Northwest TURFGRASS TOPICS

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Public Relations — *A Problem??*

In the last few years it seems our major problems are not *Poa* or even *(Sclerotina) — it's our PUBLIC RELATIONS. . .

Time and time again we hear how one of our faithful used the wrong terminology describing a certain problem.

REALIZE, that question has been answered numerous times before — Now! Can we do it one more time with class - OR - is this the time we "Explode," deplore, humiliate, or genuinely make a mule cousin of ourselves.

How's Your P.R.

It's a fact - this has happened to all of us - some worse than others. Some have lost respect to employer, members, fellow workers, themselves. Some have even lost their employment.

How's Your P.R.

Understanding this is not a spur of the moment reaction, but more likely a burning desire to tell them you really know your job - and who the "Hell" do they think they are.

Well, did we do it again?? PUBLIC RELATIONS IS AN EVERY MINUTE OF EVERY DAY *MUST* FOR ALL OF US.

Norman J. Whitworth

* Fungus attached to Bean Stems

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year To All!

WSU SOILS TESTING LABORATORY CLOSED

Effective November 10, 1981, the Soil Testing Laboratory at Washington State University, Pullman, WA, was closed. The chief reason for closing the laboratory was insufficient operating funds. Legislative cuts to the University have been disastrous and certain support programs had to be eliminated.

Soil testing privileges through the University have been provided for many years at a cost that people could afford. It was nearly always a deficit spending program, however, many services are. The fact remains that money was lost on nearly every sample tested and the University could no longer bear this expense. Secondly, the cost for modernizing and updating the laboratory simply could not be met to provide the type of testing that is required, according to reports.

It is most unfourtunate that we have lost this facility since many of us have gotten accustomed to planning our fertility practices around the reports obtained from this laboratory. Correlation with present programs with other laboratories is sometimes rather difficult since various methods are used in soil testing and the resultant figures are quite often variable from those reported from WSU's lab. Nevertheless, a decision has been made and the laboratory will process only the samples on hand and will not accept any new samples.

At the present time information is being gathered with respect to other laboratories for testing Washington soils and as more information becomes available, you will be informed. There are a number of private laboratories engaged in soil testing. Some of these labs have the expertise to make recommendations based upon their test results. You should be advised to be very careful of recommendations made by any laboratory that vary widely from recommendations previously made through our testing procedures. An example of this variation is clearly evident when we compare methods of testing phosphorus between WSU's laboratory and Oregon State. In general, the procedure used by Oregon State will yield values of phosphorus approximately 10 times as high as those obtained from methods at Washington State University. This is not a serious matter as long as we know that this variability exists. I would not recommend any phosphate applications other than through normal formulated fertilizers to turfgrass soils that contain as much as 5 parts per million phosphopus by WSU's test. In general, 3 parts per million will prevent any phosphate deficiency and produce healthy turf. Therefore, in correlating with Oregon State University's laboratory, we would judge that 30 to 50 parts per million by their tests would be amply high for any turfgrass maintenance programs.

Oregon State University's soil testing laboratory will gladly handle our turfgrass samples. Presently the cost

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per sample is $10 and you will receive a computer printout of the test results. We shall be cooperating with Oregon State University in developing key recommentations to be placed into the computer to explain test results. Soil sample containers will be made available through Oregon State University for our testing needs.

Turfgrass managers in eastern Washington may find it more convenient to submit their samples to the University of Idaho soil testing laboratory at Moscow, Idaho. They are also cooperating in testing soils from the State of Washington.

MEET YOUR DIRECTORS FOR 1981-82

The directors of the Northwest Turfgrass Association are elected for three-year terms. These people are elected generally on the basis of their desire to serve, their dedication to the Turfgrass Association and the turfgrass industry in general and their desire to support and benefit from University research programs.

The object of this introduction is to recognize these dedicated people and also to let you know who the director is closest to your location so that you can communicate with him.

Norman J. Whitworth, President, Northwest Turfgrass Association. Norm is the current president of the Northwest Turfgrass Association and is the owner of Norm Whitworth Turf Products operating out of Gladstone, Oregon.

Norm is a 1961 graduate of San Jose State College and has spent over 14 years in sales to the turfgrass industry. Norm has also been keenly interested in the activities of the Turfgrass Association and has been instrumental in bringing in many new members to benefit from the Association.

Norm can be contacted at P.O. Box 31, Gladstone, Oregon 97027, and his telephone number is (503) 655-2919.

Bill Campbell. Bill was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, 44 years ago and has been a golf superintendent for the last 22 years. He has been a PGA member for 16 years. He was a member of the Florida section for 4 years, the Nevada section for 4 years, and the Northwest section for 16 years.

Bill and his wife, Pearl, have two children, Leilani and Mac; they reside at Issaquah, Washington. Bill has been superintendent at the Sahalee Golf and Country Club at 21200 NE 28th, Redmond, WA 98052 for the past 2 years. He can be reached by phone at (206) 885-6841.

Dick Schmidt. Dick Schmidt is currently the golf course superintendent at Port Ludlow Golf Course where he has been since the course was built. Dick has been involved in turfgrass management on golf courses all his life, having grown up at Indian Canyon Golf Course in Spokane. He served for a while as Assistant Pro at Overlake Golf and Country Club and then decided to stay in the turf management end of golf as a golf superintendent.

Dick has served on the board of directors of the Northwest Turfgrass Association and has just completed his second term as President. He will remain on the Board of Directors as Past President for one more year. Dick can be reached at the Port Ludlow Golf Club, P.O. Box 75, Port Ludlow, WA 98365, telephone (206) 437-2650.

Ray McElhoe. Ray also got his start in the turf business starting as a caddy. He attended Bellevue Community College and studied ornamental horticulture. After finishing at Bellevue Community College he served as superintendent at Tam O'Shanter Golf Course in Bellevue.

Ray is presently the golf course superintendent at Everett Golf and Country Club where he has been since 1976.

Ray is a dedicated turfgrass professional who has served the industry for 16 years and has just finished a term serving as president of the Northwest Golf Course Superintendents Association. Ray is our NTA treasurer.

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MEET YOUR DIRECTORS *continued*

Richard W. (Dick) Malpass. Dick was born at Harrisburg, Oregon, on November 17, 1916. He farmed for many years in that area and was manager of a feed and seed warehouse for several years. Later he spent several years with the USDA Agricultural and Conservation Service.

He assisted in the construction of Shadow Hills Golf Course near Eugene, Oregon, in 1961 and became the superintendent of Riverside Golf and Country Club in Portland where he has remained since.

Dick has served for a number of years as a board member of the Oregon Golf Course Superintendents Association and was president from 1966 through 1969. At present he is treasurer of that Association.

He served on the Board of Directors of Northwest Turfgrass Association and was president for 2 years. He is currrently Vice President of the Board and will succeed to the presidency again.

Perhaps a highlight of Dick's career was his service on the Executive Board of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America for 7 years and was elected their president, serving from February, 1976, to February, 1977.

James R. Chapman. Jim Chapman was employed by O.M. Scott and Sons for 21 years and the last 11 years as ProTurf Senior Technical Representative in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and British Columbia. In his earlier years with Scotts he was a ProTurf Technical Representative in the Midwest, Manager of National Services and Regional Manager and Customer Services Department.

Jim graduated from Ohio State University with a B.S. degree in Agricultural Economics (Marketing) and had advanced work in public relations, journalism, landscape architecture, and financial planning.

Jim has been married 23 years to his wife, Julia, who is employed as a Landscape Maintenance Specialist at a Seattle area golf club. They have two sons. They are all avid square dancers with other interests in camping, hiking, solar and environmental landscaping, and church activities including choir.

Presently Jim is operating his own landscape maintenance and renovation company called Sportsturf Northwest as well as its operating subsidiary LawnAid since 1978. Jim is chairman of the program committee.

Jim can be contacted at 17012 NE 21st Street, Bellevue, Washington 98008, or phone (206) 746-1569.

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DISEASE OUTBREAKS IN EASTERN WASHINGTON

By Roy L. Goss

Patches of diseased turfgrasses strongly resembling Ophiobolus patch disease have been observed in eastern Washington for a number of years. In 1981 this problem increased many-fold, and in some cases to epidemc proportions. The areas most affected were Richland, Kennewick, Pasco, and Spokane. Perhaps other areas have been hit just as hard, but we have no record.

When observed microscopically, runner hyphae, characteristic of Ophiobolus patch disease, have been observed on the roots and crowns of many of the diseased samples. In most cases no significant level of other organisms have been found.

Ophiobolus patch disease has been reported since about other 1960 affecting bentgrasses and *Poa annua* predominantly. Kentucky bluegrass was not killed by the disease in most instances in western Washington and the ryegrasses and fine fescues. likewise, were not affected. Observations to date in eastern Washington show that bluegrasses are strongly affected and ryegrasses and fine fescues are little affected at this time.

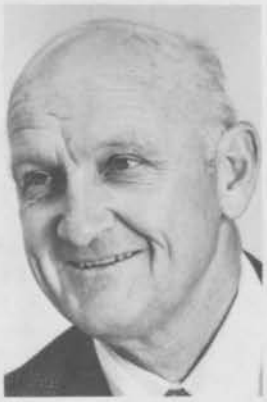
If we are dealing with Ophioboluis patch, then there is a strong likelihood that we are looking at a different race or variety of the fungus.

Through cooperation of the turfgrass industry in Tri Cities area and the Benton County Cooperative Extension Service in Kennewick, plans are being formulated for more indepth evaluation of this problem in 1982. Chris Senske, of Senske Pest Control, is organizing the commercial interests and Marianne Ophardt, Cooperative Extension Service Area Agent, is keeping record of areas affected.

It is planned that in 1982 Drs. Roy Goss and Gary Chastagner will investigate these areas a number of times throughout the year. First we must make positive identification of what is occurring and this will allow us to begin certain treatments for control.

We express our appreciation to Chris Senske and others who are financially contributing to help offset costs of this investigation. Without this type of cooperation, our efforts would be significantly restricted due to a deficit of state supported operating funds.

MEET YOUR DIRECTORS *continued*



Milt Bauman. Milt started his career in turfgrasses as a caddy at Kellogg Golf and Country Club at Kellogg, Idaho. in 1929. His course was a sand green 9-hole golf course. In 1934 he assisted his father in building 9 grass greens. They were very successful with the grass and the greens were of excellent quality even by today's standards. As years went by his father was borrowed by other golf courses to build greens.

Milt worked on the golf course through high school then went to work for the Sunshine Mine because he could make so much more money than on a golf course. At the start of World War II Milt and his family moved to Portland where he worked in a ship repair until he entered the armed forces. After boot camp he served with the 21st Marines, 3rd Division, until the end of the war.

When he came home from the service his dad retired and Milt replaced him at the Kellogg Country Club for 8 years. On December 1, 1953, he accepted a job as superintendent at Overlake Golf and Country Club at Medina, Washington, where he stayed until April, 1968. From April, 1968 Milt served as manager of Emerald Turfgrass Farms in Sumner, Washington, for 3 years and then accepted the job as golf course superintendent at Seattle Golf Club where he is presently employed.

Although the award has not been yet presented, Milt has been selected as a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America which will be presented at the GCSAA International Conference in February. Milt is Chairman of the research committee.

Roy L. Goss. Roy Goss has been closely associated with the Northwest Turfgrass Association since 1955. He received his Ph.D. in Agronomy from Washington State University in 1960. In 1958 he initiated the agronomic turfgrass research program at the Western Washington Research and Extension Center at Puyallup, WA, and worked closely with Dr. Charles J. Gould, Plant Pathologist, until Chuck's retirement. Goss became Executive Secretary of the Northwest Turfgrass Association in 1961 and has remained in that position since. Goss also proposed the publication, *Northwest Turfgrass Topics*, in 1959 and has remained its editor through the present time.

Roy Goss directed the turfgrass research and extension programs from 1958 until January, 1981. On January 1, 1981, Goss began serving as Extension Turfgrass Specialist. He can be reached at Western Washington Research and Extension Center, Puyallup, WA 98371, telephone (206) 593-8513. *(Continued on page 9)*

WINTER MAINTENANCE TIPS

Roy L. Goss

We often need to remind ourselves of a few things that should be done during the winter and rather than to elaborate at length on some of these problems, I will attempt to list a few that we should look at.

1. Allow no play on frosted or frozen turf.

2. Limit or restrict the use of turfgrass areas that are too wet. Complete destruction of grass and serious puddling and compaction and soil structural destruction can occur.

3. All structureless soil areas that are muddy and unstable should be filled with sand this winter until they become firm and restabilized. Turftype ryegrasses may germinate in certain areas west of the Cascade Mountains even at this time of year, otherwise, they can be seeded in early spring.

4. Sand topdressing should be practiced throughout the winter on sports fields, golf tees, and putting green aprons in order to maintain stable conditions. Sanding should be reduced in the quantity applied to avoid smothering the turf.

5. Guard against winter desiccation. When freezing conditions occur without snow cover, *Poa annua* can be essentially wiped out. Be prepared to apply at least some moisture to the leaves if these conditions continue for more than one or two days. If you cannot use sprinkler systems for putting a small amount of water on, then is should be applied by sprayer and tank.

6. Maintain vigilence for Fusarium patch disease and Typhula snow mold. Damage done during the winter will be evident for some months. Have a good winter and better turf next spring.

2 HORTICULTURE SENIORS WIN 81-82 SCHOLARSHIPS

Two seniors majoring in turf management in Oregon State University's horticulture department have been awarded scholarships for the 1981-82 school year.

They are Scott Shillington, son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Shillington of Poleline Road East, Rt. 3, Twin Falls, Idaho; and Bill Webster, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Webster of 1302 2nd St., La Grande.

Shillington won the $500 TUCO Turf Scholarship awarded annually by TUCO, a division of the Upjohn Company, of Kalamazoo, MI. The scholarship goes to an OSU student interested in turfgrass management, who displays outstanding scholastic ability and personal integrity.

Webster won the Bruce Faddis Memorial Scholarship given to an OSU student who shows outstanding potential for becoming a golf course superintendent. The award is in memory of an OSU graduate who managed the Black Butte Ranch golf course near Sisters at the time of his death. The scholarship, set up this year, will pay most of Webster's tuition.

Shillington and Webster received their awards at the annual Northwest Turfgrass Conference, held recently in Olympia, WA.

Bill Webster, left, an Oregon State University senior majoring in turf management, receives the Bruce Faddis Memorial Scholarship from Tom Cook, OSU horticulture professor.

Scott Shillington, left, an Oregon State University senior majoring in turf management, receives the TUCO Turf Scholarship from J. Randall King, a representative of the Upjohn Company which funds the award.

BENGEYFIELD RETURNS TO USGA GREEN SECTION

William H. Bengeyfield, a longtime member of the USGA Green Section staff until his retirement in 1978, has accepted a consulting position with the USGA. His title will be Technical Director, Green Section/Editor, Green Section Record.

When Bengeyfield joined the USGA staff in 1954 he brought considerable experience in both research and extension work to his position as Director of the Green Section's Western Regional Office. If 1967 he assumed the additional duties as Editor of the Green Section Record, the USGA's official publication on turf management.

In his new consulting role, Bengeyfield will resume as Editor of the Record and will advise the Green Sec-

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BROADLEAF WEED CONTROL WITH TRICLOPYR AND DOWCO 290

S. E. Brauen, R. L. Goss and J. T. Law

Garlon 3A (triclopyr), Dowco 290 and Dowco 290 (3,6-dicloropicolinic acid) showed promising results for the control of a rather broad spectrum of broadleaf weeds and certain weedy grasses in turf grasses during the summer of 1981. These materials were applied on a mixed bluegrass-ryegrass-bentgrass lawn turf that had populations of velvetgrass *(Holcus lanatus)* comprising up to 30% of the turf grass stand. Many of the plots were dominated by buttercup *(Ranunculus repens)* and most of the plot area contained variable populations of white clover, false dandelion, common dandelion, Veronica and plantains.

The highest application levels of Garlon and Dowco 290 plus Garlon caused mostly unacceptable turf for several weeks following application and turf density was reduced. A broad spectrum of good to excellent broadleaf weed control was obtained with all treatmets.

At the highest levels of Garlon 3A plus Dowco 290 velvetgrass was reduced to zero and the remaining stand of grass was 90% ryegrass and 10% bentgrass at the end of the treatment. Garlon 3A alone gave excellent control of buttercup while combinations of Garlon 3A and Dowco 290 produced good to excellent results at all rates of application.

We feel that the significance of these treatments point out that we may have some alternatives in the future for good buttercup and velvetgrass control on a selective basis. Since the turftype perennial ryegrasses are assuming a great deal more importance in our turfgrass cultural programs, we would not be so concerned with the amount of injury produced to bentgrasses, bluegrasses or fescues where such difficult weeds as velvetgrass and buttercup dominate the area.

The purpose of this article is to keep you informed of this possibility for the future if you wish to see specific rates, please refer to the Proceedings of the 35th Northwest Turfgrass Conference held in September, 1981, for the rates that were used. You, of course, will be regulated by label restrictions. More experiments along this line will be conducted in 1982 perhaps with some different rates to reduce the phytotoxicity and improve efficacy.

MEET YOUR DIRECTORS *continued*

Ben Malikowski. Ben was born at Fort Lewis, Washington, July 16, 1935. He graduated from North Central High School in Spokane, Washington, in 1953 and then attended Gonzaga University for one year prior to entering the military service. He spent two years of his 4-year service time stationed in northern Japan.

After leaving the armed services in late 1957 he returned to college and completed his college degree.

After two years away from school he returned to Bellevue Community College to study horticulture and after finishing these studies worked as assistant golf superintendent at Inglewood Golf and Country Club at Kenmore, Washington. After 5 years of working with superintendent Louis Schmidt, they both moved to Sahalee Country Club in Redmond, Washington, where they constructed the 27-hole golf course under the design supervision of Ted Robinson, Golf Course Architect.

After 6 years at Sahallee, Ben went to work for the O. M. Scott and Sons Company and has been there for the past 8-1/2 years.

Ben adds that he owes a great deal of his knowledge today to Louis Schmidt for the invaluable training he provided during the years they worked together. Ben expresses his appreciation also for the opportunity of serving on the Board of Directors of NTA.

(No photograph available at this time)

BENGEYFIELD RETURNS

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tion technical matters related to turfgrass management. He will be based in the Green Sections Western Regional office in Tustin, California.

Welcome back, Bill.

HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM YOUR ASSOCIATION

Your interest and activity in the Northwest Turfgrass Association should not stop with merely paying your dues. It is your Association and you should have a voice in helping to run the organization for its betterment for the entire spectrum of membership. There are several things you should do and have the right and privilege to do.

1. Think ahead for the next conference when you elect new directors to the board. If you want the job, start campaigning now and get some support behind you for nomination as a director. If you have some good individual in mind who has capabilities and desire, start promoting him. This should not be based upon popularity but an honest desire to work toward a stronger just Association.

2. Stay in contact with a director nearest to you and make your inputs to these directors. Suggestions such as things you would like to see the Associaion achieve in the way of educational seminars or any other suggestions you feel will be worthwhile.

3. Talk to friends or associates in the turfgrass business around you and encourage them to join the Turfgrass Association. The membership fee is very small compared to what these people can derive from their participation. This not only includes the turfgrass manager in all fields, but also the supporting industry that could profit by this as well. A strong membership and a strong leadership through the officers and board of directors equates to strong Association.

4. Support the Association by attending the annual conference each year. It is quite often easy to find reasons why you should not take 3 or 4 days out of your work schedule to attend, but with a little planning ahead we can nearly all be in attendance. Those of you who have employers who do not pay your expenses to the annual conference might provide expenses for your attendance if you start selling the idea well in advance of the conference itself. Show them the Proceedings of the Conference and the calibre of speakers presenting the program. Also impress upon them the opportunity to privately visit with these speakers as well as your peers in the same industry.

You can add this to the list of ways to get the most out of your Association, but these are just a few. However, you must give some thought to this from time to time and not just once annually.

Get involved. Contact your directors; they will be happy to hear from you. For your convenience, each director and officer is written up in this issue of Turfgrass Topics.