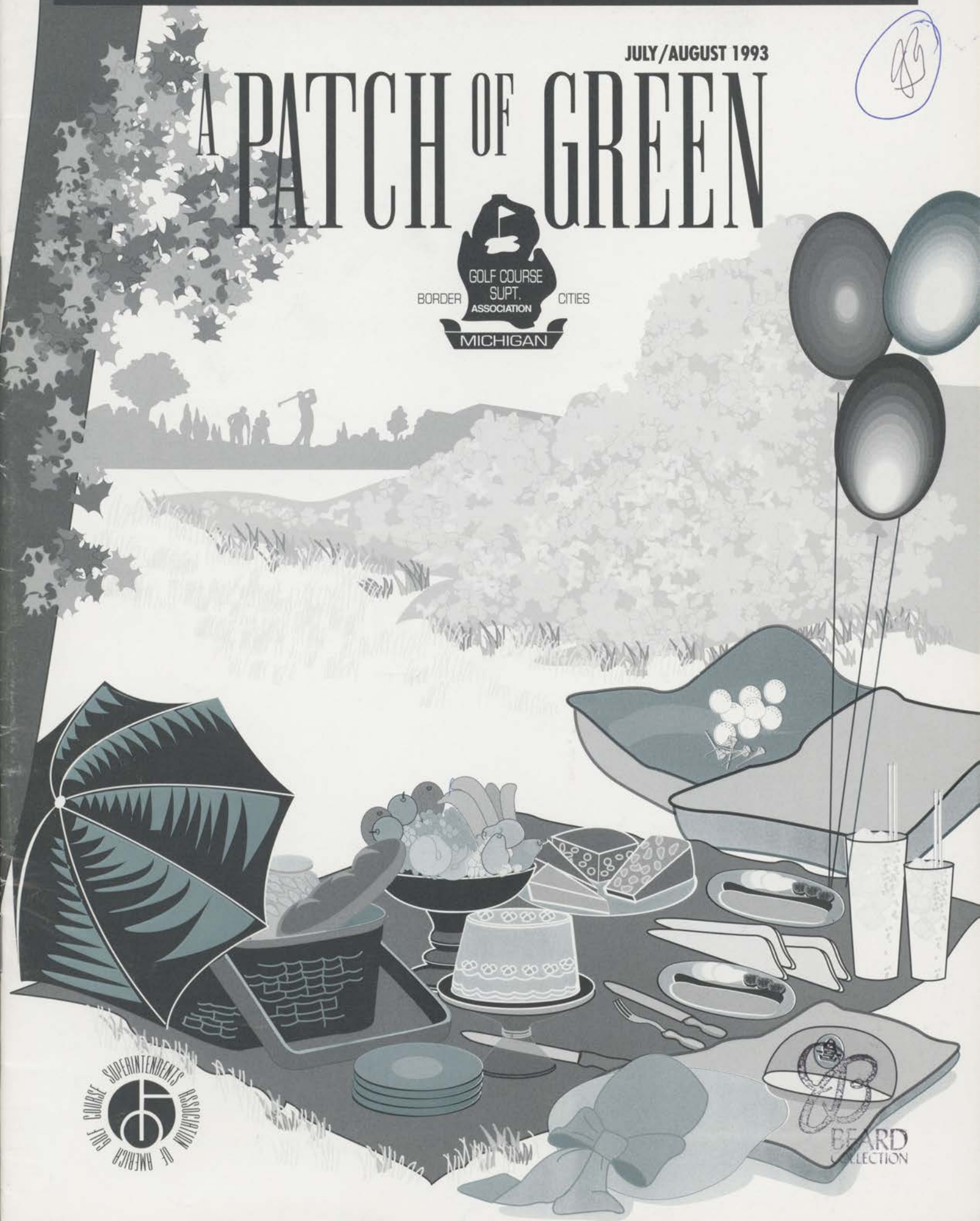
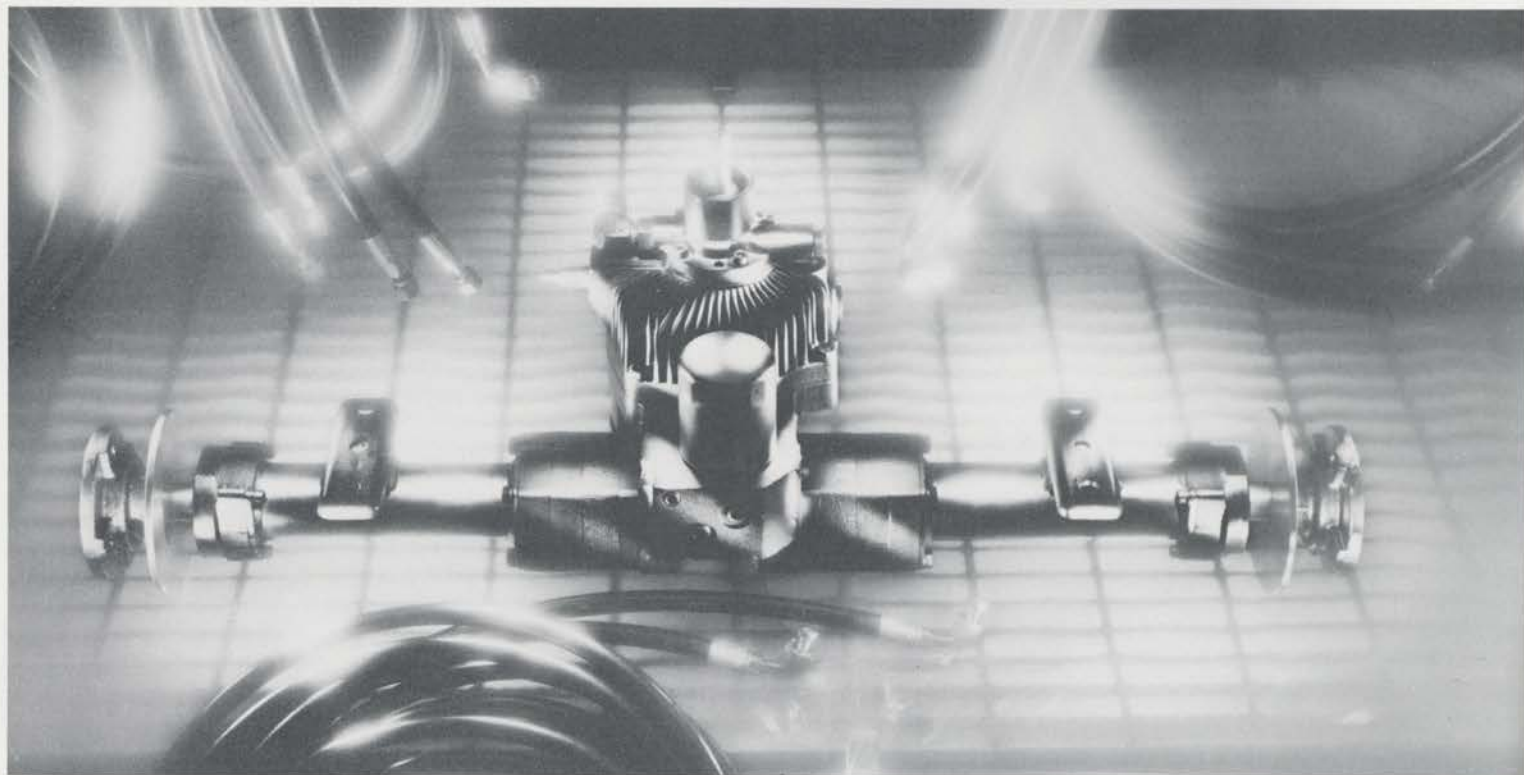


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A PATCH OF GREEN

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Contents

Publishers Kolka & Robb, Inc.
Executive Editor Paul Kolbe
Editor Vicki Robb
Creative Director Kathleen Kolka
Feature Writer Katie Elsila
Copy Editor Fred Wessells
Designer Laura Rogers
Advertising Michelle Magraw
Production Michael Wagester
Printing Pontiac Graphics, Inc.

Michigan & Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association

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Committee: Education Co-chairman, Environmental Relations, MTF Liason

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Committee: Fund Raising, Industrial Relations

David Picot
Committee: Education Co-chairman, Scholarship

Contact for MBCGCSA Information KATE MASON
Executive Secretary
MBCGCSA
P.O. Box 173, Troy, MI 48099
(313) 362-1108
fax (313) 362-1736

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MEMBER
FOCUS
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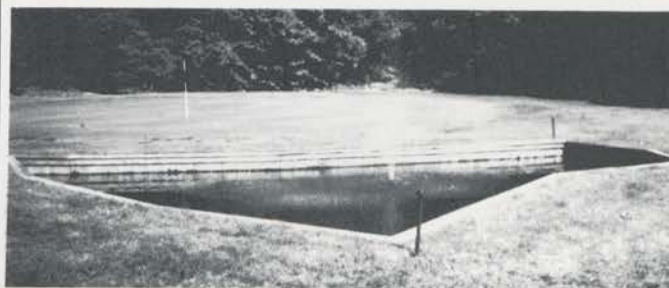
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A Past Patch of Green **TWENTY YEARS AGO**

(reprinted from
A Patch of Green, August 1973)

LOOK FOR MORE TROUBLE?

Be thankful for the troubles of your job. They provide about half your income. Because if it were not for the things that go wrong, the difficult people you have to deal with and the problems and unpleasantness of your working day, someone could be found to handle your job for half of what you are being paid.

It takes intelligence, resourcefulness, patience, tact and courage to meet the troubles of any job. And it may be the reason you aren't holding down an even bigger one.

If all of us would start to look for more troubles, and learn to handle them cheerfully and with good judgment, as opportunities rather than irritations, we would find ourselves getting ahead at a surprising rate. For it is a fact that there are plenty of big jobs waiting for men and women who aren't afraid of the troubles connected with them.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST

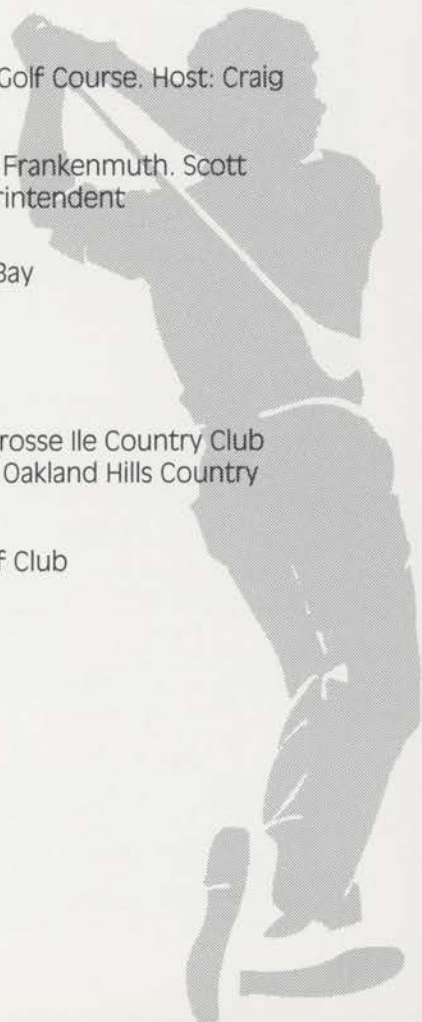
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|-----------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 2-4 | 72nd GAM Championship | Country Club of Jackson. Bill Madigan, Superintendent |
| 3 | Membership Meeting | Riverview Highlands. Host: Dick Matthews |
| 5-8 | Buick Open | Warwick Hills Country Club |
| 12-15... | PGA Championship | Inverness Club |
| 17 | Annual Picnic | Kensington Metropark, Possum Hollow picnic area |
| 19 | Michigan Turfgrass Field Day | Michigan State University, Hancock Research Center. Watch your mail for further information or call (517) 321-1660. |

SEPTEMBER

- | | | |
|----------|--|---|
| 6 | Labor Day | Egypt Valley Golf Course |
| 13 | WMGCSA. MTF Fund-raiser | |
| 14 | Membership Meeting | Sycamore Hills Golf Course. Host: Craig Roggeman |
| 16 | Michigan Superintendents Championship | The Fortress in Frankenmuth. Scott Watkins - Superintendent |
| 20 | NMTMA Fund-raiser | Little Traverse Bay |

OCTOBER

- | | | |
|----------|--------------------------|--|
| 4 | MBCGCSA Big Event | Franklin Hills, Grosse Ile Country Club
Katke-Cousins, Oakland Hills Country Club |
| 19 | Annual Meeting | Maple Lane Golf Club |



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On par with the president



Ken DeBusscher
PRESIDENT

We all like to believe that through hard work we deserve the respect that comes from a job well done. Unlike most professions, the quality and fruits of our labor can be seen and judged on a daily basis. It takes many years of effort and results to earn the trust and admiration of the membership, owner or public. Consistent quality merits respect. We know before anybody else when the course looks bad and when it looks good. What a proud feeling you get on those clear, sunny days when you know the course is perfect. Feeling good, just wanting to drive around the clubhouse looking for attah' boys!

Our profession has made tremendous progress in the last 20 years. The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, along with local chapters, has driven a steady and admirable road promoting our profession. They have followed an aggressive, proactive agenda on research and education, with great focus on our role as environmental stewards.

As a result, we have held ourselves accountable and act with a keen sense of responsibility. We are providing golfers with the best playing conditions ever while displaying sensitivity.

Last March 25th, I was absolutely stunned when I heard a report on the radio concerning golf courses and those who maintain them. Many of you are aware of the minute-long commentary given by Paul Harvey that day and heard by millions on national radio. Letters and phone calls to Paul Harvey from the GCSAA and concerned individuals came hard and swift—and, rightfully so. Though Mr. Harvey could not be reached directly by the GCSAA, a spokesperson from Paul Harvey news said that the commentary had no factual basis—that his arguments were based on long-held feelings and personal observation. Incredible. How could a man of Mr. Harvey's reputation be so irresponsible as to indict a profession on national radio based on a personal hunch?

I manage a golf course that meanders through a subdivision in the middle of a fairly densely populated area. This golf course, as do most others, serves as an oasis for wildlife in an otherwise concrete and asphalt jungle. We are home to foxes, woodchucks, turtles, snakes, swans, geese, ducks, blue herons and a large and wide variety of other bird species. And the fishing is excellent. To imply that golf courses are killing fields or sterile waste lands managed by "greenskeepers" who use pesticides indiscriminately is ludicrous.

Until that day, I held Mr. Harvey's opinion above those of most newscasters who lace their stories with commercial sensationalism. I can't help but feel frustrated and extremely disappointed that a man with his broad appeal and high regard could so quickly and inaccurately attempt to destroy the respect of so many who have worked so hard to achieve. His commentary was unsubstantiated journalistic rubbish. Mr. Harvey is just another newscaster trying to sell his product.

We must turn Mr. Harvey's negative commentary into something positive. We must continue to be the proactive leaders in the turf industry, to religiously practice what has been preached—that our surrounding eco-systems are extremely important to both the public and our profession. Let Mr. Harvey's comments smolder within us and serve to remind us of our critical obligations.



Golfers of many or most of the most magnificent golf courses are missing something important this Spring... Birdsong. Greenskeepers have denied that their pesticides are killing the birds. But they can't deny it anymore.

A conference yesterday in Wilmington, North Carolina, heard recommendations on how to make golf courses more environmentally friendly. Pesticides on golf courses are polluting coastal fishing waters in some places.

More than 50 different chemicals are used on golf courses to kill insects, weeds and rodents... And regulation of the use of those chemicals is almost non-existent.

The USGA is presently completing its own three year study but the bottom line seems to be that some course designers and some who maintain them will not behave unless there are new laws to require it.

Sincerely,

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TO SPRAY OR NOT TO SPRAY

by Tim Doppel

Summer can be a really stressful time of the year, for the turf at least. We'll be panicking over disease and insect pressure and wanting to get applications out in a hurry. But Mother Nature will be doing her best to make things difficult for you, and that's all the more reason that you need to remember that you have to continue to operate with a great deal of safety in mind. As the temperatures warm up, usually the winds pick up too, forcing us to make decisions about any impact of drift from our applications.

When the debates over Regulation 637 were ongoing, some parties wanted to outright ban applications that cause drift. Fortunately, the Department of Agriculture recognized that the only way not to drift is not to make applications. And while I suspect that it is precisely that outcome that the noble opposition was striving for, it didn't fly. But what did pass is what is known as a Drift Management Plan.

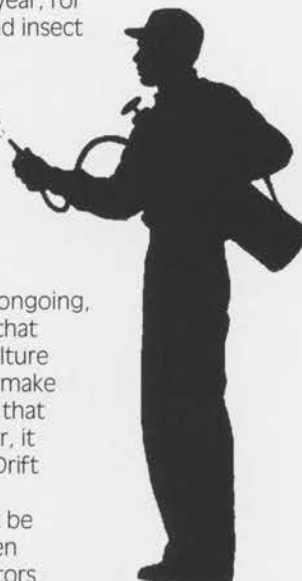
The basic premise is that the applicator must be more aware of conditions that may favor drift when making applications. The rule requires that applicators must determine, prior to making the application, whether or not drift may occur. If it is likely that drift will occur, the applicator must inform the off-target residents and get their approval to make the application. The applicator must then use the Drift Management Plan to reduce the amount of drift that will occur.

A Drift Management Plan is a written protocol that you must have on file. This plan should include all those procedures that your applicators use to minimize drift. While not specific in its requirements, the rule suggests several procedures that can be used including adjuvants, using no-spray borders, etc. Your applicators should be trained on what the plan says and how you want it implemented.

One of the important things to remember is that off target drift remains illegal. If you read the label of just about every pesticide, it clearly states that you should not permit the application to move to off target areas. I know that none of us ever go out and purposely spray into adjacent areas, but how often does it inadvertently drift on an adjoining property.

Just the other day I was driving next to a major automobile manufacturer's technical center in Warren as they were doing a weed control application. I know it was weed control because right about the time I saw the droplets on my windshield, I recognized the smell. I'm sure the grounds crew was not told to go out and apply weed control to the cars on the road but it was just windy enough to cause plenty of drift. And I'm just as sure that the applicator was not about to incur the wrath of the supervisor by shutting down the application. Nearly 100 cars received a light dose of weed control that day and 100 or so people lowered their opinion of grounds crews because of it. What a shame.

If a Drift Management Plan had been in place for that crew, I wonder if the applicator would have continued the application. When diseases and insects attack your course, you must react to protect your turf from damage. But if the wind is too severe for an application with minimal drift, then you really need to have an alternate plan in place. Making your application at a later time of day or notifying the neighbors or whatever you decide is your best option is much better than causing an investigation by the MDA and being accused of a serious drift infraction. Managing turf on a golf course in the summer is never easy. And with some of the new rules it's not getting any easier. But if we think first, and then make our applications, our impression with the public and your members will only increase, which will make life better for all of us. ▽



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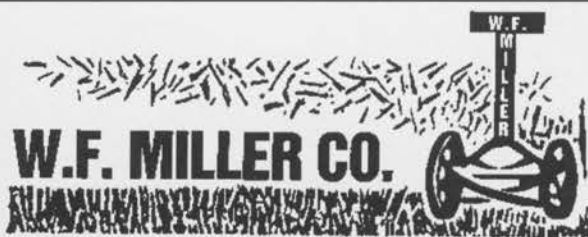


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Special Olympics



A Special Day

In a great turnout, 140 golfers attacked Bald Mountain Golf Club on May 21, 1993, to benefit the Michigan Special Olympics. This 12th year event was the best ever, raising more than \$8,000.

George and Gerry Prieskorn provided great support in hosting the event and went out of their way to accommodate the large turnout. The Prieskorns were so gracious that they even won the four-person scramble event! Their prizes were tapes on The Rules of Golf!

The vendors who sponsored tees helped make it possible to raise money and, with the individual events on par 3s, helped the Special Olympians tremendously. The sponsors were: D & C Distributors; Allingham Corporation; Osburn Industries; Greentrees; Special Touch Engraving; Lawn Equipment; Lesco, Inc.; Cleveland Cotton; Lebanon Chemical; Emerald Isle Ltd.; Benham Chemical Corporation; Great Greens of America; Amturf Seeds; U.S. Sand and Stone; Wilkie, Inc.; Zep Manufacturing; McGuire Sales; Tom's Landscaping; Century Rain Aid; and W.F. Miller.

Every golfer received a commemorative pin celebrating the 25th year of Special Olympics.

Numerous prizes were donated and raffled off, and the auction had a lot of people pumping adrenalin as the bids rose higher and higher. The auction was a great success, raising approximately \$2,100.

Special thanks to Don Fields and Mike Edgerton for selecting some of the gifts and to all the companies and individuals who donated prizes, including Ward Swanson, who donated some of his winnings from the 50/50 raffle and Dan Uzelac, who donated a check of \$100.

Many thanks go to Fund-Raising Chairman Carey Mitchelson and his staff and all the golfers who participated in this worthwhile event. Carey's support staff included: Keith Richards, Jay Delcamp, Paul Kolbe, Gary Thommes and Don Fields. Thanks to Bob Rabideau, from Special Touch Engraving, for making all the sponsor plaques and to D & C Distributors for donating the Special Olympics flags. ▴

Below: Brad Decker, Special Olympics athlete, and his coach, Angie Skenandore, enjoy the festivities.



Jennifer Hill hands chairman Carey Mitchelson a plaque representing MBCGCSA's 12 years of financial and moral support.



Above Center: Can't get any better! Barbeque hot dogs! Fresh Air! And golfing for the Special Olympics Athletes.

Left: Jennifer Hill, representing Special Olympics, tells how it gives these gifted athletes a chance to participate in numerous sport activities.



Right: Golf shot exhibitionist Charles Foster (L.) and Cy Davis of Club Car, Inc., rub shoulders to transfer some of Charles' tricks into his golf game!





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RUBBERIZED TURF: Old Tires Can Give New Life to Turf!

by Dan Banks, Benham Chemical Corp.

Every one of us can think of some areas where we can't grow grass due to traffic. It's human nature to take the most direct path to a destination, which is not always on a defined walkway or cart path. The result is soil compaction, which does not allow root penetration or sustain turf. Now you can grow turf in these bare areas!

Rubber cannot be compacted. Hence, when rubber is incorporated into a soil mix it also cannot be compacted and root penetration is achieved. Chopped rubber, made from used car tires, is a perfect rubber source for this use.

For three years, Trey Rogers of Michigan State University and Michael Venota, a graduate student, have been incorporating chopped rubber into turf. Last year they tilled 10,000 pounds of rubber into 10,000 square feet of Michigan State University's football players' practice field. The Michigan Turfgrass Foundation has supported a graduate assistantship for this research. Much of the final data has still not been collected, but we have some general guidelines for its use.

The shredded rubber is available in three sizes and has three different uses:

1. 3/8" - Soil Integration
2. 1/4" - Aerification
3. #10 - Topdressing

Keep in mind the object is to prevent compaction so the larger the particle the better the performance.

Those who have successfully installed the rubber recommend that 25-30% of soil be rubber. This rubber has been tilled into a depth of one foot. Here's an example of how to figure how much rubber is needed: Rate: 25 to 30% rubber in soil tilled into a depth of 12".

How Much: 1 cubic yd=800 lbs. of rubber.

Example: A 5' wide x 20' long x 1' deep area

5'x20'x1'=100 cubic feet

(27 cubic feet in a cubic yard)

100 cubic feet divided by 27=3.7 cubic yards

For 30% rubber mix:

3.7 (cubic yards) x .30 (30%)=1.11 cubic yards of rubber needed or 800 lbs.

The rubber is packaged in a gaylord shipping container. This container holds 800 lbs. or 1 cubic yard. This material is shipped direct from the shredding facility to you and a minimum of 3 gaylords or 2,400 lbs. is required for delivery. The cost is relatively inexpensive, approximately \$.18 a pound delivered to most areas in Michigan. ▢

For more information, contact Benham Chemical Corporation at: (313) 474-7474 or (800) 482-6520 (Michigan only).

This column introduces a new feature by the MBCGCSA Executive Secretary Kate Mason, who will answer representative questions from the membership. Kate can be reached at 313-362-1108.

kate speaking

"Michigan & Border Cities. Kate speaking."

"Hi, Kate. Hope you can help me. This is Pete."

"Hi, Pete. What can we do for you?"

"Well, somebody asked me for our list of members. Do we sell our mailing list?"

"Sorry. No we don't, Pete. I take it this was someone you do business with."

"Well, yes."

"Mmmm. Well, if it was a member, I'd suggest he refer to his roster."

"Okay."

"You know, we'd really like to encourage vendors to join our organization and become involved in what's happening. You could share your copy of the Patch of Green with him, so he can see what we're all about."

"Yeah, I could! I'll give him an application, too."

"Right. Make a copy of that one in the back of your roster or I can send you some."

"I could talk him into attending next month's meeting with me."

"Great idea! Be sure to check the guest policy on your meeting notice first, though."

"Okay. So, what'll it cost him to join?"

"Well, he'd be an F member. Their dues are \$115."

"Should he include that with the application?"

"No. The dues come later. First—Have him complete the application—including attestors. Send it to me or Mike Bay. Mike's the Membership Committee Chair. He'll present it to the Board."

"The Board?"

"Uh-huh. They approve all applications. Then I'll send him a dues invoice and when he pays, we'll send him a roster and he'll automatically receive the next issue of the Patch of Green."

"Aha!" (Chuckles) "So, if he joins...he GETS THE MAILING LIST!" Chuckles.

"Right, Pete. Along with being part of a PROFESSIONAL, PROGRESSIVE, INVOLVED, VITAL... and, well, DOWN RIGHT FUN group of people who care about the golf business."

"That's us! Thanks, Kate."

"Sure....Anytime." ▢

TURFGRASS INFORMATION CENTER

Michigan State University Libraries

The Turfgrass Information Center, operated as a unit of the MSU Libraries, provides access to the published record in turfgrass culture, science or management. It has three primary functions: 1) collect materials, 2) develop an on-line system and 3) service users' needs.

The O.J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection

The Noer Collection is made up of journals, books, reprints, technical reports, trade and professional magazines, etc. It is dedicated to the memory of the late O.J. Noer, pioneer turf agronomist (1890-1966). The Noer Collection is generally recognized as the finest turf collection in the world, and acts as an archive for the turf industry.

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For more information, contact Blue Chip at 313-565-5559 or Green & Grow at 313-979-3222.

THE 1993 MICHIGAN GOLF GUIDE, PUBLISHED BY CRAIN'S COMMUNICATIONS, INC., INCLUDED AN ARTICLE ABOUT THE NEW ORCHARDS GOLF CLUB NEAR WASHINGTON, MICHIGAN. TED WOEHRLER IS THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ORCHARDS.

This year the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) travels with its own child-care development center to become the first professional sports association to assume responsibility for child care. An article in The Detroit Free Press featured the story in its "Way We Live" section on June 3.

Scott Ford has been appointed Golf Course Superintendent at Riverview Highlands Golf Course. His predecessor, Dick Matthews, CGCS, is currently working as Golf Course Director of Riverview Highlands.

HOWARD ELLIS IS THE NEW SUPERINTENDENT AT MORAVIAN HILLS COUNTRY CLUB.

The May 1993 issue of *The Robb Report*, the magazine for the affluent lifestyle, lists some of the world's most unusual golf courses. Included are: New Zealand's Arikapaka Golf Course, with its natural bubbling mud pools; India's Delhi Golf Club, which has fairways lined with ancient and medieval tombs; and the Green Zone, which sits astride two time zones between Sweden and Finland, where you can set back the clock while you play.

Century Rain Aid has two new branches in Michigan. The new Livonia branch is located at 12780 Currie Ct., (313) 462-4050. A new branch in Washington is located at 57695 Van Dyke, (313) 781-3600.

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Above: Superintendent Tim Dorner inspects the grounds at St. Clair Shores Country Club.

Right: St. Clair Shores Country Club, owned by the city of St. Clair Shores, receives trees from the municipality's Memorial Tree Program.

It was 9 a.m. on a gorgeous June day when POG interviewed Tim Dorner, superintendent of the St. Clair Shores Country Club (SCSCC). The blue skies, with temperatures in the mid-80s expected for the weekend, made Dorner and General Manager Jerry Comeau very happy. Their mission is to ensure that the 17-year-old municipal course continues to generate profits for the city.

To that end, Dorner works hard to maintain the high-volume course, which sees approximately 80,000 nine-hole rounds each year. "It's not unusual to have golfers out here at the crack of dawn," says Dorner. Since last year, they also can play through the winter on days when there is no snow cover.

Because SCSCC is so close to lake level, drainage is a major focus of maintenance at the club. According to Dorner, keeping up the 50,000 linear feet of drainage tile is almost a full-time job. "Our goal is to try to achieve zero down time. We need to minimize any decrease in cart and greens fee revenue due to standing water after a rainfall."

While drainage improvements are an ongoing fact of life at SCSCC, a current project is a bunker renovation program in which the 54 sand bunkers will receive new drainage, faces and sand.

Dorner, who is beginning his second season at SCSCC, says his previous job as old course superintendent at Indianwood Golf and Country Club in Lake Orion prepared him well for his present responsibilities. "Both courses at Indianwood were kept at tournament quality on a daily basis. It meant a lot of extra work. That is a goal we keep in front of us, even though the resources of a municipal course are different than those of a private club such as Indianwood.

"I was really fortunate when I accepted this job. My predecessor, Craig Roggeman, had held the job for 15 years and established a fine program. My goal is to maintain and try to build on it," says Dorner. "Also, I inherited a really



Order Cities GCSA FOCUS

by Katie Elsila

DORNER St. Clair Shores Country Club

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competent group of employees who return season after season. I have only had to hire three new employees since I began."

One immediate challenge to confront Dorner, however, was the removal of underground storage tanks (UST) on the grounds. "The engineering company told us they anticipated no problems, but we found we had a big one. It turned out a cracked filler line had been leaking in the tank, which had been underground for 17 years. A lot of contaminated soil had to be removed. In fact, the grounds building parking lot is still torn up. If I had to do it over, I would take extensive soil borings and tests to define the limits of contamination. Then I would go to my consultant to determine the best way of remediating the soil. I would caution others to be extremely careful about the engineering and contracting companies they select for UST removal."

Even with problems such as this, Dorner still likes golf. He and his wife, Pam (who is also learning the game) have set up a practice net in their St. Clair Shores home for their children Christopher, 10, and Ashleigh, 8. (Karley, 2, will have to wait.) "I began playing golf when I was 11," he says. "My father took me to a driving range for a year so I could learn how to hit a ball before I set foot on a golf course. That's how I'm teaching my kids. I think they should have an understanding of the game and its etiquette and know how to hit a ball so they know what they're doing on the course." They look forward to playing with their dad and his brother, Jeff, who is the superintendent at The Links near Atlanta, Georgia.

Dorner says he appreciates the camaraderie among local and national GCSA members. "Nobody knows it all," he says. "There's always something we can learn from each other." ▽



The 54 sand bunkers receive new drainage, faces and sand at St. Clair Shores Country Club.



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Meet Greg Lyman, MSU's New Turf Environmental Education Specialist

Greg Lyman began in May as the new Environmental Education Specialist for turf, Michigan State University (MSU), succeeding Dr. Frank Rossi.

Greetings from Environmental Education Programs. I have just completed two months on the job and had the opportunity to meet many of you at the regional superintendent meetings. Thank you all for the warm welcomes, ideas and support for this program. I am delighted to have this opportunity to introduce myself to those I have yet to meet and share some thoughts with you on this position. I am a native of Michigan and received a Bachelor of Science degree at MSU in Landscape Horticulture and a Master of Science degree in Horticulture from Penn State. I have enjoyed a wide variety of work experiences within the "green industry," which includes positions in landscape construction and maintenance, tree care, golf course, interiorscape and a retail garden center facility. My research experience while at Penn State involved a vegetation management project for roadsides in which we investigated brush control, low maintenance turf, turf growth regulators and wildflowers for roadside areas. During the past two years, I have been involved in the Pesticide Education Programs at MSU conducting pesticide training programs for all applicator industries throughout Michigan.

I had the opportunity to work with Dr. Frank Rossi on several projects during his tenure in Michigan and consider myself fortunate for that experience. Frank delivered several high-impact programs and built great enthusiasm within the turf industry. Initially, I am going to focus on regrouping that enthusiasm and will continue to build the momentum for these programs. I have spent considerable time these past two months learning about the previous programs and incorporating my own program ideas into a seminar package for the first year. I will make you aware of those offerings when finished.

Initially, I will be offering a one-day seminar to investigate pesticide mixing - loading/washing - rinsing pads. This seminar will be designed to clarify exactly what is required by the regulations, how to assess your current facility and design appropriate plans to amend your existing building, or design a new facility according to your needs. Materials and pre-fabricated systems will be featured so you will have a comprehensive grasp of where to go and how to proceed to provide the appropriate environmental protection to your operation.

Initially, this seminar will be offered during the month of August and possibly early September. I have struggled with the timing because I know it is difficult for your industry to break away during the season, but the feedback I have received is "the earlier the better" and "we'll make time." More information will be out to you as soon as possible.

I am excited to be involved with your organization and the turf industry and am interested in your comments and questions. My phone number is 517-353-0860. I will be traveling throughout the state this summer to meet as many of you as possible and learn about your operations. Hope to see you soon! ▴

An exclusive new rebate program offered by Lebanon Turf Products will bring at least \$20,000 in donations to GCSAA Scholarship & Research, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's (GCSAA) non-profit foundation.

Paul Grosh, Lebanon's professional group sales manager, said that the program was inspired by the development of the new fertilizer. "Superintendents were requesting this nutrient ratio and our goal was to create another fertilizer that was environmentally compatible with use on fairways," Grosh said. "The idea of helping to fund independent groundwater research through sales of the product just seemed natural." Grosh urged superintendents with questions about the program or about the 18-3-18 fertilizer to contact the Lebanon representatives in their area or their local Country Club distributor.

With this donation, Lebanon has become the newest member of the GCSAA Scholarship & Research Platinum Tee Club. The club is made up of corporations, golf clubs, GCSAA-affiliated chapters and individuals who contribute \$5,000 or more annually. The corporation, based in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, supplies fertilizers and a variety of other plant protectants for golf courses, lawn care professions, agricultural and home uses. Paul Mengle, Lebanon's manager of sales and marketing, said, "Golf is an integral part of our business. We're extremely proud to be able to give something back to the professionals who use our products."

GCSAA Scholarship & Research is a 36-year-old foundation dedicated to providing educational and scientific advancements for the golf course industry. ▴

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GYPSY MOTH ON THE LINKS

by Tom Ellis

Gypsy Moth Education Program, Dept. of Entomology, Michigan State University

The Challenge

As a biologist, writing an article about managing insects on a golf course is a tough assignment. I've golfed enough to have an appreciation of what the manager faces on a day-to-day basis. You have teased and managed a niche of landscape to fit a special need with exacting specifications. In doing so, you have created an artificial ecosystem that is constantly in a struggle with the ecosystems that surround it. You are in a constant tug-of-war with Mother Nature that requires special day-to-day manipulation to keep her from having her way.

You are not going to eradicate insect pests; they're too adaptable. That's why it is important to make an investment in educating your clientele. All of them have an image of the aesthetics of the golf course they play; not that many have an appreciation for the labor and energy required to make it so.

Gypsy moths will not make your life easier. Why? Most folks don't like bugs! Your clientele comes in contact with insects nearly every day of their lives. Most golfers only notice those that splatter on their windshield, crawl across the green or bite them! All of us should know intuitively that most insects are probably ecologically important, but that doesn't mean we are going to invite them over for Sunday dinner. Whenever people are asked their opinion of these six-legged creatures, the reaction of most is neutral, at best. Most surveys have shown that about three quarters of us don't care for them and about half of us fear them, to some degree.

Occasionally, certain insects will make the headlines. Our attention is most often drawn to the negative aspects of these insects only. For every honey bee or butterfly story there are probably ten killer bee, termite, cockroach or gypsy moth stories reported. That is okay, but few articles give a balanced accounting of these critters. Like people, no insect is all good or all bad. The truth lies somewhere in between.

This article is about gypsy moths on golf courses in Michigan, their potential impact, how to begin to determine your risk and how to begin to develop a management plan.

Know Thy Bug

Before you attempt to manage the beast you must get to know it. It will be difficult (and more costly) to manage otherwise.

Throughout May and most of June the gypsy is in the very recognizable caterpillar form. It feeds on the leaves of many different kinds of deciduous trees. It is particularly partial to oaks, aspens (poplar), birch, willow, crabapple and certain maples. It will feed on others, but usually only after the food supply of its favorites have been exhausted.

The caterpillar will live exclusively in the canopy of the tree until it has grown to about an inch in length. At this time



its behavior changes. It will then feed in the evening and early morning and migrate down the tree in late morning to find a place to hide during the day.

In mid-late June, when the caterpillar is about two inches long, it will cease feeding and wander around, looking for a secluded spot to transform into a pupa (cocoon). The insect got its name from this "wandering" behavior.

After a week or two as a pupa the adult male and female moths will emerge. The female is an average-size

white moth distinguished by a "black mark" a chevron marking on each of its two forewings. It has fully developed wings, but cannot fly. The male is slightly smaller than the female and dark brown in color. It, too, has the black "V's" on its wings.

The female emits a "perfume" called a pheromone to attract the male for mating. Soon after copulation the female deposits a mass of eggs and dies shortly thereafter. The male will mate several times before expiring. Mating and egg laying is usually complete in Michigan by the end of July.

An egg mass is light reddish brown and measures from 1/2" to 3/4" long. It contains 50-1,000 BB size eggs interwoven in thick layers of silken hair. The egg mass will remain where it was laid until the caterpillars hatch the following May. The masses are deposited on the trunk and branches of trees most likely those that the caterpillars were feeding on prior to pupation. When populations are high they can be found on most any flat surface. The female moth will deposit egg masses on parked vehicles, trailers, lawn implements, wood piles, road signs; you name it.

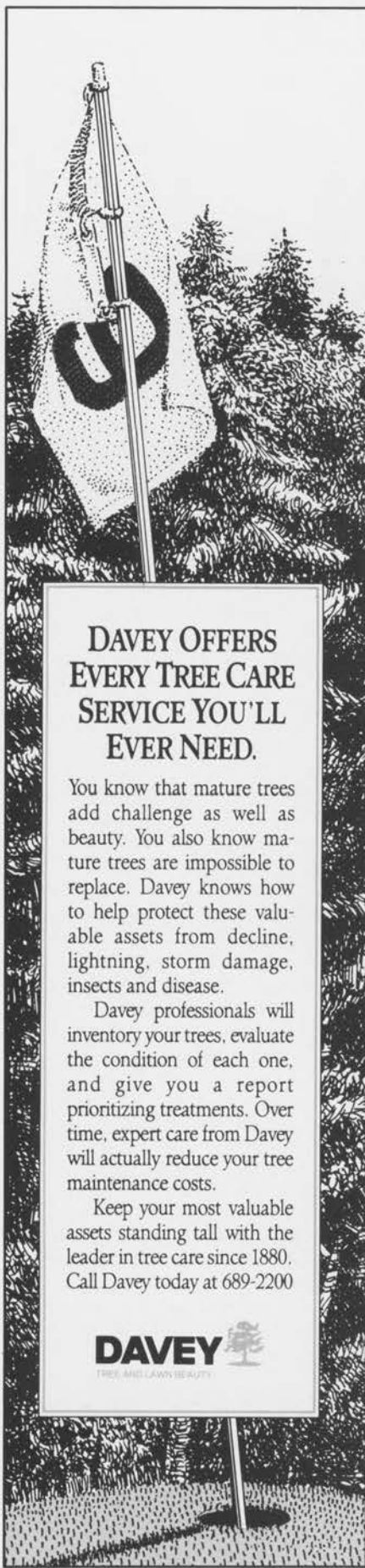
This behavioral trait is attributed for the spread of this insect from its original introduction site in Massachusetts to other states and Canada. Because of the gypsy moth's vehicular mobility, it may well be a practical impossibility to keep this insect contained within its present range.

What's At Risk

Most ecologists argue that gypsy moths will never devoid an area of the existing forests. The species' composition (mix of trees) may change, but nonetheless there will always be a forest after the gypsy moth has become established unless man cuts down the timber and plows the land. In fact, an ecologist may argue that the gypsy moth and other pests and diseases that may follow, will eliminate the weak trees and the overall health of the forest will improve.

These ecologists also argue that to "knock back" a building population with a pesticide will only prolong an infestation. They warn that, overall, we would be better off to let the bug get established. The quicker this happens the quicker a region would settle into population cycles that would feature possible 2-3 year outbreak phases followed by 6-8 years of unnoticeable populations.

continued on page 23



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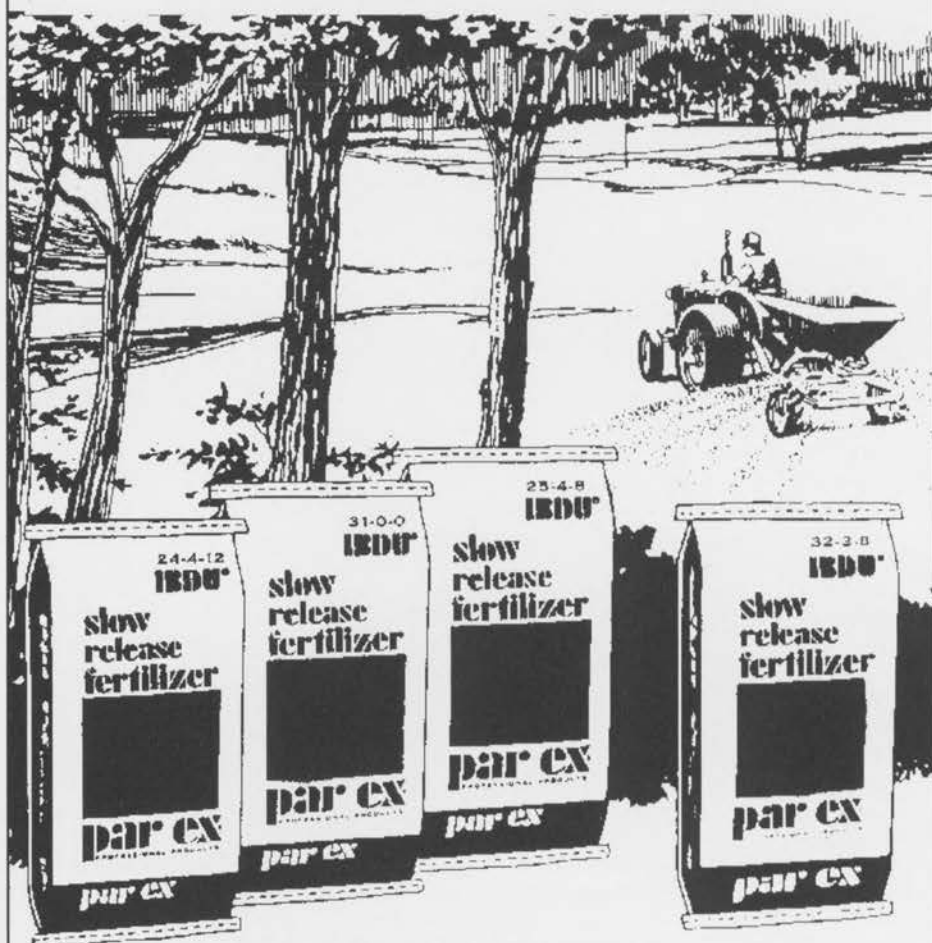
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THE EX STANDS FOR EXCELLENCE

continued from page 21

For most golf courses in this state, trees are an integral part of the architecture. A golf course superintendent would argue that the trees potentially being affected are of great economic and aesthetic value to the course. In many cases, they add essential challenge and charm to many holes. While the fifty foot white oak in the back forty might be replaced "naturally" by a fifty foot red maple in 100 years, the course manager, obviously, must protect these trees at all costs.

The golf course manager would also argue that it's not much fun golfing on a June evening when hundreds of caterpillars deposit excrement on your head and are crawling all over the place. Obviously, this is not good for business.

Know Your Risk

Risk to gypsy moth defoliation is determined by several factors. To survive and prosper, gypsy moths require a proper and adequate food supply. You need to determine if you have susceptible trees (right kinds). If you do, are they abundant enough (usually 50% canopy cover is required) to sustain a growing population? Also, how vulnerable (state of health of preferred host trees) are your trees? A healthy tree can sustain defoliation (usually a healthy tree that is defoliated by 40% or less is not affected) better than one that is diseased or stressed.

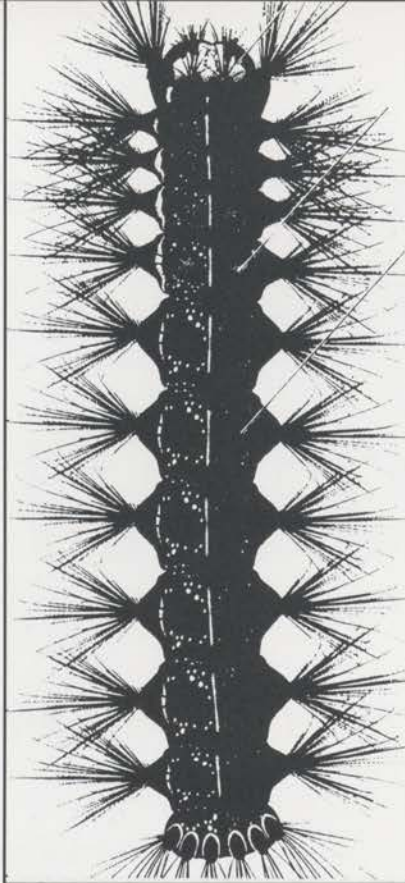
Know Your Ground

I grew up in the thumb of Michigan where there are many small, well-managed farms, which were passed from father to son. In those days a farm did not have a specialty. They raised animals and grew crops for feed and cash. All the "good" farmers knew their ground. They had to. They were terrific managers. They had to be. They used their senses. They smelled soil, inspected their fields daily, asked questions and took prudent action.

I suggest you manage your golf course that way. Rely on your senses. Use your eyes. Look around. Become a pest manager if you are not one already. Know your ground.

Pest managers cannot effectively manage the gypsy moth without first knowing how many there are and where they are.

A synthetic form of the female pheromone is produced and put in traps to catch male moths in order to monitor the population statewide. Since 1985, every July two traps have been set out in each township in the state by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. (More than 3,000 traps are set and retrieved each year.) After the male moths cease flying and die, the traps are collected and the moths are counted. This information is combined with forest cover information and up-to-date defoliation maps constructed from information provided by the DNR and CES county agents to determine the relative abundance of the insect and make predictions about those areas that will be at risk in the future. This yearly project is the result of a combined cooperation between the MDA, DNR and Michigan State University. Seek out this information.



Call your county agent. This information will give you a generalized view of what's happening in your area.

The monitoring program tells us that the gypsy moth population in Michigan is still building. In some areas it is apparent (noticeable defoliation) and in some areas it is not.

Find Those Egg Masses

The gypsy moth is in the egg mass form about nine months out of the year. Learn how to identify them. Learn where they are most likely to be. Look early in the fall. Look often. Don't wait until April to make management decisions that will be implemented in May.

Every county in Michigan that is at risk provides workshops and training. Get involved.

Develop a Long Term Strategy

Once you have assessed your situation you can begin to make long-term plans

to deal with gypsy moths. Eradication is not an answer. This bug is here for the long haul. We must plan accordingly.

Implement Your Plan

There are many variables that will go into your decision-making process. Rely on the facts that are available to you. Consult with the experts. Implement a plan that has a good balance of short- and long-term management strategies.

Educate Your Clientele

We are all potential gypsy moths managers. The best managers are those who make the best decisions. The best decisions are a product of timely and accurate information based on the best available facts. Make an effort to educate your clientele. They too may have gypsy moth problems.

Our legislature understands the need for public education about gypsy moths. Three years ago they initiated a special appropriation for gypsy moth education in Michigan. This program, administered by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and executed by the Cooperative Extension Service, has developed literature, video, slide tapes and other education tools directed at educating the populace about gypsy moths. Additionally, the two education coordinators present programs and train county personnel all across the state on a year-round basis. ▽

Tom Ellis is a research and extension specialist in the Department of Entomology at Michigan State University. He is also the Gypsy Moth Education coordinator for Southern Michigan. He earned a B.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife and a M.S. in Entomology, both from MSU. He has been with the department since 1976.

The "Gypsy Moth in Michigan HOMEOWNERS GUIDE" is available free of charge from any county extension office. This eight page bulletin is complete with color illustrations. Ask for bulletin E-2302. Additionally, there are several other gypsy moth bulletins and videos available. They are all listed in E-2302.

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MEMBERSHIP MEETING UPDATE

1993 Joint Meeting at Detroit Golf Club

by Ed Hock

The Annual Joint Meeting of the Michigan and Border Cities and the Ontario Superintendents Association was held at Detroit Golf Club on April 19. The program began with a buffet lunch and 1 p.m. shotgun. One hundred and twenty-eight participants got off to a great start. Around the 13th hole rain started to fall. Many continued on and finished the round, while others felt a hot shower was better than a cold one. Dinner was served at 7 p.m. and introductions and the day's winners were announced.

Our hosts for the day, Detroit Golf Club Superintendent Clem Wolfrom and General Manager Jerry Miller, did an outstanding job. The course was in excellent shape, and the food was delicious. The whole crew and staff deserve a hand on a job well done.

Michigan State was represented by Dr. Joe Vargas participating in the golf event. Dr. Bruce Branham, Dr. Paul

Rieke and Dr. Jim Crum were on hand for the meeting and dinner. The Ontario Association had 58 participants in the golf event, helping to make this a very successful joint meeting.

Greg Lyman was also introduced as the new Environmental Specialist. He started us off and running by explaining more about the chemical pick up, Operation Clean Sweep.

Don't forget to call your local MSU extension office to obtain an inventory form so you can get rid of unwanted materials.

I would also like to give special thanks to Jim Abbot, Doug and Dan Johanningsmeier and Marc McMullen who gave me a big hand in registration.

All in all, the day was very successful. It would have been even better if the rain had held off, but we can only blame the Superintendent for the rain. ▴

RESULTS Players from the MBCGCSA and OGCSA competed for the first time in the new CAN-AM Challenge Cup. The winning team was based on the total score of the four lowest gross scores.

The American team won the event with a team total of 291. The Canadian team shot 308.

The trophy will stay with the current president of the winning association.

In the two-man blind draw event, the team of Ray Manion and Tim Barno were the winners.



Detroit Golf Club's green chairman, Len Winzer, left, with host superintendent Glen Wolfrom.

In Memoriam

Former MBCGCS Board Member **Albert W. Kaltz** died on April 27, 1993. Al retired as superintendent at Maple Lane Golf Club in 1982 after a more than 40-year association with the club. His long term of service was interrupted only when he served in the U.S. Army from 1941-1945. He came to Maple Lane when he was 18 years old and was instrumental in the designing and building of at least 36 holes. A Patch of Green, July 1973, reported that Al's wintertime avocation—the growing of hothouse rhubarb—had developed into a profitable family operation. Our condolences to his wife, Gerald, and his family. ▴

Bob Williamson, owner of Seven Lakes in Windsor, died May 3 at the age of 88. "Bob wouldn't let a kid walk by without asking him to see their swing and then giving them a few tips," said Superintendent Rob Mitchell. Dan Uzelac, a long-time friend of Bob's, said that Bob belonged to numerous American associations because that's where 70% of the players came from to play golf. He was a member of our association and a member for more than 50 years of the Canadian Professional Golf Association and GCSAA. He is survived by his wife Gladys, two children and two grandchildren. ▴

Dr. Fritz Adams (L.) receives the Distinguished Service Award from Orchard Lake Superintendent Jim Timmerman.



Martin Fuchs, Oakland Hills Country Club, discusses how the stimpmeter and the increase in putting green speed has changed the pin placements on the south course's famous greens. Martin showed how pin placements with green speeds of 8.0 can't be used when stimpmeter is at 10 or better.

The man we chose to honor today is Dr. Fritz Adams, past GAM Governor, past president of Orchard Lake CC and present executive director of the Michigan Seniors Golf Association.

Many in this room today probably know Dr. Adams not because of golf but because for more than 40 years he was the most prominent pediatrician in this area. His good friend, Dr. John Ziegler, says, he has treated probably 98% of the children in Birmingham.

Dr. Adams grew up in the Detroit and Birmingham area. He received his undergraduate degree from Albion College and his medical degree from the University of Michigan. He went on to do further study at Johns Hopkins in the area of pediatric

heart medicine.

For his medical achievements alone Dr. Adams is deserving of our Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Adams got involved with golf during his college years. He became a lover of the game and an excellent player. For many years his handicap hovered around one. While never having time for competitive golf, he and his good friend Ben Smith, a member here at Detroit GC, have won the Birmingham CC and the Orchard Lake CC Invitational. Dr. Adams was also Orchard Lake CC Club Champion a number of times. Ben Smith also tells me Dr. Adams did qualify for the State Amateur finals once but lost his first match.

During the late fifties, Orchard Lake was experiencing some problems with greens and fairways due to a thatch build-up. Dr. Adams was put on the Greens Committee to help overcome that problem and became Green Committee Chairman in 1957. He served, in that capacity for 14 years. While medicine was Dr. Adams profession, turfgrass science became his avocation. Ben Smith likes to call him a frustrated agronomist. Dr. Adams is also a lover of horticulture and along with his wife, Lou Adams, maintains one of the finer flower and vegetable gardens around.

The two things Dr. Adams immediately recognized when he became interested in turf was the magnitude of science involved in turfgrass management and the

MBCGCSA's 1993 Distinguished Service Award Given to Dr. Fritz Adams

Dr. Fritz Adams was presented with the MBCGCSA Distinguished Service Award at the special joint meeting of the GAM and MBCGCSA on March 20 at Detroit Golf Club

Following are highlights of the presentation given by Jim Timmerman.

complexities the golf course superintendent is faced with every day in managing turfgrasses. He has been a constant source of support for the superintendent over the years. Before Dr. Adams became Greens Chairman, Orchard Lake didn't even own a fairway aerator. He was very instrumental in upgrading the equipment and improving the playing conditions of Orchard Lake.

In 1962 Dr. Adams was elected to the GAM Board of Governors and became an Honorary Governor in 1970. He was GAM Green Committee Chairman from 1962 to 1968. During his tenure as Chairman he again displayed strong support for green superintendents.

As GAM Greens Chairman, Dr. Adams organized two joint meetings between club officials and the MBCGCSA. The first was on irrigation and was held at Oakland Hills CC. The second was on budgets and was



Arthur Hills spoke about course renovation versus course restoration and showed slides from his recent work at Forest Akers west course in East Lansing and the UM course in Ann Arbor.

held at Plum Hollow CC. From these two original meetings, the MBCGCSA and the GAM went on to develop this joint annual seminar. These seminars have led to a better understanding of all the problems faced today by both club officials and superintendents.

Dr. Adams has been a member of the USGA Green Committee since 1960. While Greens Chairman of Orchard Lake, he formed a strong relationship with the USGA Green Section. The Green Section has done extensive research into greens construction and had developed a prescription for building greens. In 1960 and 1961, Dr. Adams, working very closely with USGA Agronomist, Jim Holmes, built the first USGA type greens in America at Orchard Lake CC. These greens have served as a model for further research and refinement over the years and much has been learned from their performance. From this pioneer work at Orchard Lake, the USGA formula for building greens has become the standard for greens construction in the turf industry today.

Dr. Adams has been a speaker at the GCSAA national convention and at USGA Regional Seminars. In 1968 he wrote an article for the Green Section Record titled "Committees: Their Role in Course Economy." This article described the role the Green chairman and the Green Committee should play in the overall management of the golf course. I quote: "First of all, it becomes necessary for the Board of Directors to choose a Green Chairman who has enough maturity and self-discipline to recognize that he really doesn't know much about agronomy. He will therefore be happy to leave the enormously complex problems related to growing grass up to the man who has been trained for this job—the Superintendent."

Over the years this has been the single most requested article from the USGA Library. It has been included in a booklet published by the USGA titled The Green Committee. This is a booklet designed to help guide clubs' green committee operations.

Dr. Adams is past president of the Michigan Senior Golf Association and, after his retirement from medicine, was appointed executive director of the Michigan Seniors and still serves in that capacity. The Michigan Seniors have been very supportive of The Michigan Turfgrass Foundation with a yearly donation to support turfgrass research at MSU. Dr. Adams is also a member of the American Senior Golf Association.

I have been asked to present a number of awards to friends of mine over the years. It has always intrigued me how these men were perceived by the people I talked with about them. The one constant which came through as I talked with friends of Dr. Adams was that he was held in high esteem by everyone. Not just because of his medical prowess but because he is a man with high personal standards who always conducted himself with integrity and treated everyone with dignity. For his longtime interest in turfgrass science, his service to the GAM and for his committed support of the golf course superintendent, we honor today Dr. Friz Adams with the MBCGCSA Distinguished Service Award.

Jim Timmerman

THANKS AGAIN!

"J. Brandon." The voice was very deep and the name was clearly enunciated. Accompanying the voice was a man tall in stature, with silver white hair, a crisp white jacket that rested just above the knees and the most extraordinary plaid pant legs I'd ever seen. That was my introduction to "Fritz" Adams. Although to me, my husband Jon and two children, J and Tracy, he was, and still is, Dr. Adams. I did not realize some 20 years ago that those interesting plaid pant legs belonged to someone who was an excellent golfer and was, I learned recently, "Fritz Adams," known for his support and contributions to the golf industry. For our family Dr. Adams was someone who patiently listened to concerns and treated all questions with the importance a young mother felt they had. Of our son's middle-of-the-night bouts with bronchial asthma, and the fear we felt when he seemed to struggle for breath, he reassured, "Call me." Dr. Adams cared for our children—and our parental sense of well-being—for seven years. Then we moved to Illinois, where one of the more traumatic changes for us was trying to find another Dr. Adams. That never happened. When we returned to Michigan seven years later, I called Dr. Adams to schedule a high school physical for a young man who had grown from four feet to six feet tall. Dr. Adams had retired, but we did return to his practice. Again, time has passed, our children are grown and a "name from the past" evokes memories of that time and a pediatrician who always instilled confidence and dispensed excellent tips on parenting. When we moved, I wrote Dr. Adams a letter thanking him for the excellent care he had given our children. Here I am years later sharing another side of "Fritz Adams." While the Association and many other people know of his contributions to golf, I know of his contributions to the well-being of our family, and many other families. I guess we are "linked" through events in both of our lives or, as happens in life, once again our paths cross. Congratulations Dr. Adams. I'm delighted to be able to again thank you.

Vicki Robb
Editor, *A Patch of Green*

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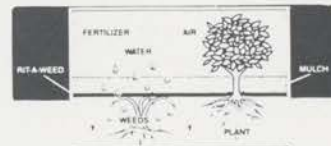


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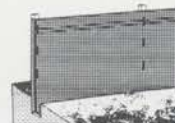
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