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Calderwood Captures Individual Championship Honors at Marlborough Country Club

By: Rich Gagnon

Kurt Calderwood shot an impressive 74 (gross) during the annual Golf Course Superintendent's Association of New England individual championship held at the Marlborough Country Club on August 19, 2008. What started out as a cool rainy day turned into a fantastic day of golf and weather.

Calderwood who is in his third year as golf course superintendent at The Harmon Golf Club was on fire early in his round as he was 2 under par through 11 holes thanks to birdies on holes 8, 10 and 13 as he started his round on hole #8. The birdies soon after were not coming so easily as he

went bogey, bogey, double bogey on holes 1, 2 and 3. Calderwood, is a graduate of the Stockbridge School of Agriculture in 1999 and was the assistant superintendent at the Dedham Country and Polo Club for six years before landing his current position at The Harmon Club. He worked under both Michael Stachowicz and Dave Ferrantino at Dedham Country and Polo Club. Calderwood attributes his golf game to his earlier years as his father bought The Berlin Country Club when he was eleven years old and he was able to work on his skills as a youngster. His father still owns Berlin Country Club to this day.

Kurt had lots of good things to say about the conditions of the golf course as well. "Ken Crimmings has the best greens out there. Every time I play here they are usually that way." Calderwood's game was well suited for the layout at Marlborough Country Club. "I am not a long hitter but the course sets up perfectly for my game. Considering the rain we got the golf course was amazing."

I agree with Kurt that we are truly spoiled by the great conditions at Marlborough Country Club presented by Ken year in and year out. I look forward to next year already. Great job by him and his staff as usual. ❖



From L-R: Kurt Calderwood and David Stowe Photo By: Rich Gagnon



From L-R: Joe Rybka and Lennie Blodgett Photo By: Rich Gagnon

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508-872-9790 Fax: 508-872-5393
E-mail: Pat@framinghamcc.com
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Sharon K. Brownell P.O. Box 566, Mattapoisett, MA 02739-0566 508-758-6474 Fax: 508-758-3688 E-mail: Sbrownell@verizon.net

GCSANE Headquarters

300 Arnold Palmer Blvd., Norton, MA 02766 Tel: (800) 833-4451 Fax: (508) 758-6474 Web Site: www.gcsane.org

Newsletter Committee Rich Gagnon, Editor, Segregansett Country Club

Mike Cassidy, Ferncroft Country Club Andrew Eick, The Kittansett Club Ethan Tease, Woodland Golf Club Julie Heston, Business Manager Phone: (401) 934-3677 Email: jheston@verizon.net

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Asian Longhorned Beetle Found in Massachusetts

The Asian Longhorned Beetle (Anoplophora glabripennis) has been positively identified in an infestation in the Greendale section (northeast sector) of Worcester, MA. Personnel from the USDA PPQ and Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) inspected the site on Saturday August 2, 2008 and discovered the infestation. The inspection was prompted by the keen observations and persistence of a local resident who suspected the presence of this exotic invader. Positive verification occurred on Tuesday (8/5/08) from the authority at the USDA Systematic Entomology Laboratory in Beltsville, MD. The USDA



Photo By: Bob Childs, UMass Extension

APHIS and Forest Service, MDCR and MDAR have been meeting frequently with Worcester City officials to formulate the plan for the management and eradication of this pest population.

Only cursory surveys have been conducted thus far and the exact area regulated would change if more infested trees are found. Organized and thorough survey work will begin soon. Once the exact details of the federal quarantine are published a link will appear at the UMass Extension Landscape, Nursery, and Urban

Forestry web site at http://www.umassgreeninfo.org. UMass Extension will remain on the forefront for the dissemination of information as it becomes available. MDAR will continue to respond to any reports of suspected new findings and the City of Worcester has set up a 'Hotline FAQ', see below.

For complete details on this emerging issue please visit our recently established web information center:

http://www.umassgreeninfo.org/fact_sheets/wood_attackers/asian_longhorned_beetle_MA.html

Additional resources for Asian Longhorned Beetle information in Massachusetts:

- Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR)
 Report ALB sightings at: http://www.massnrc.org/pests/albreport.aspx or call 617–626–1779 (Pest Alert Hotline)
- City of Worcester: Office of the City Manager
 Visit http://www.ci.worcester.ma.us/cmo/beetles.htm or call 508–929–1300

UMass Extension

Stay tuned to the the UMass Extension Landscape, Nursery, and Urban Forestry web site at http://www.umassgreeninfo.org

Source: UMass Extension Turf Program

Study: Insecticides Not a Threat to Golfers

New research from the University of Massachusetts Amherst shows that residues of two widely used insecticides picked up by golfers during a typical golf game do not pose a health risk.

"After extensive monitoring, estimated exposures to golfers following full applications of two turfgrass insecticides that are used throughout the northeastern United States were 19 to 68 times lower than levels set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency designed to protect human health," says John Clark, a professor of veterinary and animal sciences who specializes in toxicology.

Results were published in the July 2008 issue of the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry. Additional researchers on the project include Raymond Putnam of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Jeffrey Doherty of the Massachusetts Pesticide Analysis Laboratory.

According to Clark, there are more than 16,000 golf courses covering at least 2.4 million acres in the United States, and more than 66 million private lawns. Add to that the amount of turfgrass found in parks, athletic fields and commercial lawns, and it becomes clear that turfgrass is a major part of the American landscape.

Maintaining the turfgrass so that it looks attractive and is suitable for recreation requires the application of nutrients, pesticides and herbicides at rates that can be several times higher than those used in agricultural settings. According to the 1998 and 1999 Pesticide Industry Sales and Usage Report, golf courses were professionally treated

with 15 million pounds of the active ingredients found in pesticides each year, and 85 million pounds of active ingredients were applied by consumers to residential lawns.

"This widespread and extensive use of pesticides has raised concern regarding the potential exposure of recreational users on turfgrass environments," says Clark.

"Because of the large amount of time people spend in turf environments, exposure to pesticides from treated turf is a potentially significant exposure pathway."

In order to study pesticide exposures, the team established a turfgrass plot at the UMass Amherst Turfgrass Research Center in South Deerfield. The plot was moved and watered like a real fairway. Sevin SL, an insecticide which contains carbaryl as the active ingredient, and Dursban Pro, an insecticide which contains chlorpyrifos as the active ingredient, were applied at the maximum U.S. EPA-approved label rate and followed with irrigation. Two groups of volunteers were then used to play 76 standardized rounds of golf on the test plot following eight applications of chlorpyrifos and two applications of carbaryl. In each round of simulated golf, the volunteers walked 6,500 yards, hit a ball 85 times and took 85 practice swings over a period of four hours.

One group was entirely covered with a "whole body dosimeter" consisting of cotton clothing, baseball caps and veils, which could be removed and tested for pesticide residue. This group also wore personal air samplers to measure how much pesticide could

potentially be inhaled. A second group went through the trial wearing short sleeve shirts, shorts, ankle socks and golf shoes.

According to Clark, each group of volunteers had a different purpose. "The group wearing the cotton clothing was used primarily to determine the different routes of exposure, including how much pesticide was potentially absorbed through the skin, inhaled or ingested by each volunteer," says Clark. "By analyzing urine from the second group for the breakdown products of both pesticides, we were able to estimate the total doses actually received by golfers during a round of golf."

The results of the study, which represents a worst case scenario, show that estimated exposures to golfers following full rate and full course applications of carbaryl and chlorpyrifos were 19 to 68 times below current U.S. EPA values designed to protect human health. "This study, which also included measuring insecticide residue transfer from treated turfgrass and airborne insecticide residue, provides a novel and complete database on golfer exposure," says Clark.

Source: Golf Course Industry Magazine online





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Biological Control for Purple Loosestrife

A couple superintendents have asked me about purple loosestrife recently. As most of you know, purple loosestrife is an invasive plant species that has colonized many wetland areas throughout the Northeast over the past several years. It is a very pretty purple that quickly takes over an area. While it is pretty, it is invasive and it has forced out many native wetland plants in some areas.

Recently scientists have discovered some insects that feed on loosestrife and have released these insects in field settings with very good success. The questions that were put to me were: "Where do these insects overwinter?" and "How can I be sure not to interfere with the insects?"

Where do these insects overwinter? Based on a quick web search, it appears that the most common biological control approach for purple loosestrife

is one of two Chrysomelid beetles, Galerucella calmariensis or Galerucella pusilla. They have become established in more than 30 states and eight provinces where loosestrife is a problem.

The beetles spend the winter as adults in plant litter or "duff" in the area. They live several weeks after they emerge in the spring, feeding some on the foliage. They also lay one to ten eggs at a time on leaves or stems, beginning in late May or early June. Each female can produce as many as 400 eggs during her lifetime. The larvae then move to leaf buds and continue feeding, well protected from foraging birds. As they get larger, larvae then move out on to leaves and stems. (The larvae look like tiny caterpillars, with pale yellow bodies and very dark heads.) They pupate in mid June to mid July, and new adults emerge, feed for a short time, and then look for protective sites to

prepare for winter. Occasionally a second generation may develop.

How can I protect these beetles?

Based on the information I found, the beetles overwinter in leaf litter and duff in the wetland area, so as long as you are not mowing in those areas (and you certainly shouldn't be!) and are not applying insecticides in the vicinity, you should not have any detrimental effect on the populations. You might try to avoid using broad spectrum insecticides near wetlands when the adults are moving actively - apparently May and July in southern New England.

Submitted by: Dr. Pat Vittum



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Scenes from the July and August GCSANE Meetings

August 19th Meeting Results Marlborough Country Club Individual Championship Host: Ken Crimmings, CGCS

Superintendent Low Gross: Kurt Calderwood 74 Superintendent Low Net: Patrick VanVleck 69 Superintendent 2nd Low Net: Tim Crane 70

> Affiliate Low Gross: Bob Healey 85 Affiliate Low Net: Dennis Friel 70 Affiliate 2nd Low Net: Pat Hogan 74

Senior Low Gross: Mel O'Kelly 88 Senior Low Net: Ron Kirkman 74 Senior 2nd Low Net: Lenny Blodgett 74

Seven skins held up and Ron Dobosz won Long Drive, Neil Hanrahan won closest to the pin.



Scott Mackintosh on 10th tee

All Photos taken by Rich Gagnon

Marlborough's 18th hole

WALPOLE COUNTRY **CLUB** July 28, 2008 **Host: Mark Gagne**



Walpole Country Club's 18th hole



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome New Members:

Patrick J. Collins, Assistant Superintendent, Needham GC

Michael Wade, Assist. Superintendent, Manchester CC

Scott Gilmore, Assistant, Framingham CC, Framingham MA

Please keep Jerry Deemer from Country Golf Inc. in your thoughts and prayers. His son Jesse Deemer was involved in a very serious motorcycle accident in Michigan and has been in critical condition for the past two weeks.

Our condolences are extended to Alan Vadala and family on the recent passing of Alan's grandmother Bertha Wilson at the age of 96.

CALENDAR

September 15: GCSANE Monthly Meeting

Twin Hills Country Club Team of Two Championship Host: Matt Kowal

September 29, 2008:

The 2008 Joseph Troll Classic at Lyman Orchards Golf Club honoring George B. Thompson.

October 2:

Assistants Appreciation Day

Framingham Country Club Hosts: Superintendent, Patrick Daly, CGCS and Assistant Superintendent, Brian Daigneau

October 29:

GCSANE Monthly Meeting

Country Club of Halifax Member/Guest Tournament Host: Edward Gianni, CGCS

November 13: GCSANE Monthly Meeting

Bellevue Golf Club 9-Hole Tournament Host: Brian Skinner

UMass Extension

UMass Extension Turf Program 2008 Green School November 6 - December 18

LOCATION:

Sheraton Hotel
11 Beaver Street, Milford, MA
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505-478-7010

Questions: Call the Landscape, Nursery and Urban Forestry Program at 413-545-0895 or the Turf Program at 508-892-0382

<u>For Online Registration</u> and more information, please visit:

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P. O. Box 2, Slocum, RI 02877 Bluegrass/Fescue, Bluegrass/Rye, Bluegrass/ Fescue/Rye, Bentgrass. Sean Moran, Pat Hogan - (800) 341-6900

Southwest Putting Greens of Boston

P.O. Box 827, Westford, MA 01886 Synthetic turf, tee lines, practice greens, outdoor and indoor practice facilities. Douglas Preston - (978) 250-5996

Sports Club Management, Inc.

104 Wyman Rd., Braintree, MA 02184
OSHA and EPA compliance services & training. Ron Smith - (781) 848-5978

Stumps Are Us Inc.

Manchester, NH Professional stump chipping service. Brendan McQuade - (603) 625-4165

S.V. Moffett Co., Inc.

87 Concord Street, North Reading, MA 01864 Mark Casey (617) 990-2427 (Eastern MA & Boston); Ron Milenski (978) 270-1263 (Central MA, Worcester); Bob Hobbs (603) 833-0309 (NH & ME); Chris Francis (413) 519-8585 (Western MA and VT)

Syngenta Professional Products

111 Craigemore Circle Avon, CT 06001 Melissa Gugliotti (860) 221-5712

Tom Irwin Inc.

11 A St., Burlington, MA 01803 Turf management products.

Jack Petersen, Paul Skafas, Rob Larson, Chris Petersen, Greg Misodoulakis, Mike DeForge (800) 582-5959

Tree Tech, Inc.

Foxboro, Wellesley, Fall River Andy Felix - (508) 543-5644

Tuckahoe Turf Farms, Inc.

P. O. Box 167. Wood River Junction. RI 02894 Chris Beasley - (800) 556-6985

TurfLinks, Inc. 29 Gilmore Drive, Sutton, MA 01590 Distributor of quality fertilzer, grass seed, & control products for the golf course industry. Kevin Lyons, Scott Mackintosh, Jim Favreau, Chris Cowan - (888) 398-TURF (8873)

TurfNet Associates, Inc. 21 Brandywine Rd., Skillman, NJ 08558 Cutting edge communication for the golf course industry. Peter McCormick - (800) 314-7929

Turf Products Corp.

157 Moody Rd., Enfield, CT 06082 Distributors of Toro irrigation & maintenance equipment and other golf-related products. Tim Berge, Rick Moulton, Jeff Stouffer, Mike Turner -(800) 243-4355

Valley Green

14 Copper Beech Drive, Kingston, MA 02364 Phone: 413-533-0726 Fax: 413-533-0792 "Wholesale distributor of turf products"

Varney Bros. Sand & Gravel

79 Hartford Ave., Bellingham, MA 02019 Concrete golf cart paths. Kenneth Mooradian - (800) 441-7373

Winding Brook Turf Farm

Wethersfield, CT 06109 Scott Wheeler, Mike Krudwig, Sam Morgan - (800)

Philip Wogan & George F. Sargent, Jr.

17 Walker Rd., Topsfield, MA 01983 Golf course architects. (978) 887-3672