



June 1984

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Coming Events

June 28 (Date/Club change)	MGCSA Invitational, Mount Kisco
July 10	MGCSA Summer Social, Fairview C.C.
July 11	Cornell Univ. Field Day
	Orange Cty. Sod Production Area
July	MGCSA Meeting
August 20	Family Picnic, Woodway Beach Club
September 27	MGCSA meeting, Innis Arden G.C.
October	MGCSA meeting – Green Chairman/ Superintendent, Whipoorwill C.C.
Nov. 15	MGCSA Annual Meeting, Fairview C.C.
Nov. 7-9	NYS Turfgrass Association Conference and Trade Show, Syracuse, NY
Dec. 8	Christmas Party, Fairview C.C.
June 6, 1985	MGCSA Invitational, Stanwich Club



Our host for the
1984 Met GCSA Invitational Tournament
is Fred Scheyhing, Superintendent of
the Mount Kisco Country Club.

MGCSA News

At this point, 1984 is turning out to be a repeat of 1983 with our cool, wet spring weather coupled with heavy rains. A very trying time for any turf manager.

We had a very successful meeting on May 15th at Paul Caswell's Greenwich Country Club. We had a total of 65 for golf and 140 for dinner to hear Brian Silva discussion on course remodeling and reconstruction of greenside bunkers. I was very pleased to play my round of golf in 4 hours and five minutes, an indication of how well the entire day was organized.

Met GCSA President Chuck Martineau announced changes in makeup of our Board of Directors. Bob Alonzi will assume Sherwood Moore's duties as Treasurer and Roster Chairman. Harry Nichol will fill Bob Alonzi's position of Director and

Board member Larry Pakkala will assume the duties of Golf Tournament Chairman. Mel Lucas will fill Jim Fulwider's Directorship for the remainder of this term, thus adding geographical balance to the Board along with many years of experience.

– Pat Lucas

Golf Results

Joint meeting – Met GCSA and CAGCS
May 15th – Greenwich C.C.

Team Championship Results

(Aug. Gross and Net Team Scores)

Met GCSA: 76.18

CAGCS: 76.50

Gross Prizes (B.B. of Two)

Low: David Roule – Hartford G.C. 74

John Austin – Hartford G.C.

Two Teams Tied – Coin Flip

2nd: Mark Millett – Old Oaks C.C. 76

Dan Verrille – Retired

3rd: John Carlone – Stanwich Club 76

Paul Veshi – Siwanoy G.C.

Net Prizes (B.B. of Two)

Low: Bob Osterman – Conn. Golf Club 60

Bob Phipps – Shorehaven G.C.

Two Teams Tied – Coin Flip

2nd: Brian Silva – Cornish & Silva 62

Greg Wojick – Sterling Farms G.C.

3rd: Dom Di Marzo – Sunningdale C.C. 62

Joe Camberato – Sleepy Hollow C.C.

Nearest to Pin

Frank Bevelacqua – Blue Hill G.C. 9' 10 1/2"

Larry Pakkala – Woodway C.C. 13' 10"

Longest Drive

Mike Neal – Milbrook C.C. 260 yds.

Charles Kohr – Hartford G.C.

From the Golf Committee

We seem to be off to a good start this year. The committee has been meeting regularly to organize for upcoming events while at the same time each event is being documented and budgeted for future reference.



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Publication deadline for *Tee to Green* is 21 days before the regular meeting.

With this in mind I would like to thank Jim McLaughlin, Executive Director, for his diligent help in these matters.

However, as when any attempts to make changes are made, problems crop up and things seem to be somewhat rough. I apologize for any inconveniences and would respect anyone's comments as to our running of golf tournaments. Feel free to comment at meetings when you see Jim, Tim O'Neil, or myself.

As a final reminder, I would like to update you on a few tournament policies:

1. Handicaps for tournament competition after the June Invitational must be supported with an official card or written notice. Members and guests without handicaps may play golf at a tournament but may not compete unless they assume a scratch handicap. (Members without handicaps can sign up for MGA/CSGA handicap service.)

2. Pairing sheets are a regular process this year with the help of a computer. When you send in your card from *Tee to Green*, please write in space provided whom you wish to be paired with and whether it will be a foursome or twosome. Singles will be used as fill-ins. You will then be notified prior to a tournament as to what your group's starting time will be that day. (It all works very simply if everyone fills out his card!)

The average round at Greenwich last month took 3 hours and 30 minutes with a field of 64 players. Not bad!

Have fun!

Larry Pakkala, Chairman
Golf Committee

New Policy Re: Guests

At the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors on May 8, 1984, the following new policy was set:

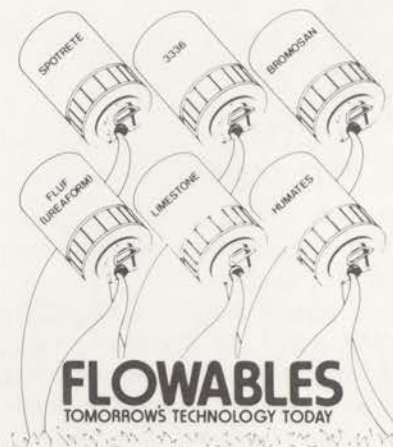
1. Each member is allowed one guest per meeting and only two guests total per year, except for guests who are golf clubs officials or placement students.
2. Guests should not sign for expenses at a meeting. Anyone bringing a guest should sign for him.
3. When a club wishes the MGCSA to send out a job opening notice, the club must pay for the mailing expenses. Job notices published in the *Tee to Green* are free.

Stephen Kay

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— Superintendent Profile —
Sherwood Moore CGCS
Winged Foot Golf Club

by **Dennis P. Petruzzelli**
Assistant Superintendent, Brae Burn Country Club

In June, Winged Foot Golf Club hosted its Fourth Mens' United States Open Golf Championship. Sherwood A. Moore, CGCS, has prepared the challenging A.W. Tillinghast layout for two previous championships. These opportunities could not have happened to a finer gentleman.

Sherwood was raised in Leeds, Massachusetts. He developed an interest in plant materials early in life. When he became serious about his interest, he attended the Stockbridge College of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. There he studied horticulture and subsequently changed to Turf Grass Management.

Sherwood's first exposure to golf course management was at Passiac County Golf Club in New Jersey and he was first Golf Course Superintendent at Lake Mohawk Country Club in Sparta, New Jersey. His career was interrupted while he served as a Meteorologist during World War II. Following the war, Sherwood became Golf Course Superintendent at Crestmont Country Club in West Orange, New Jersey and subsequently moved to Hollywood Country Club in Deal, New Jersey. After a number of years at Hollywood, Sherwood became Golf Course Superintendent at Winged Foot. During his ten year ten-

ure, he prepared the West Course for the 1959 United States Mens' Open Championship.

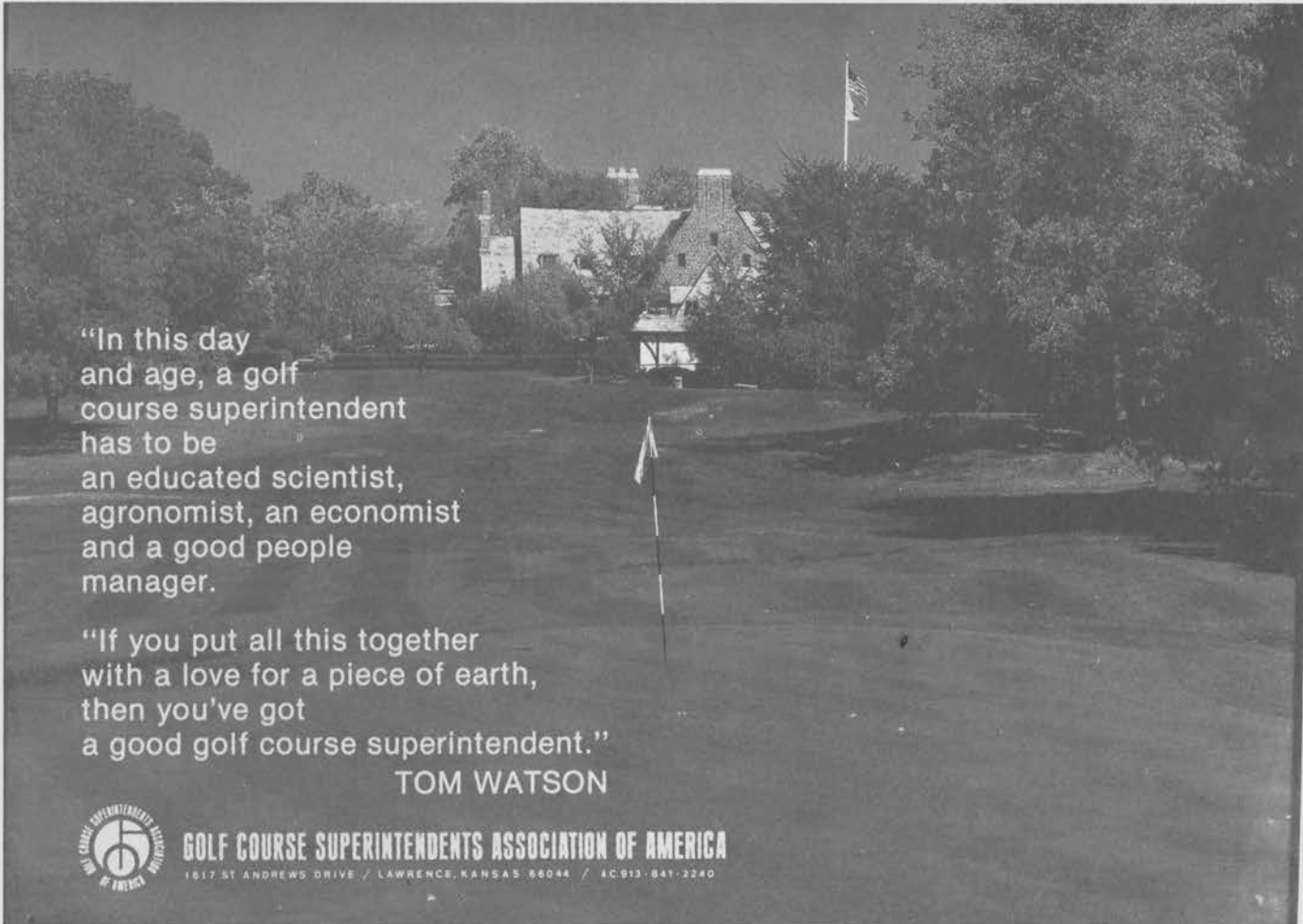
After this initial term at Winged Foot, he went to Woodway in Darien, Connecticut where he was Superintendent for twelve years. He then went back to Winged Foot where he readied the East Course for the 1980 United States Mens' Senior Open Championship.

Sherwood Moore was President of the Golf Course Superintendents of America in 1962; President of the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association for the 1965/66 term; and President of the New Jersey Golf Course Superintendents Association for the 1953/54 term.

Sherwood and his wife Marie have three children, Sherry, Carol and Glenn, and three grandchildren. In his "free" time, Sherwood enjoys playing golf, gardening, collecting antiques and doing some traveling and fishing.

We wonder, what is the most important quality needed to be a successful golf course superintendent? Sherwood firmly believes it is "enjoying your work; love what you're doing." When I worked for Sherwood, his enjoyment of and love for his work were always evident by his ever present smile . . . and that smile is still there today, after forty-plus years as a Golf Course Superintendent.

Thank you Sherwood for your professionalism. You are a fine example for our profession. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Moore for his limited time to be interviewed and to wish the Moores the best of luck, health and happiness in Massachusetts.



"In this day
and age, a golf
course superintendent
has to be
an educated scientist,
agronomist, an economist
and a good people
manager.

"If you put all this together
with a love for a piece of earth,
then you've got
a good golf course superintendent."

TOM WATSON



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Robert R. Troup, Prominent Judge and Lawyer Joins Met GCSA



Met GCSA President Charles A. Martineau has announced that one of Westchester County's most prominent lawyers and judges has agreed to serve as Legal Counsel for the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association – effective immediately and without fee.

Bob Troup is a graduate of Colgate University and the New York Law School. His experience includes working with the New York District Attorney and the National Labor Relations Board. For 23 years and continuing today, Bob Troup has worked for IBM in the legal field. Presently, he is sitting for his second term as Town Judge for the Township of Mt. Pleasant, NY.

An avid golfer, Bob has been a member of the Whippoorwill Club in Armonk, NY since 1965. A long time member of the Board of Governors at Whippoorwill, Bob served the prestigious Club as President for the two years of 1975 and 1976.

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It is expected that Bob Troup will work closely with the Met GCSA Board of Directors and the Chapter as it develops new programs and policies within the previously announced model Management Research Project. Bob's experience will be especially valuable within the Chapter's INDIVIDUAL CAREER COUNSELING PROGRAM – where some emphasis is being given to developing employment agreements between members and local golf clubs.

While it is not expected that the new Legal Counsel will work with individual members with their occasional legal questions, he will be available to recommend what steps should be taken for different sets of circumstances. We are pleased to welcome Bob Troup to the Met GCSA family.

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Are Bunkers Economic "Traps"?

by Rachel Therrien
Assistant Superintendent
Westchester Country Club, Rye, NY

The design of a golf course has always been thought of as being dictated by the existing topography and for over eight hundred years, the Scottish links have served as the golf course design model. The sandy scars or bunkers commonly associated with the links have become essential golf course design features.

As Geoffrey Cornish, former president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, so aptly put it, "It is, therefore, not surprising that a bunkerless course is seldom, if ever, a true test. It is comparable to playing tennis with the net set too low."

As golf tracts began to be sited further inland, early designers began to systematically arrange bunkers across fairways and in front of greens in order to severely punish every error. This became known as the penal design concept. Slowly, bunker positioning evolved into more strategic placements and as this concept became more readily accepted by the golfing community, the strategic design philosophy became the design backbone for many golf layouts on both sides of the Atlantic. Golfers, early on, expressed the need to think on the tee. Thus, bunker locations which affect the player before he plays are more stimulating than those which only affect him after the shot. "What today's golf course architect must try and do is to produce a layout that is not only a superb golf facility but also be financially viable," says Rees Jones of Montclair, NJ. "The architect must find the appropriate combination and balance of shot values, interesting style/character, and yet be maintainable," he continued. The positioning and playability of fairway and greenside bunkers cannot be over-emphasized. Contemporary fairway bunkers generally are more strategically placed to affect the low handicap golfer. Greenside bunkers are utilized to not only "protect" the hole, but visually enhance it. Fairway bunkers should be sited to give the better golfers a fair challenge and a chance of reaching the green or next landing area with the recovery shot. As a general guideline, they can be located 250-280 yards from the back tees. With the incorporation of contour

mowing, the intermediate rough can be continued along the fairway side of the bunkers and provide a visible contrast between the bluegrass roughs and bentgrass fairways in the northeast region. The same type of contrast for green-side bunkers could be established.

At the recent MGCSA and CGSA joint-meeting held at Greenwich Country Club, Brian Silva, of Cornish and Silva, indicated that contemporary architects site their bunkers to imply alternate routes and to provide the player with visual direction from the tee to green. The bunker(s) communicate to the golfer several options:

1. they must play away from the hazard;
2. if the hazard is flown successfully, the shot will be rewarded strategically;
3. protect or defend a dog-leg which has no natural means of defense or protect an arrant shot from entering an unplayable situation.

With the increased interest in restoration work on existing golf courses, Brian Silva encourages that any old design layouts, old photographs, long-time club members be consulted to during the initial remodeling work stages. Architects must bury some of their design preferences in order to relate any new construction to the original design. "Architects must be willing to work within the framework of the existing style," suggests Rees Jones. At Ridgewood Country Club, Ed Walsh, Superintendent, efforts have been made to renew some of the Tillinghaust's bunkers to the original look.

Golf course superintendents are very much aware that bunkers are an important part of their maintenance budget and operation. Certain maintenance practices which have impacted the playability of and the appearance of the bunker include the power edger and mechanical rake.

The power edger is used frequently and often the result after being utilized for a number of years, is that the outline of the bunker begins to lose definition and significant amounts of soil is removed. (An occurrence that may be more common in Southern regions due to the presences of Bermudagrass.) String trimmers maybe a better solution for routine maintenance of bunker edges.

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With negligent use of the power rake, the bunker edges can take on a ragged appearance from being "nicked" with the rakes many times due to insufficient space for adequate turning within the bunkers. Sand can be unevenly distributed within the bunkers or dragged outside of the bunker when exiting.

Stephen Kay, of Purchase, NY, states that "... a 6 to 8 inch base of sand is necessary to accommodate the power rakes. Without this depth, eventually, the sub-base material will become incorporated with the sand." The installation of plastic, perforated drainage pipe with the nylon sock and back filled with peastone is the most often suggested sub-surface drainage method. This may not appear to be justified in the short-term but in the long-term this sort of effort may actually produce a decrease in labor and material costs. If the installation functioned properly, fewer hours would be spent pumping or shoveling up sand. James Bertoni, Superintendent at La Jolla Country Club in San Diego, California thinks so. The inter-dependence of proper drainage and sand selection may be the most critical factors in determining the maintenance and playability of these golf course features.

Technological improvements in golf equipment; improved skill levels of players; and course maintenance practices, and economic conditions at all geographic levels, influence not only golf course design but the viability of a facility.

What the future has in store for bunker design is not known other than the number and the type of bunkers may be determined not only typography and site features but by the maintenance budget that will be available.

Yellow Jackets, Hornets & Wasps

Yellow jackets build nests in the ground, and are usually not discovered until a person is stung.

Hornets build a nest that resembles a gray football, and is constructed of a paper-like material.

Polistes wasps and mud dauber wasps build nests under eaves or in shrubs, and the polistes looks like a honeycomb, whereas the dauber nest is made of mud cells which look like fingers.

Yellow jackets have become a more severe problem in recent years due to the introduction of a European species. Usually yellow jackets nest in the ground, this species often nest inside wall voids and attics. They are always looking for food, and are quickly attracted to it. Most people have experienced them when eating outdoors. Insect repellents are of little value for yellow jackets, wasps and hornets. Perfume and sweet smelling soaps may attract these insects. If the nests of yellow jackets are found in the ground, mark the entrance with something you can find that evening. Drench the hole with a dilute solution of carbaryl (Sevin) or diazinon. Do the job at night as all the workers are inside the hive. Check for activity the next day, and repeat if needed.

For nests above ground use one of the aerosol pressurized containers that are labeled for hornets and wasps. These will shoot a stream 8 to 10 feet. Spray into the entrance hole for 15 to 30 seconds and leave the area. Check for activity the next day, and repeat if needed.

Nests in the walls of houses should be handled with *caution*. During treatment they are often driven into the building. Therefore it is best to get professional help in the form of a pest exterminator.

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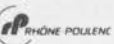
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The Dogwood – A Plant Under Stress

There have been many questions asked about dogwood trees recently. "My dogwood has blossoms at the top," or "the lower branches are not leafing out," or "my tree is dead."

Discussions with researchers and others indicate that these symptoms are caused by environmental stress. A tree weakened by environmental extremes does what dogwoods are now showing.

The last several seasons – winter, spring, summer and fall had weather extremes which are catching up with the trees. Let's review them: about five years ago in this area, we had little or no snow cover, and a cold hard freeze. Research indicates that the roots of dogwood freeze and die at soil temperatures of about 20 °F. Tree roots exposed to this extreme temperature expire or die. Now look at the following spring weather, extreme cold and wet. As tree growth resumes each year, new hair or fine roots are necessary for growth. If cold or excess water accumulates in the root zone, they suffocate and do not develop. In some cases they develop and the hot dry summer, with no rain, kills the root hairs and the tree suffers again.

Dogwood trees planted in many locations suffered from this environmental stress to the root zone. Add to this, leaf problems of anthracnose and trunk problem of dogwood borer, the weak tree is now giving the signal that it is injured. What can one do???

The older trees, 25-30 years old, with few live branches, can be taken down and replaced. Younger trees with 1/2 to 3/4 live branches can be better managed. Remove dead branches (when in leaf), fertilize trees in spring and water deeply during dry periods. In addition, pay attention to controlling anthracnose and dogwood borers, as necessary, on a yearly basis. Any newly planted *Cornus florida* (white flowering) species should be cared for to avoid environmental stress.

Other options are to plant *Cornus kousa* (Chinese dogwood) or other flowering trees such as crabapple. However, before the investment is made in other trees, look at the plant environment. The dying dogwood is the result of – in some cases, many years of neglect, exceptional care too late, poor planting sites, and

Mother Nature selecting species she feels will survive in our environment.

The dogwood (*Cornus florida*) is a beautiful tree, and with care and understanding of its environmental conditions, should thrive for many more years.

Aflame!

*What beauty do you possess,
To stir my soul aflame,
And spin my senses senseless,
Awkwardly losing my aim,
With your eyeful smile,
Playing a rueful game,
And a tameless guile,
To lure me insane.*

– Frank Paladino

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Report on Brian Silva's Presentation at Greenwich C.C.

**David Kerr, Assistant Superintendent
Innis Arden Golf Club**

Brian Silva of Cornish & Silva Architects shared some valuable insights on course remodeling as he addressed the MGCSA at the Greenwich C.C. this past May 15.

He began with an emphasis on establishing a comprehensive master plan. Thorough research prior to any reconstruction is sure to yield better playability and keep costs to a minimum. You must begin with the courses original design, not its current condition. Old plans, past photographs, and conversation with old members should yield a good idea of the original design. Next, we should examine the extent of remodeling. Most remodeling is not wall to wall, therefore a clear notion of existing style and scale is important. Each golf course architect has his or her own style which should be consistent throughout the course. It is important to detail your wants when sitting down with an architect. If not, he or she will likely remodel to his or her own style – which is fine if that is what you want. Prior to meeting with the architect, establish whether you want to retain, slightly change, or introduce a new style to your course.

Be sure to include often overlooked considerations such as cart paths, irrigation needs, ornamental plantings, etc. in your master plan. For example, we recently recontoured our fairways at Innis Arden with the understanding that we had to adjust our irrigation budget to include fairway head repositioning where gross changes were made.

The latter part of Mr. Silva's presentation was on bunker restoration; a key topic as many clubs are remodeling all bunkers. These clubs are remodeling because their bunkers are either old and deteriorating, been built incorrectly, or have been altered over the years. When reconstructing a bunker, we should keep in mind the function of a bunker and some basic rules of design. A bunker must be of sufficient character or depth to prevent a player from making as easy a shot off the fairway or fringe. The closer the bunker is to the green, the steeper the face and deeper the bunker. Exploded sand must be kept to reasonable levels.



Brian Silva, Golf Course Architect, speaking on Golf Course Design.

Lastly, eye appeal, strategy, and future maintenance complete the basics of design considerations. Mr. Silva mentioned a common finding in his remodeling efforts in reference to the war years. Many bunkers, which for economic reasons were filled in during the war years need to be reestablished. Other bunkers have been moved too far from the green to reduce exploded sand and still others have remained the same while the greens have decreased in size, once again for economic reasons.

The talk was accompanied by an excellent slide presentation and I feel we all are in a better position to consider our own remodeling needs and are pleased to have Brian Silva as a valuable reference in our area.

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Grasses for Tees and Fairways

by C.R. Skogley

Editor's Note: Our thanks to Dr. Skogley of U.R.I. for forwarding this fine article to us.

We should forget much of what we know about turfgrasses – or at least that part we learned some years ago. The development and release of grasses within recent years, specifically selected or bred for turf purposes has drastically changed the use potential of certain grasses. We work with these new grasses annually at the Experiment Station as they are released. My concepts of grasses or mixtures for golf course useage has had to be altered. For years we promoted Kentucky bluegrass as new, improved, varieties reached the market. Today, I question the value of bluegrass for golf courses in our region. Not many years ago we considered perennial ryegrass a bad grass for turf and seldom recommended fine fescues for anything but roughs. Also, we didn't promote colonial bentgrass greatly as varieties available had many weaknesses.

Through observation on many golf courses annually and discussions with many superintendents each year I am amazed at how poorly grasses or mixtures are still selected. Too few people, including your seed sales people, have kept abreast of developments in the seed industry. We seem to keep up with developments in the pesticide industry but not with grass development. Too often the deciding factor in seed selection is price and that is a mistake. The particular grass species and varieties you select for all areas of your golf course should be one of the most important decisions you make. This decision effects your entire management program and management budget. It influence water needs, fertilizer needs, mowing requirements, pesticide useage and, most importantly, the kind of playing surface you provide.

In recent years we have appropriately become more concerned about reducing maintenance costs and being more environmentally aware – not wasting natural resources or using any chemicals we don't really need. In this light, then, lets

consider the different grasses available to us today and see how we can take advantage of them to improve our efficiency.

Kentucky bluegrasses – a wide range of greatly improved varieties available, however: slow to germinate and not competitive with *Poa annua*, or other grasses in seedling stage. Require a pH level above 6.0 and a minimum of 2-3 lbs. of N/1000 annually. Not particularly adapted to the $\frac{5}{8}$ inch, or less, cutting height required on tees and fairways. Even on new course construction I have seldom seen bluegrass fairways persist in New England.

Perennial ryegrass – many turf-type, fine textured, varieties have been released. These have had a tremendous impact on overseeded fairways and tees. Seed germinates rapidly and seedlings do compete with *Poa*. Will tolerate lower mowing and less fertilizer than Kentucky bluegrass. Winter survival O.K. – except on wet soils. Handles traffic well – a tough grass. PH levels should be kept reasonably high. Varieties such as Repell, Pennant and Regal contain a high level of endophyte which provides resistance to sucking and chewing surfact insects. Still some disease problems with ryegrasses but not usually serious when used in mixture with other grasses.

Fine fescues – there is still no great improvement in *creeping red fescue* . . . *Pennlawn* (an old variety) is still the standard. This is O.K. for roughs. Will not tolerate close cut. Other varieties are Fortress, Boreal and Ruby.

Chewings fescue – a subspecies of creeping red fescue with many excellent, improved varieties. Seed germinates fairly fast. I believe this is a grass with much more potential for golf course useage than is generally recognized. Tolerant of acid, infertile, dry soils. Not a heavy feeder. Holds good color most of the year (including early spring and late fall), will tolerate close cut, very fine textured. Jamestown, a U.R.I. release was one of the first of the improved chewings varieties. Other good varieties are Banner, Bartalla, Highlight, Jade and Menuet.

Hard fescue – a slightly different species but somewhat similar to chewings. They are fine-leaved and low growing. Very well adapted to low fertility situations (such as roughs), Beljart (C-26), Reliant, Scaldis, Silvana and Tournament are all varieties

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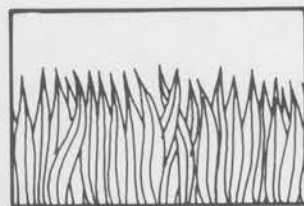
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that have looked good in our trials.

Colonial Bentgrass — another grass that should be more widely used on our New England golf courses. It is fine textured and tolerant of fairway and tee cutting heights. Also adapted to somewhat acid, infertile soils. Requires less water than creeping bents. Competitive and spreads by short stolons and rhizomes. Very compatible with chewings fescue. Improved varieties are Exeter (a U.R.I. development), Bardot and Holfior. They are all improvements over Astoria. Highland bent is not suited to New England conditions.

It is my belief that more use should be made of Perennial ryegrass, Chewings fescue and Colonial bents for fairways and tees. In addition I believe we should only be using improved varieties. Mixtures containing 5-15% Colonial bent, 20-40% Chewings fescue and 20-40% turf-type Perennial ryegrass should provide an excellent overseeding mixture for tees and fairways. If some Kentucky bluegrass is desired perhaps the finer textured varieties such as Mystic, Fylking, Vantage or Touchdown could be added. Mystic and Touchdown are very aggressive varieties.

The availability of improved varieties of turfgrasses makes it necessary to rethink usage. We can have better turf with less input of management if we utilize these fine new grasses.

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Since its inception in 1959, the Foundations' major, regular, financial support has come from Milorganite distributors who put some of their income back into the business of turfgrass science. These funds are invested and these earnings are invested in turfgrass research. Other financial contributions come from individuals, golf course superintendents associations, the Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium and corporate donations. During these 25 years, research grants totaling almost \$250,000 have been made to 11 different universities (some more than once) in all parts of the country. They have resulted in advanced degrees for 13 students.

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