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47th Annual Turfgrass Conference and Show in Minnesota Kicks Off Year

Highlights of the Week

- I. Attendance Hits 4,000-Plus
- II. Dick Malpass Elected President
- III. Important Bylaw Changes Pass
- IV. Annual Dues Increased
- V. Educational Experiences Offer Vast Array of Choice Throughout Week

While final counts are still being tabulated, it is clear that more than 4,000 people participated in the Minneapolis Conference and Show of GCSAA. Although the total registration is down somewhat from previous years, everyone in attendance agreed that it was the finest event yet staged by the Association.

Exhibiting firms were particularly pleased by the high level of individuals present and their seriousness in learning more about products and the profession.

Other numeric highlights include the following:

71 speakers providing more than 45 hours of information.

155 firms displaying more than \$8-million worth of equipment.

50 registrants from Australia, England, Columbia, Germany, Mexico, Japan, Spain and South Africa.

4 seminars attended by 157 people.

39 superintendents took Certification Examination, 32 passed.

RICHARD W. MALPASS, CGCS, Riverside G&CC Superintendent, Portland, Ore., will lead GCSAA during this year as its 40th President. TED W. WOHRLE, CGCS, Oakland Hills CC Superintendent, Birmingham, Mich., was selected Vice President.

DAVID C. HOLLER, CGCS, Gulph Mills GC Superintendent, King of Prussia, Penn., was elected Director while MELVIN B. LUCAS, JR., CGCS, Garden City GC Superintendent, Garden City, NY and CHARLES H. TADGE, CGCS, Mayfield CC Superintendent, South Euclid, Ohio were re-elected as Directors.

Michigan Ranks 5th in Number of Golf Courses

Of all states, Michigan now ranks fifth in the number of Golf Courses in any state. Only California, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio rank higher.

We have one golf course for every 19,000 people.

Let's all make an effort to get one new member this year. Less than 1/2 of all Golf Course Superintendents belong to an Association whether local or national. For the good of the profession, they should all belong to one or the other.

1. California	725
2. New York	687
3. Pennsylvania	607
4. Ohio	586
5. Michigan	560
6. Texas	558
7. Florida	549
8. Illinois	499
9. North Carolina	357
10. Indiana	328

The trouble with the guy who talks too fast is that he often says something he hasn't thought of yet.

Ice Storm Hits Southern Lower Michigan

On Tuesday and Wednesday, March 2 and 3, a foggy, drizzle began freezing and covering the trees and bushes throughout the Southeastern corner of Michigan.

The sound of cracking and falling branches could be heard for the next two days as branches began to give way under the tremendous weight of the ice. Many power lines and poles snapped and caused electrical black-outs in many areas.

In many cases, people were without

power for over a week.

Now the cleanup begins. Several golf courses had members pitch in to help remove the branches. Many thousands of dollars will be spent this year to climb up into the trees to remove broken and damaged branches. It isn't uncommon to hear figures of over \$25,000 for tree repair.

It will be several years before some of the trees will display their old shapes and beauty.



Ice damage to trees in southeastern Michigan.



A limber spruce that made it without damage.

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▲ A closer look at the ice accumulation. ▼ There was some beauty despite all the damage.



GCSAA RESEARCH GRANTS TOTAL \$22, 250 FOR 1976

At a special meeting in Minneapolis during the Conference and Show, the GCSAA Scholarship and Research Fund Review Committee determined that 14 institutions would receive funding for different projects. Of

special interest to the members should be projects involving hyperodes, *Ataenius spretulus* and dung beetle. A \$2,000 grant was presented to Dr. Joe Vargas of MSU for research on Anthracnose.

Decontamination of Spray Equipment

from GREG PATCHAN

Decontamination of Spray Equipment - Thorough cleaning of equipment not only reduces the possibility of crop injury from herbicides left in the tank but extends the life of the equipment. Since herbicides vary in their chemistry and the way they are formulated, there is no standard procedure for decontamination. The most important step is to use a rinse material which acts as a solvent for the herbicide.

Repeated rinsing with water is usually sufficient for removing the wettable powder suspensions of compounds such as phenyl ureas and triazines. The sprayer should be scrubbed and rinsed with water several times and the residue emptied on an area where there is no danger of contaminating water or injuring crops. Operation of the pump for at least 3 minutes will remove contaminants from the boom, hoses, and nozzles. Addition of detergents will aid in the cleaning operation but should be followed by a clean water rinse to remove any detergent which might reduce the selectivity of the next herbicide to be used.

Salts of 2,4-D, banvel, and picloram are relatively water-soluble, however, the spray equipment should be rinsed with water and filled with a strong solution of synthetic detergent or 2 lbs. of washing soda per 100 gallons of water. The mixture should be left in the sprayer for at least 24 hours and rinsed with a second detergent or soda mixture before final rinsing with water. Always spray some of the mixture through the system before mixture through the system at both the beginning and end of the soaking period. An effective and rapid but more expensive method is to rinse the system for at least 5 minutes with a 1% solution of activated charcoal. This should be followed with a thorough rinse of clean water. The use of activated charcoal. This should be followed with a thorough rinse of clean water. The use of activated charcoal eliminates the need for a long soaking period.

Oil-soluble herbicides such as 2,4-D esters are usually the most difficult to remove. The preferred choice is to have a separate sprayer

Continued on Page 10



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Green Seminar held at Plum Hollow

The Golf Association of Michigan in cooperation with the Michigan & Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association held a Green Seminar on Wednesday, March 24, 1976.

Subjects discussed were: "Budget Comparison and Standardization" by James Dowaley and the "Role of the Green Chairman" by H. Thomas Rex, Chairman of Green Committee for the Golf Association of Michigan. Mr. Rex

is also Chairman of the Plum Hollow C.C. Green Committee.

After a delicious meal, the meeting of over 100 attendees divided into two groups for one hour panel discussions on two subjects:

1. Poa Annuua Control
2. Water Management

A complete report on this important meeting will be carried in the May issue of "A Patch of Green."

Decontamination of Sprayers Cont.

for these materials only. If this cannot be done, the system should be filled with water and household ammonia (1 qt/25 gal of water) and left to soak for 24 hours. Do not use ammonia if any part of the system is made of brass.

Kerosene and fuel oil can be used as an alternate means of removing oil-soluble herbicides, however, enough of the oil has to be put into the tank to enable the pump to circulate it adequately throughout the system (do not use oil on parts made of natural rubber.) After the tank has

been scrubbed with oil and rinsed, a wetting agent in the water will help remove the oil. Regardless of which method is used, it is important to circulate the cleaning material throughout the system and thoroughly flush with clean water.

Chemicals other than ammonia, charcoal, oil or wetting agents are not recommended for cleaning spray equipment. Some chemicals may remove the odor of herbicides without affecting the active ingredients and be misleading. The absence of odor cannot be taken as an indication of decontamination.



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from FORE FRONT, March, 1976

SYNERGISM - The simultaneous action of separate agencies which, together, have greater total effects than the sum of their individual effects.

Individual golf course superintendents, local and national associations of golf course superintendents and the profession of golf course superintendency all enjoy the results of the synergistic effect they have combined to create.

To really see the value each of these separate parts play in the result of the whole, just remove any one and see how shakey the remaining parts are. But when you strengthen any of the single parts, the whole becomes stronger still.

GCSAA's 47th Annual International Turfgrass Conference and Show recently concluded in Minneapolis and is an excellent example of the synergistic effect. Gathering together more than 4,000 people from around the world, an educational program was conducted for the benefit of all. A great number of the educational speakers were golf course superintendents, intent upon assisting their fellow superintendents. The synergistic effect of such an event will continue to send out waves for years to come, improving each of the parts beyond the realization of most.

Reason often makes mistakes, but conscience never does.



TURFGRASS FOUNDATION CITED – At its 46th Annual Conference, the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation received a citation for 25 years of educational programming in Michigan State's Kellogg Center for Continuing Education. Foundation President George Prieskorn of Brighton accepted the citation from Edward W. Farmer of the MSU Continuing Education Service January 21. Looking on were (from the left): Dr. P.E. Rieke, MSU Department of Crop and Soil Sciences; Dr. J.M. Vargas, Jr., MSU Department of Botany and Plant Pathology; and Dr. K.T. Payne, MSU Department of Crop and Soil Sciences.

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from The Bullshead, March, 1974

PART I

Proper Use and Mis-Use of Equipment

by RAY GERBER

Most of the problems on equipment used for turfgrass maintenance, from time to time are usually the results of not having the proper information. This information is always available in your instruction manual that is received with each piece of equipment, but I dare say, in 90% of the cases, this manual is laid away and entirely forgotten. This manual is very important for the proper maintaining of this piece of equipment and should be read several times by all persons who are interested in equipment and then kept in a place where it can be easily found by any one. It should always be remembered that the manufacturer has spent thousands of dollars on research so as to give you a satisfactory piece of equipment. If for some reason you do not have a manual, ask him for one, he will be more than glad to take care of your request.

I would like to suggest that you keep a record sheet of each piece of equipment that you are using, whether it is a power mower, tractor, power sprayer or gang mowers, in order to maintain a check on your maintenance

procedures. Probably the best way, is to number each piece of equipment and refer to them hereafter, by numbers, such as tractor No. 2 Power Mower No. 5, etc. This chart should be hung in a convenient place, so when the machine comes in the operator does not have to look for it. At this time, he should write down the number of hours the machines was used by him. This is the only way you will have of telling when it is time to change the oil in the crank case, lubricate the bearings or other moving parts, check the air filter, check the water in the battery, etc. As these operations are done on any one particular machine, they should be checked off and the date when they were done, so that you, who are responsible for this equipment can refer to these charts and check the person whose duty it is to perform these operations.

Another important maintenance procedure is keeping your equipment clean. Most all equipment is so protected that it can be cleaned without damage to the bearings or seals.

Continued on Next Page

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Use of Equipment Cont.

Always keep motors clean. An accumulation of oil and dirt will cause a motor to overheat, cutting down on its efficiency and life. Never race a motor . . . its results, in time, will bring on costly repair bills. One of the more serious things, is using the wrong type of lubricant. Oil in motor crank cases, should be changed after the specified number of hours in use . . . recommended by the manufacturer. Refer to your manual for proper grade and quantity.

Proper lubrication should be used in all gear cases. When using too heavy a grease, it is almost impossible for the lubricant to work into the moving parts. Too heavy a grease, will usually cause channeling. What I mean by that, is . . . the gear that is supposed to pick up the grease, does no more than cut a channel. Should this occur, it will not give sufficient lubrication to other moving parts that

Next Page



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Use of Equipment Cont.

were intended to be lubricated by the lubrication in the gear case. Too light an oil, will soon find its way out past the oil seals. The results are . . . it becomes necessary to check the amount of lubrication more often. If this is not done, serious damage could occur.

On certain pieces of equipment, if the manual calls for a graphite grease for certain moving parts, by all means use it for best results.

Power sprayers should be cleaned thoroughly, immediately after using and especially after using caustic materials. Do not run a sprayer pump without water because certain moving parts are water lubricated.

When we see a piece of equipment being misused by the operator, we hate to think it is being done intentionally. My belief is . . . in most cases the operator has not received proper instructions and training.

One of the more serious problems is the speed in which the operator is operating a piece of mowing equipment. The speed depends on the type of machine that you are operating. The power mower, due to the fact that it has an engine on it, has certainly been abused. Again I would like to call your attention to your maintenance manual in regard to the proper speed . . . and I think that you will find that most power mowers are not designed and built to run with the throttle wide open, but at a good walking speed.

Whenever it becomes necessary to make any mechanical adjustments on a piece of equipment, it should be done by someone who has some mechanical ability. However, there are times when the operator must make his own. Should it become necessary to make an adjustment on a reel type mower, I am going to give you my version on a proper adjustment. First of all . . . great care should be taken. If not properly done, the reel and bed knife

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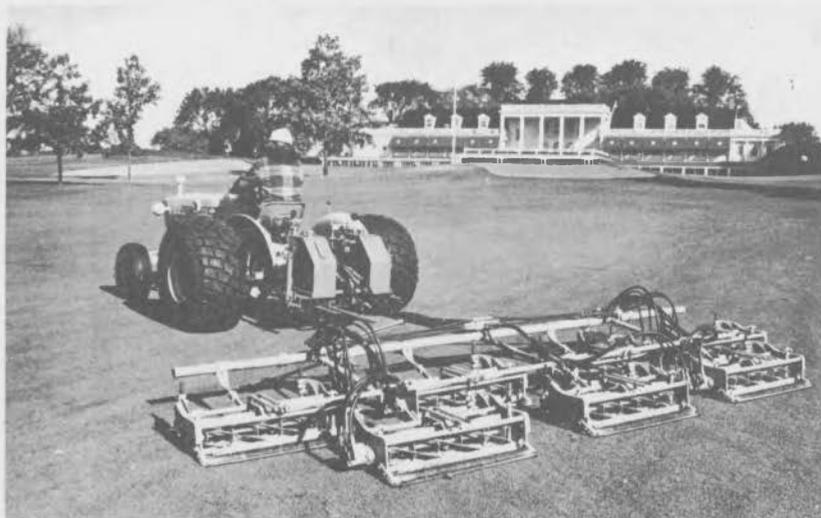
will be out of alignment. Should this occur, it may become necessary to regrind the reel and bed knife before it will give a satisfactory job of cutting. Never adjust the reel and bed knife too tight, just enough so the reel will barely touch the bottom knife all the way across. In fact, I would call it almost zero-zero. Should it be set too tight, it will cause premature wear, not only on the reel blades and the bottom knife, but it follows through the gears and bearings and on down to the traction wheels of the mower, the motor, and the entire tractor, should it be a tractor-drawn unit. It will require more gasoline and oil, and also will result in an overheated motor.

If the adjustment should become too loose, it will give an unsatisfactory cut, causing damage to the blades of grass. The blades will not be cutting, they will be pinching the grass. This loose adjustment will also cause the mower to become dull. As the grass is pinched off and drawn across the cutting edge of the fly knife and bottom blade, it will remove the sharp edge and will cause a rounding effect on these two surfaces. Should this occur, you will have to re-grind the mower either with emery and oil or on a grinder before it will cut satisfactorily.

One day as I was talking to a lawn mower dealer, whom most all of you know, I mentioned to him I was including my version of proper adjustment on reel type mowers. His reply was, "Do not tell them how you do it because that is bad for our bed knife sales." I imagine what he had in mind was the four and five years of wear or service I used to get from one edge of a fairway mower bottom knife. I feel if you are careful in making adjustments and try not to cut up the debris before it is picked up, you can get the same results.

Mr. Gerber's article, "Proper Use and Mis-Use of Equipment" will be concluded in the May issue of A Patch of Green.

ROSEMAN TOW-TYPE HYDRAGANG



HEIGHT OF CUT

$\frac{1}{2}$ " to $\frac{3}{4}$ " in any desired increment. 6" front caster wheels $\frac{1}{2}$ " to $2\frac{1}{2}$ "; 8" front caster wheels $1\frac{1}{4}$ " to $3\frac{1}{4}$ ". Cutting height is gauged by ground reference to provide even cut over undulations.

WIDTH OF CUT

30" per unit. Cutting swath varies for 3, 4, 5 & 6 mowers with maximum of 15' for 7 gang.

TRANSPORTATION WIDTH

From operator's position all mowers are quickly raised and locked into 8' transport width. Overall length 12'.

TRANSPORT CONTROL

Five control levers raise or lower number 4, 5, 6 or 7 units individually and the three center units simultaneously.

REEL

$7\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter 4-blade or 6-blade. Heavy duty chrome-nickel alloy.

REEL POWER - Each reel mounted directly to individual hydraulic motors.

POWER SHARPENING - Back lapping by reversal of control valve handle.

BEARINGS - Anti-friction reel & roller. **MOWER FRAME** - All steel welded.

ADJUSTMENT - Hand, no tools needed.

BED KNIFE - Oil-hardened alloy steel.



LAWN EQUIPMENT CORPORATION

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NEW JACOBSEN. 70" TRIPLEX TRIMMER



The all new JACOBSEN TRIPLEX TRIMMER is the answer to quality mowing in areas that require a lot of maneuverability.

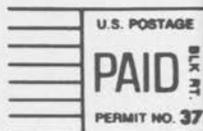
With a mowing speed of up to 4 mph and a transport speed of 7 mph, this 70 inch mower puts a professional finish to fine turf. Great for getting under overhanging branches and shrubs, it will ring trees and be on its way without a second look.

Hydrostatic drive eliminates clutching and shifting in tight areas. Your right foot controls forward and reverse . . . no need to take your hands off the steering wheel while maneuvering in tight places.

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