



Tee to Green

Vol. VI, No. 4

Published monthly by the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association

May, 1976

MEETING NOTICE:

Date: June 10, 1976
 Place: Pelham Country Club
 Luncheon: Available in grill room
 Golf: Superintendents Championship 1st round M.G.A. Handicap or equivalent
 Cocktails: 6 PM
 Dinner: 7 PM
 Program: Dr. Spence Davis, Rutgers University
CARE OF TREES AND ORNAMENTALS ON THE GOLF COURSE
 Host: Terry Mulligan 914-738-2752
 Directions: Take I 95 South to Exit 7. At bottom of ramp, turn right. Take first left, (off of Boston Post Road, Route 1) Wynnewood Road to Pelham Country Club.

Please Return Cards:

We are basically having good cooperation with the return cards. There are still a few who show up without sending a card or calling the host. It just makes it that much easier to plan for the dinners and golf if we have an accurate count. The manager of the club also appreciates it.

COMING EVENTS:

- June 4-6 LPGA Girl Talk Classic, Wykagyl C.C., Allyn Smith, Supt.
- June 23 Rutgers Turfgrass Research Day
- July 15-18 Westchester Classic, Bob DePencier, Supt.
- July 27 M.G.C.S.A. Superintendents—Class B and C Championships, Winged Foot Golf Club
- July 28 University of Mass Turf Field Day
- August M.G.C.S.A. picnic and softball game. Date to be announced.
- August 25 Rhode Island Turfgrass Field Day
- September 30 M.G.C.S.A. Invitational. The Apawamis Club
- October Club to be announced
- November 18 M.G.C.S.A. annual meeting
- December 18 M.G.C.S.A. Christmas Party

M.G.C.S.A. NEWS:

Our May meeting with Conn GCSA turned out to be a big success. We had 125 plus for dinner and over 70 for golf. Paul Caswell, host, hustled and everything went well. We had the University people well represented with Dr. Richard Skogley from Rhode Island (Paul is a R.I. graduate), Ralph Engel from Rutgers, and our guest speaker Dr. Al Turgeon (did his undergraduate at Rutgers under Ralph Engel.) Paul had the greens

nice and tight so the scores zoomed up. It certainly was a fun day. The manager Mr. Wilson, along with Jerry Coats, PGA golf Professional, and his staff gave us their all.

M.G.C.S.A. Research Fund continues to grow. So lets keep the donations coming in. Those clubs who to date have not given will be receiving a letter addressed to the President of the club asking for support. It was mentioned by Dr. A.V. Virtuoso at the recent Presidents Council meeting sponsored by the MGA.

Dr. Al Turgeon gave his usually excellent presentation on Biological and Chemical Control of Fusarium Roseum. He certainly put some new thoughts to consider in the control other than relying entirely on chemicals.

Congratulations to Harry Nichol on becoming Superintendent of the Country Club of Darien. Ted Horton had his recent article, "The Golf Course Superintendent, A Perspective" published in several newsletters; Hudson Valley and Georgia. Glad to hear Al Radko is back to work.

SPECIAL NOTICE—Allyn Smith informed us that all M.G.C.S.A. members may receive a complimentary ticket to the up and coming Girl Talk Tournament from June 3-6 at the Wykagyl Country Club by showing your current National or Local membership card.

STOLEN EQUIPMENT—Dick Allen had two fairway units with pull frames stolen from his golf course. The units were parked in the center of the course.



Al Turgeon — Program Speaker



Editorial Staff

Garry Crothers
Ted Horton

Co-Editor
Co-Editor

OFFICERS

President: Garry N. Crothers, Apawamis Club
Office 914-967-2100, Home 914-234-3770

First Vice President: Robert DePencier, Westchester C.C.
Office 914-967-6000, Home 203-531-9780

Second Vice President: Charles Martineau, Whipoorwill C.C.
Office 914-273-3755, Home 914-428-3826

Secretary: Richard Gonyea, Rye Golf Club
Office 914-835-3205, Home 914-835-3204

Treasurer: Robert Alonzi, Burning Tree C.C.
Office 203-869-5779, Home 914-937-1527

Not copyrighted. If there is good here, we want to share it with all chapters – unless author states otherwise.

M.G.C.S.A. Directory:

The directory has been completed in looseleaf form. It is available to all members for a fee of \$3.00. The by-laws are included. The M.G.C.S.A. Directory will be good for many years as we will replace pages only as changes occur. There will be no additional expense. We will list all future meeting dates, officers each year, along with committee chairman. Chuck Martineau has the directory's. Please contact him at 273-3755 if you want to purchase one. He also will bring copies to the monthly meetings.

Certification: It hasn't been officially announced at the M.G.C.S.A. meeting but Congratulations are in order for Chuck Fatum who successfully passed his certification examination at the National conference. Lets hope more fellows take the exam this coming year. Any information in regard to Certification please contact Garry Crothers.



1st Prize – Low Gross – Dave Roule, left, and Kay Ovian, winner, on right.



Greenwich C.C. Golf Triumvirate – William Loweth, Green Chairman; Paul Caswell, Golf Course Superintendent and Jerry Coats, PGA Professional.

Welfare:

Keep us informed. Call Dick Gonyea 914-835-3205, Dan Cancelleri 914-667-3737 or Roger Morhardt 914-279-7181 with any information which you think should be shared.

Ray Henshaw is recovering nicely from a recent automobile accident.

MEMORIAM

Daniel R. Silvar, better known to those who knew him as "Dick" passed away on May 7, 1976 from a heart attack at age 46. He was the superintendent at Pinehurst, in Southern Pines N.C. Previously he had been at the Baltimore Country Club and the Knickerbocker C.C. in Englewood N.J. He gave talks at many conferences including the National and USGA. He was an outstanding superintendent as well as a wonderful person. We extend to his wife Betty, and his immediate family, our extreme sympathy. He rests in the great green pasture, we will miss him.

1976 RUTGERS TURFGRASS RESEARCH DAY

Date — Wednesday, June 23, 1976
10:00 a.m. — Adelphia Research Center, Adelphia, N.J.
12:30 p.m. — Lunch, Ryders Lane Turfgrass Research Center, North Brunswick, N.J.
1:30 p.m. — Tour plots at Ryders Lane Turfgrass Research Center

Anyone interested in turf and turfgrass research developments is welcome.

DIRECTIONS — For Adelphia, N.J., follow Rt. 9 on 524 (3 miles south of Freehold Circle). One-half mile east on 524, left at sign onto Hall Mills Rd. for a fraction of a mile. Entrance to Research Center on your right. **Ryders Lane Turfgrass Research Center** in North Brunswick off Route 1. Ryders Lane is the first cloverleaf intersection south of Rt. 1 and Rt. 18 (near Exit 9—N.J. Turnpike). The Center is to your left when traveling south on Rt. 1, and to your right when traveling north (signs for Milltown and East Brunswick via Ryders Lane.) Enter the Center cautiously at first or second left (a few hundred yards from Rt. 1).

METROPOLITAN GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION RESEARCH FUND REPORT

To date the following clubs individuals and commercial firms have supported the M.G.C.S.A. Research Fund. This money will be used to underwrite Research by the Entomology Department of Cornell University on the Hyperodes Weevil and the Dung Beetle.

Clubs:

The Apawamis Club
Blind Brook Club
Bonnie Briar Country Club
Burning Tree Country Club
Century Country Club
Country Club of Darien
Elmwood Country Club
Fenway Country Club
Fresh Meadow Country Club
Innis Arden Country Club
Knollwood Country Club
Metropolis Country Club
Old Oaks Country Club
Quaker Ridge Country Club
Ridgeway Country Club
Rockrimmon Country Club
Piping Rock Club
Rockland Country Club
Round Hill Club
St. Andrews Golf Club
Scarsdale Golf Club
Silver Springs Country Club
Sunningdale Country Club
Waccabuc Country Club
Wee Burn Country Club
Whippoorwill Club
Winged Foot Golf Club
Woodway Country Club
Wykagyl Country Club
Sleepy Hollow Country Club
Sterling Farms Club

Individual Class A, B & C Members:

Garry Crothers	Edward Consolati
Robert DePencier	Robert Capstick
Charles Martineau	Tony Savone
Robert Alonzi	Benjamin Zukosky
Allan Tretera	Al Moore
Mike Maffei	Thomas A. Grywalski
Richard Gonyea	Michael Jacques
Sherwood Moore	Robert Phipps
Edward Horton	Thomas F. Grywalski
Terry Boles	Gene Grady
Dan Verrille	Phil Santucci
Louis Verrille	Roger King
Angelo Gagliardo	Richard Allen
Joe Camberato	John Wistrand
Michael Dale	Tony Grasso
Roger Harmonay	Bill Somers
Ted Jozwick	

We would like to thank those who have given and hope that more clubs and individuals will support this much needed research project.

Sincerely,
Research Committee

SAVE \$182 ON EQUIPMENT REPAIR ON A TORO GREENS MASTER III

If you own a Toro Greens Master III and if the shaft breaks on the hydrolic pump that handles the reel drive, transport gear and lift mechanism you can save \$182. You can buy a new pump for \$200 from Toto Distributors or buy a shaft for \$18 from:

Engineered Fluid Power Products Inc.
509 Estes
Schaumburg, Ill. 60172
Part #42596, Drive Shaft.

- Chipco® Spot Kleen
- Chipco® Microgreen
Liquid
- Chipco® Turf Herbicide "D"
- Chipco® Spreader
Activator
- Chipco® Thiram 75
- Chipco® Crab Kleen
- Chipco® Turf Herbicide
MCPP
- Chipco® Bucril®
- Chipco® Turf Kleen

CHIPCO protects your turf from the world's toughest critic...

The golfer

RHODIA INC. AGRICULTURAL DIVISION
Monmouth Junction, New Jersey 08852



"WHAT'S NEW IN POA ANNUA CONTROL?"

Research Review by Wayne C. Morgan

Yes, another report on the control of *Poa Annua*! After the many volumes that have been written on this serious pest and its control, one could wonder if there is anything new. After witnessing the results of work done by Dr. Roy Goss and Tom Cook at Washington State at Puyallup, the answer is yes. Mr. Cook presented some very valuable information on their results in the December 1975 issue of *Northwest Turfgrass Topics*.

Before explaining our progress this year, I feel it's important to set the stage and explain the general approach we feel is necessary to control *Poa annua* in the Pacific Northwest.

To be exact the problem isn't that we can't control *Poa annua*, we can, the real problem lies in developing a comprehensive cultural program that will enable people in the field to eliminate *Poa annua* without drastic measures. In simpler terms we need to develop a situation where bentgrass can live and *Poa annua* cannot. Because of our peculiar climate with its mild winters and generally cool summers this is not an easy problem to solve. Nevertheless, considerable progress has been made in the last ten years.

One big breakthrough in cultural control has been Dr. Goss's sulfur fertilization work. Specifically, he has found that levels and balance between N,P, and S strongly influence the amount of *Poa annua* that can survive in Astoria colonial bentgrass putting turf grown in a fine sandy loam soil. When N was applied at rates of 6-12 lb/1000 stimulated both bentgrass and *Poa annua* with no reduction in *Poa annua* levels. This work indicates there is a critical level of S which must be reached and we suspect that level will be influenced by soil texture. New work with sulfur will be launched in 1976 to learn more about sulfur effects on sand base putting turf. The important point right now is that we can influence *Poa annua* by manipulating our fertility program. Additional research is currently under way to determine the influence of other cultural practices such as modified topdressing programs. We also hope to initiate research in 1976 on improved methods of overseeding to increase the chance of successful establishment.

Another breakthrough in recent years has been the development of safe and effective pre-emergence herbicides. In putting turf these chemicals can be used to prevent infestation by *Poa annua*. In older turf they can be used to stop further spread. Based on work done by Dr. Goss on Highland colonial bentgrass putting turf, it is clear that *Poa annua* can actually be eliminated from putting turf by use of pre-emergence chemicals alone. For instance, when bensulide was applied at a level of 12 lb ai/acre in the fall followed by 3 lb ai/acre every three months, *Poa annua* was nearly eliminated from putting turf over a five year period. Under test condition with turf growing on a fine sandy loam soil no apparent reduction in rooting occurred during this time. Single applications of bensulide at 12 lb ai/acre applied in the fall were not successful in reducing *Poa annua*. The reduction in *Poa annua* from annual repeat applications may indicate some post-emergence activity from the bensulide since a recent survey found that nearly all *Poa annua* types in putting turf in western Washington are perennial types.

So far, the missing link in *Poa annua* control has been the lack of a selective post-emergence herbicide. A good post-emergence chemical could help reduce the need for annual repeat applications of pre-emergence herbicides. Used in concert with fertilizer and pre-emergence programs it could speed up the transition period a great deal. In large areas where pre-emergence control might be too expensive a combined program using altered fertility and post-emergence control might be the best alternative. One instance where post-emergence control would not be desirable is where the turf is nearly all *Poa annua*. On the other hand if an effective means for *Poa annua* control is devised, people with *Poa* greens might be encouraged to replace them with improved bentgrass knowing *Poa annua* could be kept out later. In my mind there is no question that a good post-emergence herbicide could aid the cause greatly.

Like many things this appears to be a case where we have the technology but need to learn the best way to use it. A good example is the herbicide "Endothal." Tests going back to the early 1950's clearly show Endothal has potential for selective *Poa annua* control. Some of the best work with Endothal was done by McMaugh (1970) in Australia. He found it relatively safe and effective when used at low rates on colonial and creeping bentgrass. All his tests were done in mild weather with temperatures below 70°. Around the same time Turgeon (1972) used Endothal on both Kentucky bluegrass and creeping bentgrass. His results were complicated by rates and seasonal influences. The key in his work seems to be the effect of summer heat stress on plant response to the herbicide. Turgeon went so far as to establish the basis for selectivity which he determined to be greater absorption of Endothal by *Poa annua* and greater sensitivity of photosynthesis and respiration to Endothal. As McMaugh had done earlier, he noted that annual biotypes were easier to control than perennial types.

Tests in 1975 were conducted on various turfs containing Kentucky bluegrass, red fescue, colonial bentgrass and creeping bentgrass. All tests on bentgrass were conducted on putting turf and all bluegrass and red fescue tests were on



... It pays to use
AQUA-GRO

AQUA-GRO *Quality Blended Wetting Agent*

AQUA-T *Low Cost Blended Wetting Agent*

STOMA-SEAL *Chemical Control of Wilt*

Convenience of Application

AQUA-GRO GRANULAR

1-1½ inch turf. Five separate rate tests were conducted between April and October. From these tests at least three rates warrant more testing on the bentgrasses and the bluegrass. However, nearly all rates caused severe phytotoxicity to red fescue.

No seasonal effects were observed on putting turf in 1975, a year marked by mild temperatures. However, in bluegrass the best results came from midsummer and fall applications, times when the bluegrass is slow to initiate growth in early spring and Endothal applications are less effective then. In fact repeated application in the spring caused thinning of the bluegrass turf.

Three different tests were conducted to determine the effects of repeat applications on selective control. Low rates were ineffective even when repeated as many as five times at two week intervals. Higher rates that caused selective injury to the *Poa annua* initially, caused increasing injury to all grasses with more than one application. Intermediate rates resulted in best control from 2-4 repeat applications. Red fescue could survive only one or two applications of rates that were safe on the other grasses.

In late summer, tests were initiated to determine among other things the best sequence for combined treatments of bensulide and Endothal. Plots receiving bensulide first followed by three repeats of Endothal showed better control than plots treated first with Endothal and then bensulide. There was some indication of an interaction between bensulide and Endothal that varied with time between applications.

In late summer, one test was run at a local golf course on a green in play. Results were encouraging since selectivity proved to be excellent. Endothal applications at that time caused slight lightening in bentgrass color but full color returned within a week. Good *Poa annua* control was observed in this test.

What does all this mean? First, there is little question that use of Endothal can result in selective removal of *Poa annua* from both bentgrass and bluegrass turf. Next, valuable information was gained in 1975 concerning effective rates and proper timing of applications. The value of an integrated

program using both pre- and post-emergence herbicides in tandem was demonstrated. Finally, many questions were uncovered concerning the best interval between applications, the effects of Endothal on young turf, and the selectivity on other grasses such as perennial ryegrass. The list goes on and on.

It is premature at this time to discuss specific rates or programs for applying Endothal; but if all goes well in 1976, we may be able to offer a tentative program for use on various types of lawn and golf turf. We would prefer to delay this until more detailed information can be gained, however.

I feel strongly that we've made solid gains in the first year of this expanded program. Since this program is not funded by the legislature, our survival is solely dependent on the people in the field who receive the benefits of our work. If you feel strongly about the role of research in turf management, please urge your club or organization to contribute to our research fund. This program can survive only as long as you support it.



Bob Osterman, left, and Dave Roule, right —
"Shortest Drive of Day" — 5"

Emanuel Shemin
Horticulturist



HAHN TURF EQUIPMENT
HESSTON TURF EQUIPMENT
HOMELITE CONST. EQUIPMENT

EMANUEL SHEMIN — HORTICULTURIST

1081 KING STREET, BOX 64, GLENVILLE STATION
GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT 06830

(203) 531-7352

(914) 937-4644

GREENHOUSE • NURSERIES

One Stop Wholesale Center

Distributors of

- EVERGREENS
- FLOWERING TREES
- SHADE TREES
- GROUND COVERS
- PRAIRIE FILM
- FENCING
- FIR & PINE BARK
- A-D-S-DRAINAGE SYSTEMS
- TREE STAKES
- RAILROAD TIES
- MULCHES
- CONTAINER MATERIAL
- TURF CHEMICALS
- GRAVELS
- GRASS SEED
- HOLLYTONE

Weather  matic.

Lawn Sprinkler Systems
Saf-T-Lawn
Lawn Sprinkler Systems



I and E SUPPLY, INC.

66 ERNA AVENUE
P. O. BOX 9
MILFORD, CONNECTICUT 06460
TELEPHONE (203) 878-0658

Specialist in
PUMPS — SALES & SERVICE

- Peerless
- Cla-val Valves
- Electric Control Panels
- Pump Accessories

IRRIGATION SUPPLIES

- Sprinklers
- Pipe
- Values
- Fittings

SOME EFFECTS OF FALL FERTILIZATION

By D. Thomas Duff—Univ. of Rhode Island

Fertilization programs for the production of high quality turf have received a great deal of attention.

Most researchers agree that there are certain things your fertilization programs should and should not do.

Any fertilization program should: 1) increase topgrowth without excessive stimulation of vertical shoot growth; 2) promote good turf color; 3) stimulate root growth; 4) increase the grasses' ability to carry out photosynthesis; and 5) take advantage of seasonal labor and soil conditions for application.

On the other hand, fertilizer applications and the timing of these applications should not: 1) lead to excessive growth and mowing; 2) reduce cold tolerance; 3) reduce drought tolerance; and 4) reduce traffic tolerance.

Early studies indicated that fertilizer applications during the autumn fulfill a major part of these criteria. Further research at the University of Rhode Island by Ledebor and Skogley showed that fall fertilization resulted in earlier spring greenup than late summer applications.

Turf fertilized in mid-November attained an attractive green color as much as four weeks earlier than turf fertilized the previous summer. And although the turf became green earlier, the grass required mowing only about a week earlier than grass fertilized in the summer.

Young tillers are produced profusely with fall fertilization but they remain small. In addition, there is more uniformity with fall fertilized grass, in terms of seasonal growth rate.

Two studies, one by Hanson and Juska and the other by Powell, Blaser and Schmidt, showed that fall application of nitrogen fertilizer increased root growth during the fall to spring period. Thus, green color was attained earlier, top-growth was more uniform and root growth was greater. The increased tillering and good root growth helped provide a denser turf in spring which helped reduce annual weeds.

Studies on the effect of fall fertilization on the cold resistance of Kentucky bluegrass turf have been reported by Wilkinson and Duff. They found that any fertilizer application program which maintained turf color longer into the fall

reduced the inherent cold resistance of grass crown tissue. However, the relation between the laboratory methods used and actual field conditions remain unknown.

No winter kill was observed in any of the treatments, even when one series of plots received 6 pounds of soluble nitrogen per 1000 square feet of turf from October 1 to December 15. Other workers have also reported that excessive nitrogen does not result in winter kill of turf.

No studies have been reported on the effect of fall fertilization on drought or traffic tolerance. It seems reasonable, however, that if root growth and tiller formation are increased, as has been reported, then tolerance to drought and traffic should also be improved.

Timing of fall fertilizer applications will vary from one area to another. At Kingston, where the climate is moderated by ocean breezes, the best result have been obtained when fertilizer was applied about mid-November.

Credit: The Hudson Valley FOREGROUND, May 1976



Stewart Walker, right, Blue Hills Golf Club, raffle winner and Jerry Coats, left, PGA Professional, Greenwich C.C.

**Cleary
Products for
Better
Turf**

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

PMAS (10%)

Spotrete

Granular Turf Fungicide

Cad-Trete

Spectro

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
CORPORATION

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

FUSARIUM BLIGHT—THE TWO APPROACH SYSTEM

By Ted Horton

The large turnout for the joint Metropolitan and Connecticut Golf Course Superintendents' Association meeting at the Greenwich Country Club could in part, be attributed to the quality of the education program presented at the meeting. We are proud that Dr. Al Turgeon grew up in our area and are not hesitant to point out that he interned at the Metropolis Country Club under the guidance of one of our best—Bruno Vadala. But, our loss of Dr. Turgeon to Illinois has been a gain to all of us, as was illustrated when he presented his "comprehensive research approach" to the Fusarium Blight problem of Bluegrasses.

Dr. Turgeon noted that he was in fact a weed specialist and not a turf pathologist and would therefore deal with principles and attitudes in his discussion of this turfgrass disease so destructive of the bluegrasses. Suggesting that we start by looking at the symptoms of the disease, he pointed out that the best known characteristic was the "frog-eye" pattern. But typical symptoms are not always seen and we therefore should look for the causal organism shown by foliar symptoms such as "gouged, deteriorated leaf sections at the periphery of the diseased area." Most critical to proper diagnosis, Dr. Turgeon noted, was that "we have to get down on our hands and knees for proper identification." Discovery of the disease should not incite us to panic. "More often than not," Dr. Turgeon emphasized, "more harm is caused by treatments which were not properly thought out."

Prepare to control the disease by considering the total picture—perhaps employing the "two-approach system" utilized by Dr. Turgeon in "Turfgrass Research Orientation," which he outlined for us as follows:

I. The Fundamental Approach

- 1. Breeding
 - Selection
 - Mutation
 - Hybridization
- 2. Evaluation
 - Varieties
 - Blends
 - Mixtures

II. The Environmental Approach

- 1. Establishment
 - Soil Preparation
 - Planting Techniques
- 2. Mowing
 - Heights
 - Clippings
- 3. Irrigation
 - Intensity
 - Frequency
- 4. Fertilization
 - Quantity
 - Timing
- 5. Cultivation
 - Thatch
 - Compaction
- 6. Pesticides
 - Herbicides
 - Fungicides
 - Insecticides
- 7. Soil pH ——— Liming

Applying the Fundamental Approach to the Fusarium Blight Disease, Dr. Turgeon suggested that we should use the cultivars that are least affected by the disease. "Develop strength within the turfgrass community by using strong resistant cultivars which will result in less reliance on the other management procedures for control of the disease." Some of the Bluegrass Varieties showing resistance to Fusarium Blight were then noted; Warren's A20 and A34, Adelphi, Baron, Bonnie Blue, Galazie, Glade, Magestic and Touchdown to name a few. Dr. Turgeon then suggested that perhaps the addition of the Perennial Rye such as Pennfine, Manhattan or NK100 could be beneficial in the mixture as there has been no noted Fusarium Blight on the Ryes to this date. It was illustrated that by utilizing various mixtures of resistant and non-resistant grasses, the total disease incidence was reduced beyond what could normally be expected.

Discussing the second, or Environmental Approach to Fusarium Blight Control, Dr. Turgeon suggested that changes could be made to minimize the effect of the disease:

1. Seed or sod bed preparation was briefly discussed and it was noted that a "properly prepared planting bed will yield better resistance to the disease in the long run." Sod establishment appears enhanced by the use of "soil-less sod"—a process of washing the soil from the sod before shipping. Faster rooting results in good integration of the grass plant and the soil site. The "interface effect" so often noted in sodded areas, would be eliminated.

2. Proper mowing is essential! Clippings appear to result in a higher incidence of the disease. As a result, in highly fertilized turf, remove clippings if possible.

3. Control watering practices. Relatively frequent but careful irrigation seemed to help reduce the disease severity.

4. Fertility is important, and the incidence of the disease in August appears proportional to the amounts of soluble Nitrogen applied in April and May.

5. Cultivation to reduce thatch appears important. Crowns of grass plants found above the soil surface, shortened rhizomes, and roots growing in the thatch itself all appear to increase disease and insect problems. Dr. Turgeon noted the incidence of disease was not always proportional to the amount of thatch. Some of the varieties of Kentucky Bluegrass that are most thatch prone are sometimes less susceptible to the disease. But within the varieties susceptible to Fusarium Blight the severity of the disease is greatedened by thatch. Furthermore, the disease was shown to be more severe on areas of heavy compaction.

6. Control of the disease with fungicides is not clearly understood. Perhaps there is a strain of the disease showing resistance to the systemic chemicals. However, according to Dr. Couch's Textbook—"Diseases of Turfgrasses," "for most effective control of Fusarium Blight, spray 1000 square feet with 6 gallons of water containing 5-8 ounces benomyl 50% WP. The fungicide application should be made immediately after the first occurrence of night temperatures that do not drop below 70° F. The total amount of benomyl applied to the turfgrass within one calendar year should not exceed 8 ounces."

7. The relationship between soil pH and disease incidence

has not been researched but Dr. Turgeon suggested that soil acidity should be kept in the proper range for most efficient turfgrass growth.

In summarizing, after a period of discussion, Dr. Turgeon emphasized that "control of the disease was important since the voids created by the blight were almost always filled with weeds." Noting that research on the disease had been escalated, he cautioned that "we must keep abreast with the current literature."

It was an interesting subject, aptly presented by a great professional—and well appreciated by the audience. Thank you Dr. Turgeon. Also, I would like to express the membership's appreciation to the program committee for their commendable efforts to present us with quality educational sessions.

PITY THE POOR STUDENT

When was the last time you hired a turf student—Mr. Superintendent? I am not speaking of the summertime person that is gone in the fall. I am speaking about the turf school graduate. Many of us have hired summertime placement students from turf schools, but these individuals leave to go back to school and don't present a problem to us as far as having to lay them off for the winter. The turf school graduate is another problem. Consider what you have done for that summer student. You have helped to well round his education by giving him some valuable field experience. You have given him a little more attention and responsibility than the average crewman. You have made him want to be a superintendent of his own course some day. You have imparted some of your knowledge to him and in return you have had some more technically oriented labor. Now it is one year later and you have a turf school graduate at your door. What now—Mr. Superintendent? What are you going to do for that kid you encouraged last year? What if you had two or three of the students? Are you going to hire this technician in May and lay him off next winter? Unless you are looking for an assistant, or planning to build a smaller full time crew from students, you have a problem. It is not feasible to keep these students all year unless you have room or a large budget. You probably already have the nucleus of a good crew that's been with you for some time. You have just burst that kid's bubble.

Maybe we as superintendents could help to relieve this situation by reviewing our position on hiring students. Ten years ago the industry was screaming for qualified people to maintain golf courses. Those of us coming out of school back then had unlimited opportunities. This is not the case today. For the last 10 years many colleges have been pumping out turf students and now the supply far exceeds the demand. For example, out of eleven students graduating from the two year program at the University of Maryland, only two have jobs as assistants or better. As we all know, the Superintendents Association aids deserving students by awarding scholarships.

We also give many dollars to fund turf research and create a better atmosphere for our students. What can we as superintendents do to help ease this frustrating situation for the students? This is a very good question with very few good answers. The next time a young person comes to you for advice on a Golf Course Superintendent's career, be honest with him and yourself. Sure, you love your field of endeavor, you'd have to, to stay in this business, but think before you talk. Don't build this kid up for what might be a big let down. When you talk to this young person, don't tell just the good parts, point out to him that the bad days sometimes out number the good. Tell him that a good portion of your life is spent on that golf course and that its a truly dedicated person that becomes a superintendent. If possible, have this individual work with you before he enters school. Check out his working habits, see if he's got what it takes. Be honest with him, if you have any doubts about him, discuss it with him. This business isn't for just anyone. If he's not ready, tell him; you will be doing him a favor. If you really think he's ready, push him, he'll overcome any obstacle if he really wants it.

The only good way to stop the overcrowding is to encourage the exceptional individual.

Wayne Evans

Credit: "Mid-Atlantic Newsletter," April 1976



Paul Caswell, right, Golf Course Superintendent, Greenwich C.C., listens attentively to William Loweth, Green Chairman.

It's good! Pick it up.



It's better than good—it's great! USS Vertagreen Tee-Green Technical Turf Food is designed and formulated specifically for proper fertilization of golf course tees, greens, and aprons. It has an analysis of 16-4-8, and half of the available nitrogen is from urea-formaldehyde.

And here's another thing that makes it great—the uniform particle size* assures an even spreadability. This means the granules will work their way down through the grass evenly,

before your mower picks them up. Also, uniform particle size provides for a more consistent feeding.

When you consider that USS Vertagreen Tee-Green Technical Turf Food also contains guaranteed amounts of important secondary and micro-nutrients, you'll see it all adds up to a premium product. See your Vertagreen distributor, and he'll tell you how you can pick it up—it's good!

*Screen sizing: 90% Minus 10
Plus 20 Mesh U.S. Sieve



Agri-Chemicals

Division of United States Steel

P.O. Box 1685, Atlanta, Ga. 30301



M.G.C.S.A.
 Box 37
 Rye, New York 10580



First Class

MELVIN B LUCAS JR
 GARDEN CITY GOLF CLUB
 315 STEWART AVE
 GARDEN CITY NY 11530

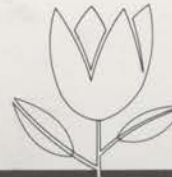
ANDREW WILSON INC.

DISTRIBUTORS FOR
 JOHNS-MANVILLE IRRIGATION
 PIPE-FITTINGS – CONTROLLERS – SPRINKLERS

SALES • SERVICE • DESIGN

1170 U.S. Route 22 West
 Mountainside, New Jersey 07092
 (201) 654-5800

Sales Representative – Bob Lippman (914) 248-5790



*April showers
 May flowers
 and a lot of
 fungal activity*

**Start spring disease control NOW
 with TUCO Acti-dione TGF®**



The same conditions that promote spring growth can open the door to leafspot, dollarspot and melting-out. Start right after first mowing to apply Acti-dione TGF regularly. See us for help in spring disease control.

**The New
 Sticker-Extender
 That Prolongs Pesticide
 Effectiveness.**

There's no doubt that today's pesticides do an ever-better job in fighting turf and plant problems. And there's no doubt that Exhalt 800 Sticker-Extender prolongs that effectiveness. Gives you longer action. Prevents wash-off. Cuts your costs substantially over a season.

Exhalt 800 encapsulates and holds pesticides where you want them—on the turf and plant foliage. It flexes with leaf growth, for longer action. Even if it rains an hour after application you still get full extender activity! Full pesticide effectiveness.

Simple and economical to use. A pint per 100 gallons of solution. Readily water-soluble, just add while agitating and keep agitating during use. Rinses out easily using just water; residue will not clog.

Exhalt 800 is the new way to stop pesticide wash-off. To prevent pesticide build-up in the soil. To keep costly pesticides working longer on plants and turf. To cut down the labor costs of more frequent applications.

Find out more. Write for our literature. **Distributed by Andrew Wilson, Inc., Union, New Jersey.**



Kay-Fries Chemicals, Inc. Crop Protection Division Stony Point, N.Y. 10980

