

THE CONN. CLIPPINGS



OCTOBER, 1975

VOLUME 8, No. 3

1975-1976 SHORT COURSE PROGRAM COMPLETED

Initial plans have been completed for the first full year's schedule of SIA Short Courses. Eight courses have been planned beginning in September, 1975 and concluding in March, 1976.

The courses are all of a basic nature and participants should probably possess no more than two years experience in the irrigation industry to obtain maximum benefits from them. Each three-day course will incorporate instruction in soil, water and plant relationships, equipment, hydraulics and design problems as they relate to agriculture or turf irrigation.

The program, announced by the SIA's Director of Education, Stephen Showalter, includes five courses devoted solely to agricultural irrigation, two to turf irrigation and one to basic irrigation which will incorporate both agricultural and turf principles.

The 1975-1976 schedule is as follows:

September 30-October 2: Basic Principles of Irrigation; Notre Dame, Indiana; Chairman Austin J. Miller, Sprinkler Irrigation Supply Co., Royal Oak, Michigan.

October 21-23: Basic Turf Irrigation, Worcester, Massachusetts, Chairman, William Closter, Closter Bros., Lynbrook, New York.

November 18-20: Basic Agricultural Irrigation; Dallas, Texas; Chairman, Charles Putnam, Weather-Matic Div., Telsco Industries, Dallas, Texas.

December 9-11: Basic Agricultural Irrigation, Fresno, California; Chairman, William Campbell, ASC Tubing Div., Gifford-Hill, Visalia, California.

December 16-18: Basic Turf Irrigation, Los Angeles, California; Chairman to be named.

January 13-15: Basic Agricultural Irrigation, Logan, Utah; Chairman, Dr.

EDITORIAL

We have had a rather unfortunate turn of events the past months concerning the "Conn. Clippings." The newsletter had been turned over to a new editor, Joe Torok, as of July 1, 1975. But due to events that followed, Joe was unable to follow through with the newsletter. This brought it back to me (for this issue only).

The Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents has an abundance of talent within its organization and the search was on for a new editor. The Board of Directors came up with a person who it feels is the most qualified person to assume the position as editor of our newsletter. He is Stephen

Richard Griffin, Utah State University, Logan Utah.

February 10-12: Basic Agricultural Irrigation, Atlanta, Georgia; Chairman, Dr. Ronald Sneed, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina.

March/April: Basic Agricultural Irrigation, Alberta, Canada; Chairman and dates to be announced.

ENROLLMENT DETAILS

Brochures on each of the courses will be mailed to all SIA members and interested non-members approximately three months prior to the dates of each individual course. Enrollment in each course will be limited to 75 registrants to allow for as much student participation as possible.

Registration fees for the courses are set at \$125 each. The fee includes three luncheons and provision to each student of a variety of text books and printed matter, totalling approximately \$50.00 in value. Brochures will include registration forms, information on room reservations to be made through the SIA, details on cancellation of a registration and other pertinent data.

Cadenelli, Superintendent at the Pequot Golf Club in Stonington, Conn. Steve is working with me on this issue and will then assume the newsletter as of the December issue.

I am sure Steve will do an outstanding job on behalf of the Board of Directors and myself, wish him the very best of luck.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A Nominating Committee was appointed in July for the purpose of proposing a slate of officers and directors for election at the Annual Meeting to be held Thursday, November 13, 1975 at the Farms Country Club. The Committee consists of Karnig Ovian, Chairman; Roger Barrett, Al Hawkins, and Ken Kelliher.

At our October meeting, Mr. Ovian presented the proposed slate for consideration at next months meeting. It is as follows:

For President Bob Tosh
Vice-President Bob Osterman
Secretary Dave Stimson
Treasurer Dave Stimson

Director for a three (3) year term and Education Chairman Fred Bachand

Golf Chairman Dave Roule
Public Relations Cm. .. M Loper.

Directors remaining on the board would be Ed Anderson and Ron Holcomb along with the Associate Director Lloyd Russell.

Nominations can be made from the floor for any of the above offices. If such a nomination is made from the floor, a written ballot will be taken for that office.

CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

President Frank Lamphier
Vice President Robert Tosh
Secretary Bob Osterman
Treasurer Bob Osterman

Board of Directors

Dave Roule Ronald Holcomb
Alfred Bachand Karnig Ovia
Robert Chalifour Edward Anderson
Lloyd Russell Associate Director
Robert Viera, Immediate Past President

The object of this association is to promote research, education and an exchange of practical experiences in the field of turf grass culture so that the increased knowledge will lead to more economic and efficient management of golf courses and related turf areas.

The CONN. CLIPPINGS is an official publication of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

Robert W. Osterman, Editor
937 Black Rock Turnpike
Easton, Conn. 06612

CHARGE FOR SOIL TESTING SERVICE

BY WILLIAM M. DEST

From the University of Connecticut

Since July 1, 1975 there has been a charge of \$1.00 per soil sample for the soil testing service at the University of Connecticut. To pay for the service you can purchase soil testing kits from your local County Extension office at a dollar per kit or use your own containers and pay for the sample when you send it to the University Soil Testing Laboratory. If payed by check, make payable to the University of Connecticut.

There is also a charge of \$5.00 per sample for a mechanical analysis for determination of particle size distribution.

The number of soil samples sent to the laboratory is increasing each year. Therefore, it has made it necessary to charge a fee to defray some of the cost in handling the large volume of samples received.

SOIL TESTING,

HOW AND WHEN TO SAMPLE YOUR SOIL

Soil test results are an excellent aid for planning your fertilizing and liming program or for analyzing problem turf areas on your golf course. However,

how to take the soil sample is important if correct interpretations are to be made.

The sample should be taken from the same soil type. Do not mix different soil types. Soil maps are available for many Connecticut counties from the Soil Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, in your area. These maps will help you to know the soil types you are working with. Greens, tees, problem areas, and steep slopes should also be sampled separately.

The coring tube is the best sampling tool available. Take 20 or 30 cores at random over the area and mix thoroughly. It is important that this step be followed so that the final sample is representative of the area. (The sample is small when you realize that an acre of soil at an 8" depth weighs approximately 2 million pounds and some samples represent 5 to 10 acres and sometimes more.) The cores should be of equal volume, and the composite sample should weigh about one pound. From this sample, send approximately one cup to the soils laboratory for testing.

If the soil has excess moisture, dry the sample before shipping. This helps to expedite processing the soil sample when it reaches the soil testing laboratory.

Place the soil in a clean container to avoid contamination and label the sample so it may be properly identified.

The best time for taking soil samples is in the Fall season. It offers several advantages:

1. Areas of poor growth over the past season are fresh in your mind.
2. It is at a time of the year when the Superintendent has more time to sample properly.
3. It gives the soil testing laboratory a chance to spread out their work load, thereby processing your samples faster.
4. It allows the Superintendent a chance to study the soil test results, plan ahead for the next season, and order his lime and fertilizer needs well in advance of the busy season of Spring.

If a critical turf problem arises anytime during the growing season and a soil test is needed, every effort is made to process the sample and return the results as quickly as possible.

U. S. GOLF ASSOCIATION GREEN SECTION

For the first time in our experience there are serious outbreaks of the insect *Ataenius spretulus*, commonly known as "the Dung beetle." Several courses in New Jersey and one in lower Connecticut have reported widespread infestation of fairways. This insect has been around for some time but we noted only one prior serious infection of fairway turf in the Northeast in 1970 prior to outbreaks this year. At this writing, five clubs in New Jersey and one club in Connecticut have reported an abundant population of this insect pest.

SYMPTOMS — The turf appears to be wilting-out in patches that could range from soft ball to basketball size initially. Birds will soon discover them and begin to rip-up the turf to devour them. The insects in early July will be located in the soil immediately below the thatch. They will be curled in their soil nest awaiting maturity. According to research by Kawanishi, Splittstoesser, Tashiro and Steinkraus of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, "their populations will range from 24 to 144 individual grubs per square foot." "They measure from 1.25 to 1.30 mm in width and from 5.1 to 5.6 mm in length (pupae)." "This insect is attracted to low-lying, normally wet areas that have surfaced soil resembling muck."

CONTROL — Preliminary findings indicate that the best time to apply Diazinon or Dursban for control is late May. With specific research lacking, the rates at the time of this letter are tentatively Diazinon at 4 pounds active ingredient per acre and Dursban at 2 pounds active per acre. Aeration and/or spiking of infested areas prior to application of the insecticide is recommended. Wetting agents to further aid in the penetration of the insecticides may also help control. The insecticides must also be watered-in very well. Insecticides are most effective when applied to young stages of insect development. Presently there appears to be only one annual brood.

Entomologists at Rutgers, Ohio State and the New York Geneva Station presently are further pursuing life cycle and controls. We're sure you will be hearing more about this insect pest as data becomes available.

FIFTY FIVE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

BY WILLIAM M. DEST

Who can boast of 55 years of experience in golf course maintenance? This is the number of years the U.S.G.A. Green Section has been in existence collecting and distributing information of value on golf course maintenance to golf clubs around the country. The numbers of visits made to golf clubs over the years by Green Section agronomists are too innumerable to count. The myriad of problems and solutions rendered would easily fill a volume of books.

Most of us are familiar with the visitation service to golf clubs that the Green Section offers for on the course consultation. This is unique to the Green Section but is only part of the story.

The U.S.G.A. Green Section has also supported turfgrass research since its formation. The results of this research have been evaluated impartially by Green Section agronomists ultimately benefitting all golf courses whether member clubs of the Green Section or not. Improved grasses (how many can remember the old pie shaped greens?), fertilization concepts, thatch control, and specifications for putting green construction along with the soil testing service are but a very few examples of results born out of research sponsored by the Green Section.

The Green Section periodical now known as the U.S.G.A. Green Section Record has been published since 1921. How many remember the Eastern Turfletter with its timely tips. Other publications have been written as the need arose. "Turf Diseases and Their Control" by Monteith and Dahl, 1932, was a classic in its time. "Building Golf Holes for Good Turf Management" by the Green Section Staff and on and on the list goes. It publishes the ever popular book, "Golf Course Management." The resource material for ready use by all its inexhaustible.

The Section holds its own conference on Golf Course Management each year in conjunction with the U.S.G.A. annual meeting in New York. Green Section agronomists participate in regional and national Turf Conferences and at local Golf Course Superintendent Association meetings throughout the country. On occasion section agronomists will attend local meetings and conferences spending time in discussions and consultation with Golf Course Superintendents.

The Section Agronomist consult on golf course preparation for U.S.G.A. sponsored tournaments and will assist

in P.G.A. tournaments if called upon. A great service to have around for a big event as this author will testify.

Consultation by telephone is always available. If the Agronomist is not in his office at the time you call, you can be sure your call will be answered promptly as soon as he returns.

Eight agronomist presently serve 800 of the 4000 plus U.S.G.A. Member Clubs throughout the United States. The Greens Section seeks only to cover its cost of operation, yet the small service fee covers just part of the cost. For the Green Section to carry out its mission to the fullest, it needs the support of every golf club.

The Green Section has made a solid contribution to the field of golf course maintenance and management. It functions solely in the interest of better turf for better golf. Most of us I'm sure will agree that experience is a good teacher. The U.S.G.A. Green Section accumulated 55 years of it.

A PORTRAIT OF A "SUPER" WIFE!

Let's Take A Peek,
In A Path Few Would Fare,
Since We Are To Speak,
Of A Quality So Rare.

Can "True Loyalty" Be Told,
With A Sputtering Pen In Hand,
Word Glorious Justice — Unfold?
Try We Will 'Till The End.

There Is A Lady,
Let's Call Her Katy;
She Is The "Super's" Wife;
Revels The Down-To-Earth Life,
Which Is Devoid of Fancies and Flings,
And Embraces Only Genuine Things.
Tho' Life's Not Always A Hummer;
Indeed! — Not During the Summer,
When Her Rival Is a Greenish Course,
And Katy Has No Recourse,
But To Tread Alone with Her Sprightly
Crew,
Losing the Battle To a Tameless Shrew.
As Hubby Wings About Like a Timeless
Gear,
With "Umpeenth" Diseases Spawning
His Fear,
'Til Long Hours Creep a Tiriing Shadow;
Home-Bound, Simmering Aloud in Self
Chatter;
Footsteps Gaining — Katy Waiting in
the Evening Glow;
Hands Reaching; Clasp — Holding
Dearly; Aglow.

Her Brimming Loyalty Says It All,
Parallel to a Towering Peak;
Steadfast as Always; Endurable 'Til
Fall,
Katy Is Unique!

— FRANK PALADINO

INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT

Effective January 1, 1975, a retirement savings deduction is allowed for contributions to an individual retirement account. The maximum annual deduction is \$1,500, or 15 percent of earned income, whichever is less. Amounts allowed as a retirement savings deduction are deductible from gross income. IRA's may be set up by individuals, by employers for the benefit of their employees, and by labor unions for the benefit of their members. A penalty tax of 10 percent is imposed on distributions occurring before age 59½. Funds in an IRA must begin to be withdrawn no later than age 70½. Generally, all amounts received from an IRA are taxed in full as ordinary income; no special lumpsum rules apply, although the individual may use the five-year averaging provision. The retirement savings deduction is available to working wives in both community and noncommunity property states. The retirement savings deduction is allowed to an individual only if he or she is not an active participant in a qualified plan (including an H.R.-10 plan). A tax-free rollover is allowed from qualified plans to an IRA (see item 8). An employer or union may establish a single IRA trust for a number of employees or members; however, separate accountings are required. Amounts contributed by an employer constitute income to the employees which they may then deduct from their gross income. Where an employer has both a qualified plan and an employer-sponsored IRA, the qualified plan must meet the nondiscrimination test without regard to the IRA.

H. R. - 10 PLANS

For plan years beginning after December 31, 1973, the maximum deductible contribution on behalf of self-employed persons is increased to the lesser of \$7,500 or 15 percent of earned income. However, effective with plan years beginning after December 31, 1975, no more than the first \$100,000 of earned income may be taken into account in applying the percentage limits. The \$100,000 ceiling means that a self-employed person (or a shareholder-employee in a subchapter S Corporation) with more than \$100,000 earned income will have to contribute at a rate of at least 7½ percent on behalf of his employees if he wishes to take the full \$7,500 deduction on his own behalf. The rules regarding excess contributions are repealed. Instead, a six percent excise tax is imposed annually on an excess contribution until it is eliminated.

"GRASS CATCHER"

BY BOB OSTERMAN

The CAGCS Annual Christmas Party will be held at the Farms Country Club, Saturday, December 6. The cost will be \$24 per couple. There will be cocktails from 6:30-7:30 p.m. with dinner at 7:30 p.m. Door prizes will be given and there will be an open bar until 11:30 p.m.

Also on the agenda for the evening will be a short ceremony after dinner of the passing of the gavel to the new President, introduction of the new officers and directors and the passing out of awards, etc. Dancing will follow.

All of us who were at the Christmas Party last year at the Farms Country Club, really had a great time. Any of those members who missed last year should really try to make this one, for I am sure the management at the Farms will try to out do themselves from last year.

More information will follow.

James Pillion has retired as Superintendent from the Goodwin Park Golf Club after 37 years with the Hartford Parks Dept. His assistant, Bill Fitzgerald has assumed the position of Superintendent. We all wish Jim the best of luck in retirement (I am sure he won't be sitting around watching soap operas though) and good luck to his successor.

The U.S.G.A. Green Section Educational Conference is to be held at the Biltmore Hotel, Madison Ave. and 43rd St., New York City, on Friday, January 30, 1976.

THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES ARE CONTRIBUTING TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CONN. CLIPPINGS:

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P. O. Box 9
Milford, Conn. 06460
Richard W. Smith, CAGCS member
Richard W. Hosking CAGCS member

CONN. CLIPPINGS

Robert Osterman, *editor*
937 BLACK ROCK TURNPIKE
EASTON CONN. 06612



FIRST CLASS



BILL SOMERS
P.O. BOX 294
DEVON, CONN. 06460