June 1975



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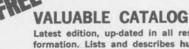
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GRASS CLIPPINGS

Murphy's Law

I think the only thing that this spring proves is that Murphy's Law concerning Mother Nature is a true and valid statement. The spring season was about two to three weeks later than normal (whatever normal is) according to most weather people. Depending on your location it was either a cold dry spring or a very wet spring with record floods.

The more southern parts of Southeastern Michigan received abnormally cold weather through most of March and April and with the exception of three inches of snow in April, received only scattered precipitation. The part of the state that received

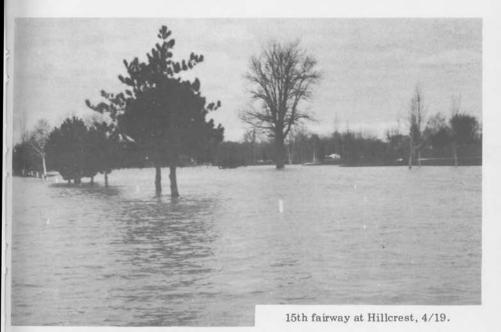
Below: Shop at Hillcrest, 4/19.

most of Mother Nature's fury was Lansing, Flint and Northern Oakland and Macomb counties. Things really looked like they were going to break around the end of March and in fact several clubs had already mowed their greens. Little did they know that on April 2nd and 3rd they were to receive up to seventeen inches of snow. This put a damper on golf for a few weeks and even rekindled pink snow-mold in some areas that had just recovered from the disease.

As if the above weren't bad enough, on April 18th the same area was deluged with from two to five inches of rain. This in turn caused flash flooding throughout the area and several golf courses in Flint, Lansing and Mt. Clemens were almost totally under water.

Continued on Next Page





Grass Clippings Cont.

As it stands now most courses are in a very good condition and excluding a few cases of Helmenthisporium Leaf Spot here and there, turf diseases are at a minimum.

Essex Hosts first Chapter Meeting

Most of you are aware that the first local chapter meeting was held at Essex Country Club in Windsor. The golf course was in very good condition and for those who noticed, an interesting solution was in the offing for a very nagging problem. We all know how difficult it is to mow as close as possible to young trees and yet be sure to avoid tearing the bark with the mower wheels. Dave Moote has come up with the idea of slitting plastic drain tile lengthwise and putting it around the trunk of the trees. This procedure does an excellent job of protecting trees from equipment injury.

Vandalism hits Bay Valley C.C.

Many of you remember Bill Bair, formerly of Warwick Hills Country Club. He is currently Superintendent at Big Valley Country Club in Bay City and last year had a bit of a problem that you probably will never encounter, but then again you might. It seems Bill's course was the object of a rather perverted sense of humor or vandalism of the worst kind. Atrazine was deposited on several of his greens, tees, and even some fairway areas.

It took Bill a while to find out the exact cause of the problem. When he did though, he took immediate action to turn the dead patches of grass back into playable turf. His course of action and his solution to this devastating vandalism is too lengthy to relate here. It involves using activated charcoal to neutralize the herbicide; using aerifying cores to re-establish putting green turf; using different types of soluble nitrogen to encourage rapid new growth and many other agronomic practices that we sometimes forget or overlook.

Should this (perish the thought) ever happen to any of you, you can be sure that a phone call to Bill Bair will yield a wealth of information which was gained through this unfortunate experience.

Frank Green



Does your shop area look like this?

Neatness Pays...and Pays...and Pays

by PHILLIP C. TRAYNOR in the July 1974 issue of Pest Control Control Technology

You have probably heard the joke about the housewife frantically straightening up her home and explaining to her wondering husband: "But dear, the cleaning lady is coming and I wouldn't want her to see this messy house."

This month's primer is based on the truth behind this joke. We do tend to spruce up when someone we want to impress comes to see us. And we're also suggesting that others, not in your business may see where improvements can be made.

Here are four ideas for you to think about:

(1) You can keep neat and organized if you believe someone from the outside will see your operation.

(2) Neatness and organization are not spare time activities, but should be planned since they affect your whole operation.

(3) Someone not connected directly

to your work might make some helpful or constructive suggestions for improvement of your work situation, if you give them permission and instructions to do so.

(4) In the not-so-distant future, someone, uninvited - perhaps an official of your state pesticide enforcement agency, or federal occupational safety officer - will be inspecting your operation "for real."

Many of us learn to live with our own degrees of disorganization. We can easily go "nuts" being around "neatnicks." But then there comes a time when we are asked for a certain item. "Do you have it?" "Yes," you say. But then you can't find it even though you look for it high and low. That's frustrating and then you vow that "Tomorrow, I've got to get organized."

You already have a picture of this in your mind, whether you are in your service truck, storeroom, office, or home. Hold onto that mental picture for a moment, and think of three things you would straighten up or put into

Continued on Page 8

Anselme Bourassa, golf course wner in Canada, talks about aron Kentucky Bluegrass...

U.S. Plant Patent #3186 Dwarf Variety

'We used baron on all our tees and fairways when we built our front nine holes. And baron performed so well that we're using it for the back nine too!"









"Baron comes up fast. We seeded the course in late August 1973. The fairways were ready for play by May 1974. We could have opened the course then except the greens weren't ready until mid-June."



"And Baron stays green until the first snowfall. Last winter was bad ... lots of rain and thick ice. But as soon as the ice and snow were gone, Baron came up green and beautiful. We didn't have any winter kill. I told my neighbors they should have overseeded with Baron this fall."



"We usually cut to 1-1/4 and Baron stays green and nice. We found this to be even when we cut to 3/4 We didn't have any pro with diseases, not a single



ne Bourassa is the owner of Les Vieilles Forges Club J. Trois-Rivieres, Quebec, Canada. Ferte Masse is a turf consultant and landscape contractor hase & Fils Co., Cap de la Madeleine, Quebec, Canada.

And here's what Jean Pierre Masse land scape contractor and turf consultant for the golf course has to say about baron

"There's no question that Baron can adapt itself to inf growing conditions. All this land was woods before we through with a bulldozer. See this sand? That's what's unde top layer of soil in the fairways. This soil is extremely se very acidic and obviously very porous. But regardless, B did a fine job."

There's not much more we can add except that Lo Pedigreed Seed Company or any authorized distribu is nearby wherever you grow quality turf.



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Neatness Pays Cont.

place, if someone important were going to see you. This will be a visitor, not an inspector. What small (or large) changes might you make to feel prouder about showing off the place you work? You don't have to make the place look like the Ritz, but somewhat improved. Now, write down those three changes.

It's Easy To Put Off Changes

You probably haven't made those changes before now because you weren't going to have any visitors anyway, and the changes probably seemed like too much work, so you learned to live with the situation as is - messy. We all make excuses to put off fixing up, reorganizing, etc. We say we don't have the time. Or that time spent on organizing is nonprofitable and therefore must be done in "spare time", which nobody has. Or when we do have spare time, reorganizing is too much like work and we'd rather take it a little easy on our time off. So we don't do it then, either!

Did all that sound familiar? Well don't dispair, you are very human and not alone. But even that does not excuse putting off some important changes until "tomorrow." If you're among the small minority to whom this does not apply - the organizers, the neatnicks - you can stop reading. This article is for the other 95% of us humans (including yours truly) for whom organization seems an ever fleeting goal.

I propose that neatness pays and therefore should not be given a back-seat in any company. And here's why:
(1) It is professional to spend time putting your tools, equipment, chemicals, papers, etc. in order so they will be ready when needed. You don't see a dentist looking high and low for a certain drill he needs. He knows where it is and could find it with his eyes closed. Keeping things in place is professional. Granted that you may feel some drudgery in getting things in

satisfactory shape, but there is a great payoff in professional pride when it is all in proper order.

(2) Neatness saves time. Time is money and the less spent in hunting a tool or a paper, the more money saved. It is far easier to keep a running inventory where you know what you have - sort of "at a glance." With a continuous inventory, you won't run out of a crucial chemical and waste time getting it or substituting something else not as effective.

(3) Orderliness improves morale. Remember the feeling you had getting into your first new car? Compare that with the feeling of driving that same car after it became cluttered with use. Then you cleaned the car top to bottom and recaptured that "new car feeling" again. That's improved morale. There's pride there. If you can cultivate that feeling for your company vehicle or workplace, you'll get that same lift. It's called professional pride.

(4) An improved public image is the Continued on Page 10



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Neatness Pays Cont.

result. Proud technicians know what they have in stock, where to locate it readily, and do so without wasting their time and customer's money. This creates, in the eyes of the public, the image of a pro who knows what he's doing.

"Image" Is Important

So far we have been talking about your physical plant, office, warehouse, trucks, etc., but there's another part of your business which affects the customer's idea of your image. That's paper - and letterhead and advertising. statements and orders, etc. I can't resist telling this story. This involves an old family-owned department store which was not known for neatness. Because the boss made up the adverthe newspaper ads looked sloppy too. Anyway, a survey was made of people from another town: they were shown ads and asked "What sort of store do you think this is?" With accuracy, surprising these people zeroed in and described the store to a "T." without ever having seen it. "It's probably a quiet said, friendly, even folksy store, but the merchandise is probably dusty. And they run out of things without noticing. Departments are not clearly defined and you would be likely to find identical merchandise in two different departments with two different prices. The warehouse - well, it's a frightful experience to see." So your paper products, which represent you, can be very telling. See that they reflect the image you wish to convey.

Have Someone Else Look At Your Operation

At the beginning of this article, we suggested that workers who are familiar with an operation may be too close to see flaws or are accustomed to them. Therefore, a stranger to the business may well be able to make constructive suggestions. Now, before you run out and hire a "neatnick consultant," consider this idea.

Consider opening your doors to a team of organized and responsible young people and give them an opportunity to visit and constructively criticize your operation. You would give this team a briefing or two to help them understand the basics of your business. Then you would help them develop a simple inspection check sheet to use for guidance. In exchange for their service you could present them with a gift to their organization.

I can see such a project take shape like this: A civic-oriented PCO (we hope you are) approaches a youth organization (Scouts, Explorers, 4-H, school interest group, etc.) with the proposal that he, the PCO, explain the basics, help with the checklist, and tell them how pesticides and service industries should be organized (almost all PCO's know how things ought to be). Agree to reward their participation with a gift. The PCO's work can

Continued on Next Page



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Neatness Pays Conf.

be tied into business and industry merit badges, ecology consciousness, safety, health or other pesticide slants.

Serious young people, challenged with an unusual idea, often rise to the challenge very creatively. I gleaned this idea from an Arkansas 4-H Leaders Guide for an Environmental Quality Project. This particular project encouraged 4-H'ers to inspect their community for "evesores" which a traveller could see. While the Arkansas Project was outdoor oriented, there's no reason that a similar project on the interior of a building or the inside of a business couldn't vield similar benefits.

The PCO could well receive tips that he already knows about, but perhaps one new idea supplied by an interested youth could pave the way for improved employee morale, increased professional image, enhanced business and more profits. In the above situation, please note, the PCO is not "on the spot" because he invited the comments, nor is he obliged to explain away nor make excuses for what the visitors find. He can, at his leisure, examine the positive suggestions and act on those he sees fit.

If the idea of inviting "strangers" into your business gives you shivers, you may want to try inviting the wives of employees or their teenage youngsters to do the tour. The point is that you get used to the idea of inspection and get some of the prominent evesores taken care of. The federal pesticide law, which states are copying, has built in the inspection feature. Occupational safety inspectors will be frequent visitors to business establishments. So get used to the idea.

Here are the kinds of comments which I can visualize such vouth making. Note that not all are pesticide related.

"When I came into the customer Continued on Next Page

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- □ Chipco Turf Herbicide MCPP
- ☐ Chipco Buctril
- ☐ Chipco Turf Kleen



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Neatness Pays Cont.

receiving area, I saw some awards and trophies, but someone had put a product display in front of them. It would be nice to display the awards prominently or else remove them if you are not really proud of them."

"The main office window could use washing. That way the products in the window would not look dingy. Those products would look nicer if they were dusted and the decorations freshened."

"The insect damaged materials were interesting but the identifying labels were faded and yellowed and warped with age. The damage could look fresh with a bright label."

"If I were an employee I would object to the differences in the wash-room conditions between those for the front office and those for service employees. Nobody likes a dirty washroom."

"I like the idea of putting reminder labels on that long mirror to remind men to check their hair, tie, shoes, shirt, etc. But, you know you put the shoe label clear at the bottom. It should be about knee high on the mirror where it will be in the direct line of sight with the shoe reflection when a person if standing about three feet from the mirror."

"Does the code you put on the one ounce job bottles really say enough? Shouldn't there be a Danger - Poison label on them too, just in case the wrong person gets hold of the bottle?"

"That old sales contest board you

no longer use ought to come down. There was only one winner and the other men seeing it everyday could be reminded daily that they did not win."

"Truck Number 4 has a broken lock on the rear door. You said chemicals had to be locked up, but that truck can't be locked."

"Would it be easier if the shovels and other long tools used in termite work could be clamped onto the side panel of the truck rather than lying in a heap on the bed?"

"Serviceman Joe's car smells terrible inside. He said he spilled some concentrate on his interior carpeting. He says the smell really gets bad in wet, cold weather when he runs the car heater. Can his carpeting be replaced or cleaned to eliminate the smell? Can the odor burt him?"

There Are Other Benefits, Too

You can get a double duty service by engaging youth in a business "beautification" project. You acquaint them with pesticides, pest control, and you. The information helps them. They help you see your business through different eyes. They may well be good word-of-mouth advertisers for you. They may even make good employees in the near or not-so-near future. (Look to groups with girls too, since they tend to be neater than boys, and they may make good technicians or office help, too, later on.)

Let us know if you try this idea and tell us how it works. If you have

Continued on Page 16

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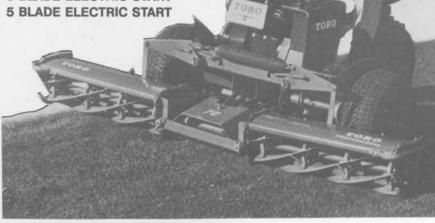
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Robert E. Jones graduated in June from Michigan State University and is now employed as an assistant superintendent at Sylvania Country Club in Sylvania, Ohio.

Dr. Richard G. Pfister is a Professor of Agricultural Engineering at Michigan State University, and is serving as Chairman of the MIOSHA Compliance and Appeals Board by appointment of Governor Milliken.

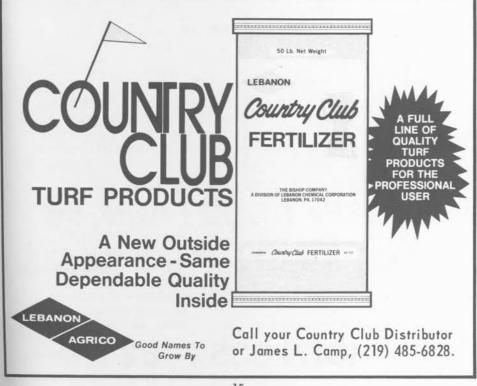
Give Your Course a Safety Check-Up

Could your maintenance building and operations pass a safety inspection if a state MIOSHA inspector should arrive at your course? Previous state safety laws have been replaced by the new Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA). These new regulations are even tougher because they adopt many Federal standards in addition to the existing state safety standards. The goal of this law is to insure that no business operation in Michigan pre-

sents an unnecessary hazard to its employees.

Administered jointly by the Departments of Labor and Health, MIOSHA immediately inspect location where a fatality has occurred, as well as when employee requests indicate a possibly hazardous working condition. In addition, safety inspecchecking various also businesses random. Financial at penalties are assessed against those

Continued on Next Page



Safety Check-Up Cont.

employers who do not provide a safe working environment as prescribed by law.

The checklist below will give you a good idea of how you stand with the law. While not inclusive, the list does hit many of the requirements inspectors would check to see if your course was in compliance. While some of the personal protective equipment required may surprise some superintendents, many of the items indicate requirements can be met by nothing more than common sense.

Management

Post the required OSHA poster in a prominent location in the workplace.

Post both the accident log and the yearly summary of injuries and illnesses related to the job.

Purchase equipment that meets existing safety standards.

Make sure employees observe safety regulations by making it a condition of employment.

Building Conditions, General Housekeeping

Provide at least two unobstructed fire exits from the maintenance building.

Schedule daily maintenance of floors and working surfaces to keep them free of slippery liquids.

Schedule regular housekeeping checks to keep tools picked up and equipment stored.

Store pesticides in a locked cabinet or room.

Provide at least one U.L. approved fire extinguisher in each building where employees work.

Continued on Page 18

Neatness Pays Cont.

already tried something like it, let us hear about that, too, please.

Exercise 1: Take your list of three "changes to make to help you feel prouder" and do something about them now or very soon. See if it works.

Exercise 2: When shopping at other businesses, pay particular attention to how they do business. See if you can spot improvements that you can translate and apply to your operation.

Exercise 3: Talk to some young people to see if they or their organization would take to a suggestion to do an inspection tour after learning something about a business like yours. Talk also with their adult supervisors. (Thanks to Dr. Ken Brink for supplying article)

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From one proto to another ;















WRITE FOR COMPLETE SPECIFICATION SHEETS



Safety Check-Up Cont.

Provide a first-aid kit on the premises, and a person capable of administering first aid.

Employee Personal Protection Equipment

Furnish protective hardhats for all employees and require that they be worn at all times on the course.

Require safety shoes to be worn by employees regularly operating powered greenskeeping equipment.

Require safety glasses to be worn by all employees operating powered

greenskeeping equipment.

Designate and enforce eve protection area(s) in the shop where a hazard from flying objects exists (arc welding, grinders, presses).

Provide dust respirators, goggles, gloves, and other protective equipment that may be necessary when handling pesticides.

Powered Greenskeeping Equipment

Make sure no employee operates any equipment without prior training in operating procedures and potential hazards.

Require employees to demonstrate ability to operate equipment before initial assignment to the job.

Require employees to check equipment for worn or broken parts on equipment before operation.

Keep all guards for mufflers, gears, belts and other moving equipment in place and operational.

Hand and Powered Hand Tools Have adequate tools so that you can require that a tool is used only for the job for which it was designed.

Schedule regular checks for worn or broken parts that could become a hazard in operation.

Insure grounding (three wire, continuous to ground) on all electrically powered tools.

How does your operation size up against the new law? If an inspector was to visit your maintenance building tomorrow, could your club be fined for unsafe working practices that are not only dangerous, but illegal as well? MIOSHA inspectors are not out to additional problems for the superintendent, but to help avoid future accidents. A cooperative attitude will go a long way when discussing safety issues with an inspector. On the other hand, a lack of cooperation will not result in a lenient inspection!

The point of this checklist is get your maintenance building and operations in shape before an inspection. Then if your course happens to be chosen for an inspection, you will be prepared to work with the MIOSHA official in insuring that your maintenance operations are hazard-free.

O.M. SCOTT AD OMITTED IN ERROR

The O.M. Scott & Sons ad was omitted in error in the May issue of A PATCH OF GREEN. It was an oversight by the printer. Our apologies to Ted Mulcahey and the Scott Company.

TWO COMPLETE SEED INVENTORIES

Merion Baron Winter Green

Fylking Nugget Norlea

MICHIGAN BRIGHTON 49348

MICHIGAN

GOLD TAG SEED QUALITY BLENDS

Special Mixes for your particular need

TELEPHONE WAYLAND 616-792-2241 CORPORATED

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MILLER SPRINKLING SYSTEMS

"Midwest's Leading Irrigation Contractor for 50 Years"

complete design-installation-guarantee-service from One Source

Our pre-engineered pumping plant gives you the benefit of our experience on over 150 golf course pumping plants.

CONTACT . . . Joe Gulick



16755 Dixie Highway Davisburg, Michigan 48019 Telephone: (313) 634-4473

Division of A. J. MILLER, INC.

GCSAA asks Superintendents' Assistance

To: All Golf Course Superintendents
We of the USGA eanestly solicit
your assistance in two areas:

(1) Fund raising for research, and(2) Promoting new subscribers to

the Turfgrass Service.

Both are of vital interest and importance to golf and the USGA. The Green Section staff expends solicitation efforts in both areas but they need outside assistance and their first line of help is you, the Golf Course Superintendent.

Much can be said about the Green Section's accomplishments through the years, accomplishments important to golf but suffice it to list a few -

(1) Uninterrupted service to golf since 1920 through improved course maintenance and management developed through research and practical findings.

(2) Introduced effective disease and weed control measures to golf course management.

(3) Selected, tested and introduced

improved grasses to golf.

(4) Supported work in turfgrass breeding which introduced the great Tifton series of bermudagrasses to southern courses and several improved Kentucky bluegrasses to northern courses.

(5) Researched and wrote specifications for building trouble-free

putting greens.

(6) Published a book on Golf Course Management and soon hopes to update that publication.

(7) Published specifications for sand

for bunkers.

(8) Performed research which resulted in modification in golf shoes and golf spikes. Next page



Fungicides

3336 Turf Fungicide
A broad spectrum systemic fungicide
that prevents and controls all six
major turf diseases.

Bromosan Turf Fungicide

The newest broad spectrum systemic fungicide for those persistent

trouble areas.
Caddy
Granular Turf Fungicide
PMAS (10%)
Cad-Trete

OSpotrete

Herbicides

MCPP MCPP Plus 2,4-D Methar 80 Methar 30 AMA Plus 2,4-D AMA (Super Methar)

Specialties

All Wet Clear Spray Tru-Green Grass-Greenzit

W-A-CLEARY

P.O. Box 10, Somerset, N.J. 08873

TURF SUPPLIES INC.

6900 Pardee Rd., Taylor, Michigan (313) 291-1200

> DON'T EVEN THINK OF BUYING

GRASS SEED FERTILIZERS FUNGICIDES

WITHOUT CALLING

291-1200

TURF SUPPLIES INC.

6900 Pardee Rd., Taylor, Michigan (313) 291-1200

GCSAA Asks Aid Cont.

- (9) Brought research and practical findings to Member Clubs through its periodical which has been published continuously since 1921, through its annual Educational Conference and participation in nationwide conferences annually.
- (10) Soon to release a "white paper" on Poa Annua in cooperation with Michigan State University.

The Green Section's sole purpose for existence is for golf course betterment. It's avowed credo is to introduce the management tools and techniques necessary to always "Play them as they lie."

> John L. Crist, Jr., Chairman Green Section Committee USGA

FEMIN-IF - Mille Cronin

If she acts a little moody
and you can't imagine why
If no matter what you say she
just dissolves and starts to cry
If she stays in bed each morning lets you burn your own wheat toast
If she opens cans for dinner never
chops or steak or roast
If she starches all your collars

If she starches all your collars so they cut you like a knife

If she says that you don't love her and starts acting like a wife

If she says she needs a cleaning lady soon before she drops

If she's tired of the soilax and the saniflush and mops If she's so behind in ironing

that there's nothing left to wear If the toes are through the socks and

she just doesn't seem to care

If she mentions poor mistreated wives

and sounds like she means her
If she talks about unthoughtful mates

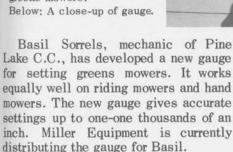
and looks straight at you, sir

Take the cue - move now - don't linger - make some plans right now today

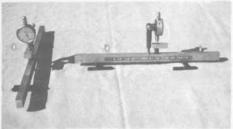
The little gal has had it --Needs a week-end trip away!!!!!

New Gauge for Setting Greens Mowers

Basil Sorrels, mechanic, Pine Lake C.C., with his new gauge for setting greens mowers.









programmed care of turf and ornamentals
THE MAKERS OF ACTI-DIONE® FUNGICIDES

Phone: Area 313 437-1427

New insecticide from TUCO for

"Your Best Bet"

for

IRRIGATION SPRINKLER SUPPLIES

RAINBIRD - NELSON - SAFET-LAWN BUCKNER - MOODY - SKINNER

PIPE & FITTINGS

- PVC Sewer & Drain (Corr)
- Polyethylene Galvanized
- Copper Aluminum

PUMPS AND PUMPING STATIONS

COMPLETE IRRIGATION

- Systems Design
- Specifications
- Budget Estimates



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RAIN-AID DIV.

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(313) 543-7730

(313) 356-9137

Century Announces New Division

Ernie Hodas, President of Century Supply Corp., Berkley, Michigan announces the opening of a new division to serve the Greater Chicago Trading Area Market, Northern Illinois Northwest Indiana in the field of underground sprinkler equipment and turf irrigation supplies.

Hodas says the new Division will stock and distribute products manufactured by nationally known sprinkler companies such as Rain Bird, L.R. Nelson Co., Safe-T-Lawn as well as all components used for irrigating homes, schools, parks, golf courses

and industrial plants.

Hodas says Century/Rain-Aid Supply Corp. an Illinois Corporation will be located at 341 Lively Blvd., Elk Grove Village, Ill. 60007. This is a new industrial area just northwest of O'Hare Field. This division will have full capabilities of designing systems as well as supplying quality materials and products as has been offered for the past 30 years by its Michigan Divisions.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE — 3 Hustler X-100's equipped with mower deck, cab and snow broom; Bean Sprayer, 200 gallon tank, almost new. Call 668-8092, 9 to 5.

Michigan Turfgrass FIELD DAY June 24, 1975

CROP SCIENCE FIELD LAB
Michigan State University
EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN
Contact:

Jeffery V. Krans, Turfgrass Ext. Assoc.
Department of Crop & Soil Sciences
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan 48824

Yazoo YR-60

...as tough as it is big!

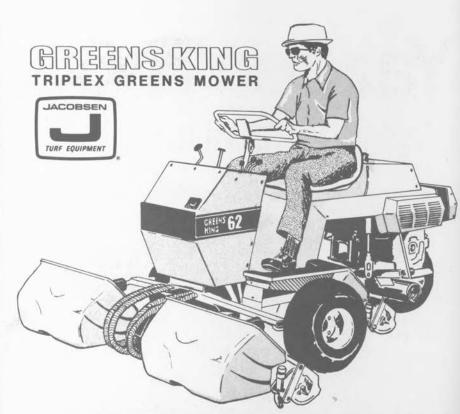


The YR-60 will cut up to 18 acres in a working day. With front wheel drive and rear-wheel steering, you can mow under guard rails; around poles in one pass. Follow the contour of the ground; in high grass or low. You don't follow the YR-60 with a trim mower and another man. It does it all. It costs about half as much as a tractor with a bush-hog or gang-mowing rig. Also in 36, 42, 48 and 76-inch cuts.



LAWN EQUIPMENT CORPORATION

520 W. 11 MILE ROAD ROYAL OAK, MICH. 48068 TELEPHONE: 313-398-3636



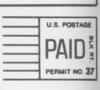
JACOBSEN

W.F. Miller Garden & Lawn Equipment Company

1593 S. WOODWARD AVE. BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN 48011 TELEPHONE: (313) 647-7700

"A Patch of Green"
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