maybe we will get lucky and Willand will hire some of the reps from Sawtelle! My salesman has always gone the extra mile to service our account.**

**Rich Caughey  
(in post to  
GCSANE Forum)**

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will be covered by Steven Willand Company. They can be reached at 203-775-5757. We have not sourced a company to cover Maine for us yet. Please feel free to contact either of the companies named above or Smithco directly at 610-688-4009. The Smithco Technical Service Support line is available for any technical help at 800-891-9435. For any other inquiries, please contact Smithco direct at the 610-688-4009 number. I can be reached at 954-294-6683 or by e-mail at [em@smithco.com](mailto:em@smithco.com). (Michael Stachowicz)

• Scott, you can get Jacobsen parts at MTS Associates located in Londonderry, N.H. 603-623-7470. ("Capt. Kirk" - Ron Kirkman)

• Thanks for the update. That is certainly sad but not unexpected news. (Jim Fitzroy)

• We just opened an account with Steven Willand Turf Equipment. We placed an order today and they had the parts we needed in stock! Maybe we will get lucky and Willand will hire some of the reps from Sawtelle! My salesman has always gone the extra mile to service our account. (Rich Caughey)

### **Editor's Note:**

Two of the Sawtelle Brothers sales representatives have moved to work with other companies. Here is their updated information:

**George Wise** is now a sales representative for Steven Willand Quality Turf Equipment and will cover the same territory that he had with Sawtelle Brothers. George's cell phone number is 508-274-7445. To set up an account for parts, please call 203-775-5757.

**John Lenhart** is a new distributor for the Bernhard Co., selling Express Dual & Anglemaster. The company name is New England Lawn & Golf (web site: [newenglandlawnandgolf.com](http://newenglandlawnandgolf.com)). He is also working for Steven Willand Quality Turf Equipment and will cover the greater Boston territory selling Textron Turf Care Products. John's cell phone number: 781-561-5687; e-mail address: [jlenhart@gmail.com](mailto:jlenhart@gmail.com). 📧



# 2005 season was one of the most challenging ever for turfgrass managers, says USGA's Dave Oatis

By David A. Oatis, Director,  
Northeast Region, USGA  
Green Section

(September 13, 2005)

The 2005 season will go down in the record books as one of the most challenging for turfgrass and turfgrass managers in the Northeast Region. Aerification in the Northeast Region is in full swing, and many courses have already completed this most golfer-hated task. Hopefully your turf was healthy enough to withstand the extra abuse this process involves. While it may be necessary to scale back the program a bit if root systems are extremely weak, do not take too many shortcuts. Effective fall and spring cultivation programs will set the stage for a successful season next year.

Conditions vary widely throughout the region and the tail end of Katrina brought extraordinarily heavy rain to some areas while completely bypassing others. Based on observations throughout the region, turf at many golf courses still is under stress and in need of a break. We are continuing to see insect damage caused by chinch bugs, *Hyperodes* weevils, and white grubs. Thus, do not assume that the dry look your turf has is a result of the drought.

It has been a banner year for crabgrass, and even courses that treated heavily with pre-emergent herbicides have in many cases been disappointed with the results. With high temperatures (perhaps some of the heavy rainfall events also had an impact) many pre-emergent herbicides simply did not provide the normal duration of control. Post-emergent control has been made more difficult because of the high temperatures, which made post-emergent control measures risky at best. Worse yet, gray leaf spot has been positively diagnosed at several courses. If your ryegrass roughs look drought stressed, look again closely. If the annual bluegrass, Kentucky bluegrass and bentgrasses are healthy and the rye is suffering from apparent drought stress, you probably have gray leaf spot.

What will the fallout be for next season? You can bet your favorite chainsaw that next season unhealthy, diseased, and stressed trees will show the effects of this year's high temperatures and drought. Trees with vascular problems (i.e., Norway maples with verticillium wilt or girdling roots) will be especially hard hit. However, any tree that is already in decline will have that rate accelerated dramatically by the high temperatures and moisture stress experienced this year. With dormant roughs, it is a safe bet that broadleaf weed problems will be widespread, and with as much crabgrass that has cropped up this year, expect to see more crabgrass pressure next year as well. If your crabgrass outbreaks are isolated, be sure to map them and to pre-treat next year. For those courses where crabgrass is widespread, plan on a more aggressive pre-emergent control program next year.

Temperatures are moderating and day length is shortening, so the level of stress

on the turf is dropping almost daily. Unfortunately, the turf throughout the region took a real beating this year and it will take some time for it to bounce back. An aggressive fall cultivation program and some extra fertility are certainly warranted and may also be necessary next spring. 🌱

Contact Dave Oatis by e-mail at [doatis@usga.org](mailto:doatis@usga.org) or by phone at 610-515-1660.

You can bet your favorite chainsaw that next season unhealthy, diseased, and stressed trees will show the effects of this year's high temperatures and drought.



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Textbook: None

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# OSU turf researchers present report on impact of fall & spring fungicide applications on Dollar Spot

By Mike Boehm, Amy L. Niver,  
Joe Rimelspach, & Todd Hic,  
Ohio State University

**TURF SCIENCE**  
Research at Ohio State, Purdue, and Rutgers universities during the past several years, under the leadership of Mike Boehm, has found that dollar spot caused by *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa* may be significantly reduced on bentgrass fairways the following year by applying fungicide in the spring and/or fall.

The objective of this collaborative research was to assess the impact of fall and/or early spring fungicide applications made on asymptomatic turfgrass on the development of dollar spot the following season. The goal was not to increase fungicide use, but to investigate the impact of spring and fall application timing to better manage dollar spot.

Keep in mind the big picture – to grow healthy turfgrass. The use of sound management practices such as adequate fertility programs, minimizing leaf wetness, proper watering, and managing other factors that influence and promote turfgrass growth should not be underestimated and can significantly reduce dollar spot severity.

Fungicide resistance will greatly impact how this disease is successfully managed. Do you know if you have resistance and to what extent?

Results from the last two years clearly reveals that both fall and spring fungicide treatments can significantly delay the initiation and reduce the severity of dollar spot outbreaks in the growing season following application. Research was conducted on fairway turfgrass.

General recommendations from this research:

- Know what fungicides work against dollar spot on your golf course.
- For those that can only fit in one application, apply an application of an effective dollar spot fungicide in the spring after the second true mowing of

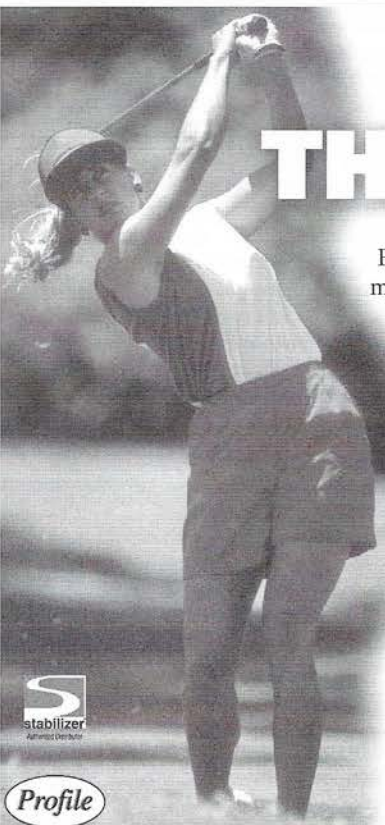
the season (not counting the mowing off of winter growth). Based on the data collected thus far, we suggest using a systemic fungicide or a tank-mix of a systemic and a contact. Consider using a fungicide that is also effective against leaf spot or other spring diseases to get the most out of this application.

- If you have the time, energy, and financial resources, a fall application is also recommended. Make the fall treatment 6-weeks prior to when your

course typically experiences consistently freezing temperatures. In central Ohio this is from October 15-24 based on 30-year weather records.

One last recommendation would be to leave control (untreated) areas so you can see just what these applications are doing or not doing. One way is to leave the end of several fairways untreated and make comparisons. Select several fairways, not just one, and sites prone to dollar spot. ■

For those that can only fit in one application, apply an application of an effective dollar spot fungicide in the spring after the second true mowing of the season (not counting the mowing off of winter growth). Based on the data collected thus far, we suggest using a systemic fungicide or a tank-mix of a systemic and a contact.





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# **DIVOT DRIFT... announcements... educational seminars... job opportunities... tournament results... and miscellaneous items of interest to the membership.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Our condolences** go out to John Paul Jones, superintendent at Royal Crest C.C., and family on the recent passing of John's mother, Margaret Jones.

**Wishes** for a speedy recovery go to Lennie Blodgett who recently had kidney surgery.

## **GCSANE NEWS**

**Please join us** for the GCSANE Holiday Gala on Friday, December 16 at The Belmont Country Club, Belmont, Mass.

## **INFORMATION**

**TurfLinks Scholarship Program.** In an effort to promote the turfgrass industry, TurfLinks, Inc. and TurfLinks Environmental Service, Inc. will award two \$2,500 scholarships annually to qualified students planning a career in turfgrass management. For information and application form, visit [www.turflinksusa.com](http://www.turflinksusa.com). All applications must be postmarked by December 1. Scholarships will be awarded each January.

## **GCSAA NEWS**

**2006 Golf Industry Show will move to Atlanta.** Citing Houston's inability to deliver previously agreed upon services, officials of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and the National Golf Course Owners Association (NGCOA) announced that the Golf Industry Show and their respective education conferences will be conducted in Atlanta in February 2006. The dates of the events remain the same.

**2006 research grant proposals due Nov. 18.** The request for proposals (RFP) for the 2006 Research Grant Program has been issued and is available online. The mission of the research program is to fund applied agronomic, environmental, and regulatory research that will benefit golf course superintendents and the golf courses they manage. Up to 10 new research projects will be funded to begin in Spring 2006 depending on funding requested by scientists.

**GCSAA and The Institute** would like to thank and recognize the chapters that have donated to the Hurricane Relief Program to date: Cape Fear N.C. - GCSA; Coastal Plains, S.C. - GCSA; Eastern, N.C. - TGA; Low Country, S.C. - GCSA; Midlands, S.C. - TGA; North-South, N.C./S.C. - TGA; Palmetto, S.C. - GCSA; Piedmont, N.C. -

GCSA; Sandhills, N.C. - GCSA; Triangle, N.C. - TGA; Upstate, S.C. - TGA; Western, N.C. - TGA (all local chapters of the Carolinas GCSA); **GCSA of New England**; Hawaii GCSA; Indiana GCSA; Ozark Turf Association; and the West Virginia GCSA.

## **SEMINARS**

**NHGCSA Turf Education Seminars,** Tuesday, December 6, 2005, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Holiday Inn, Concord, N.H. Seminars include: *Biological Applications For Turfgrass Management, Maximizing Fungicide For Dollar Spot Control, Effective Use Of Granular Fungicides and Insecticides, and How to Get the Most Out of Your Fungicides.* (4 Pesticide credits approved for Conn., Mass., Maine, N.H., R.I., & Vt.). Please register before Nov. 30. The fee for NHGCSA members is \$50 per person (non members \$60). For information, contact Chris Nagy, NHGCSA Administrative Secretary, at 603-623-3075; e-mail: [VRTLOFFICE@aol.com](mailto:VRTLOFFICE@aol.com).

## **POSITION OPENING**

**Asst. Superintendent, Hatherly G.C., N. Scituate, Mass.** Founded in 1899, Hatherly is a private 18-hole links style course. Applicant should have a certificate or degree in turfgrass management and/or assistant or 2nd assistant experience. Education required depends on experience level. Individual must have a Mass pesticide license. The assistant will be involved in all aspects of course maintenance, including supervising & training staff, irrigation system repair & operation, pesticide application, course set-up, safety, and project management. Wage commensurate with qualifications. Benefits include health/dental insurance, vacation, employee savings plan, and regional seminars. Position open until filled. Send resume to: Rich Caughey, Hatherly G.C., P.O. Box 792, N. Scituate MA 02060; e-mail: [weskithecat@aol.com](mailto:weskithecat@aol.com); no phone calls.

**Golf Course Superintendent, Brockton C.C., Brockton, Mass.** Brockton C.C. is a 100-year old, nine-hole private club 20 minutes south of Boston and 45 minutes north of Providence. The position entails course set-up, equipment operation, plant protectant applications, equipment & irrigation repair, and annual budgets, as well as many other duties. A minimum of five years of experience as a superintendent or first assistant is required. Individual must be able to maintain a mature golf course, supervise irrigation & equipment maintenance; and prepare annual budget, reports, and payroll. Salary is commensurate with experience. Benefits

include paid health insurance, vacation, and dues to local and national associations. Applications deadline is Nov. 15, 2005. Send resume to: President, Brockton C.C., P.O. Box 3071, Brockton, MA 02301-3071.

## **GOLF RESULTS**

### **September 19, 2005 Joint Meeting with the Golf Course Managers Association of Cape Cod**

Eastward Hol C.C., Chatham, Mass.  
Hosts: Brian Cowan & Frank Hancock  
Low Gross: 1st Place Team - Chris Tufts, Scott Nickerson, Steve Murray, & Darin Eddy  
Low Net: 1st Place Team - Kurt Calderwood, Mike Turner, Tim Berge, & Dave Robinson  
2nd Net Team: Brian Cowan; & Gregg, Roy, & Scott Mackintosh  
3rd Net Team: Steve Curry, John Garcia, Michael Stachowicz, & Chris Cowan  
Longest Drive: Chris Tufts  
Closest to the pin: #14-Alden Tallman; #15-Will Warner

### **October 4, 2005 New England Superintendent Championship Tournament** Franklin Country Club, Franklin, Mass. Host: Michael Luccini, CGCS

1st Place: New Hampshire GCSA  
2nd Place: GCSA of New England  
3rd Place: Connecticut AGCS  
4th Place: Maine GCSA  
5th Place: Vermont GCSA  
6th Place: Rhode Island GCSA  
7th Place: GCMA of Cape Cod

### **October 6, 2005 Joint Meeting with the Northeast GCSA** Berkshire Hills Country Club Host: Steve Curry

Gross  
1st - 63: matching of cards; John Risler, Bruce Kean, Steve Bogdonawicz, Bob Serkis  
2nd - 63: matching of cards; Peter Bacon, Bill Gowey, Shawn Kinne, Ed Figiela  
3rd - 64: Dick Premerlani, Tim Breen, John Dahrouge, Tom Marchetto  
Net  
1st - 48: matching of cards; Craig Cochran, Doug Rank, Austin Young, Mark Gagne  
2nd - 48: matching of cards; Scott Mackintosh, Jay Meehan, Jeremy Stachowicz, Jeremy Stachowicz  
3rd - 50: Ed Downing, Tim Berge, Carl Miner  
Long Drive: Bill Gowey  
Closest to the Pin #3: Tim Breen, 4'9"  
Closest to the Pin #5: Carl Miner, 0"  
Closest to the Pin #7: Dave Lang, 7'1"  
Closest to the Pin #13: Tom Marchetto, 3'1"  
Closest to the Pin #17: Carl Miner, 7'3"



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