

CONNECTICUT CLIPPINGS

Volume 32, No. 4

September/October, 1998



Hop Meadow Country Club takes home 1998 Invitational Trophy

by Peter Pierson

superintendent, **Ken Doyle**, golf pro, and **James Gallagher**, President of Hop Meadow.

While Mike has been the golf course superintendent at Hop Meadow for 13 years, he has taken on the new title

of Facility Manager, thereby putting much of the burden of the golf course duties on Mark Pelkey who made absolutely sure that the course was in pristine condition.

PGA Pro Ken Doyle and his pro shop staff must be commended on a well-organized day.

All participants were treated to an extraordinary reception and kudos should be given to Peter Petrina, clubhouse manager, and his staff.

E. Gaynor Brennan Municipal Golf Course where Mike Sullivan is superinten-

dent (pictured below) captured the net prize with a 53, the team comprising of Mike, Rob Fraioli, Sean Gleason and Mickey Docimo.

CAGCS would like to again thank the Bruedan Corporation for their continued support of our annual invitational tournament. All competitors were awarded a beautiful, logoed briefcase.

And, as has been the case for many years, Dave Basconi (D & S) gave up a full day to take pictures of all four-



(continued on page 2)

While the competition was strong, our host for the day, **Hop Meadow Country Club** (pictured above), made its presence known by shooting a low gross of 63. The team comprised of **Mike Wallace**, CAGCS, the facilities manager, **Mark Pelkey**, golf course

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Anthony Grosso
1998 CAGCS President

As the summer of 1998 comes to a close (thank, God!) we can all sit back and try to catch our collective breaths.

The summer of '98 was a summer of extremes - from a very wet start with 17.1" of rain (that is what we had at Pautipaug) to just a trace of rain measuring under 1" from July 1 to August 17—again proving that Mother Nature is in ultimate control, even though some of us are stubborn enough to think that we can beat her from time to time. She can be very humbling.

As I enjoy this cooler weather, I would like to take this opportunity to

comment on a few subjects.

First, I would like to thank our members who have hosted a monthly meeting in 1998 and to encourage others who have never hosted a meeting (or, who have not hosted one in a few years) to please consider hosting one in the future.

Every year as clubs become busier with outside functions, it becomes harder and harder to fill our monthly meetings. We are now in the process of putting next year's schedule together.

To date, we have secured monthly meetings for April, September, November and the S & R Tournament. We are still looking for sites for May, June, July, August and October and a site for our annual invitational.

If you would like to host a meeting in 1999, please contact me or Dennis Houle.

Also, it's time to start thinking about the 1999 GCSAA Conference & Show (if you haven't already), especially room accommodations.

Thanks to our office staff, CAGCS has secured a block of rooms at the

headquarters hotel, the Omni. Any member wishing to secure a room should contact the CAGCS office (203/387-0810 or 888/561-7778) as soon as possible.

Orlando is a very busy area and along with the GCSAA convention, there is also a race at the Daytona Speedway. Rooms are going to be at a premium, so don't wait or you may be left without a room.

Our 1998 Invitational Tournament was held at the Hop Meadow Country Club on July 27th. Many thanks go out to the membership of Hop Meadow for having us and to Mike Wallace and his staff for having the course in great shape. I would like to thank Peter Pierson for his hard work in putting the tournament together and the Bruedan Corporation for their sponsorship of the tournament for the second year.

Finally, I would like to encourage all CAGCS members to attend our annual meeting scheduled for November 4th at Rock Ridge CC in Newtown. Bob Welch will be our host superintendent.

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Connecticut Clippings is an official publication of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

Newsletter Editor - Bob Chalifour, CGCS (Ret)

Newsletter Committee - David Basconi, Heather Garvin, Ron Holcomb, Jud W. Smith

Photos - David Basconi

CAGCS Invitational (continued from page 1)

somes and candids for use in our newsletter.

If you have not received the picture of your foursome, please call the CAGCS office.

Other Invitational Results

2nd Low Gross - 65

Green Woods Country Club
Scott Walker, Superintendent

3rd Low Gross - 67

Country Club of Farmington
John Ruzsbatzky, Superintendent

2nd Low Net - 58

Indian Hill Country Club
Kevin Bengtson, Superintendent

3rd Low Net - 58

Highland Greens Golf Course
Mark Chevrier, Superintendent

— Skill Prize Winners —

Closest to Pin

#3 - Paul Smith, #9 Greg Yeomans,
#12 Tom Watroba, #16 Rick Nelson

Longest Drive - Kris Smith

Closest to Line - John Barbieri

New course construction — planned and underway —

Charlie and Joe Rustici of the Elmridge Golf Course in Stonington, CT, are constructing River Ridge Golf Course in Preston on the former site of Brewster Orchards. The 18-hole course will be seeded by early fall with an opening in summer, 1999.

A July visit found both Charlie and Joe working on the course along with employees from Cherenzia Construction of Westerly, RI, and White Turf Irrigation of Barre, MA. The course will be challenging along with scenic views of the Quinebaug River and valley.

Ward Weischet, CGCS at Harbor Ridge (formerly Pilgrim's Harbor) is building a second nine holes along with Ted Manning, golf course architect.

Blackledge superintendent Tom Gresh recently announced that an additional nine holes will be built in order to provide golfers with a 36-hole course.

The Country Club of New England in East Lyme, CT, is being rejuvenated after a six-year hiatus. Jeff Torrance and Bob Blatt plan to start construction this fall. The newly designed course will be renamed New England National.

Bill Sandri, owner of Crumpin-Fox in Barnston, MA, has contracted with the Golf Group headed up by Roger Rulewicz former head designer for Robert Trent Jones.

Fox-Hopyard will be built near Devil's Hopyard on Rt. 82 near the junction with Rt. 156 in East Haddam, CT. Construction is expected to start this fall. For further information, check out the Sandri website at www.sandri.com.

Les Kennedy, Jr., CGCS at the Country Club of Waterbury has constructed a new practice facility.

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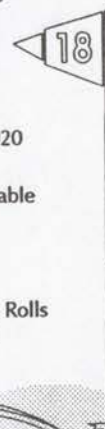
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Aspetuck Valley Country Club achieves designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary"

Congratulations to Aspetuck Valley Country Club in Weston, CT, where Steven Colangeli has been the golf course superintendent for the past three years.

Aspetuck achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System, the education division of Audubon International, endorsed by the USGA. Aspetuck Valley is the fourth in Connecticut and the 120th course in the world to receive the honor.

Aspetuck joined the program in 1996 upon Steve's arrival. The program provides information and guidance to golf courses to help them preserve and enhance wildlife habitat and protect natural resources.

"Aspetuck Valley Country Club has shown a strong commitment to its environmental program. They are to be commended for their efforts to provide

a sanctuary for wildlife on the golf course property," said Joellen Zeh, Staff Ecologist for the Cooperative Sanctuary System.

"To reach certification, a course must demonstrate that they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas," explained Zeh. These categories include: Environmental Planning, Wildlife & Habitat Management, Outreach and Education, Integrated Pest Management, Water Conservation, and Water Quality Management.

Steve developed an Audubon Committee which is made up of employees, members, and people from outside the club. They have all worked diligently in the certification process.

"The membership is very proud that Aspetuck is a certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary golf course."

"It's a great feeling to know that a golf course can act as a recreation area

for golf as well as a wildlife sanctuary at the same time. It's also nice to know that our daily maintenance practices and long-range projects are enhancing the environment as well as the wildlife in the area," says Steve.

Aspetuck joins Hop Meadow CC, Michael Wallace, CGCS & Mark Pelkey, supts., TPC at River Highlands, Tom DeGrandi, supt., and Woodway CC, Larry Pakkala, CGCS, supt., as Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary golf courses in Connecticut.

Another CAGCS member whose golf course has been certified is Winged Foot GC, Robert Alonzi, CGCS, supt., in Mamaroneck, NY.

Do golf courses provide suitable habitat for adversity of bird species?

Reported by *Field Notes*,
newsletter of the ACSS, a division
of Audubon International

Well, the results are in according to The Audubon International North American Golf Course Birdwatching Open.

On May 9th, this question was answered with a resounding "yes" as Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuaries and Audubon International Signature Sanctuaries took part in the North American Golf Course Birdwatching Open, a one-day bird count sponsored by Audubon International.

The event was scheduled to coincide with International Migratory Bird Day and provided an ecological twist to golf's traditional U.S. Open tournament.

"The results of this one-day bird count suggest that a great variety of birds can indeed be found on golf

(continued on page 10)

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Stephen Smith - Class B
Lake Waramaug Country Club

—Celebrating 20 years—

Peter Rappoccio at
Silver Spring Country Club
Roy Sibley at
Chas. C. Hart Seed Co.

Celebrating 20 years of weekends off - John Ferry and Mark Loper, former superintendents at Ellington Ridge CC and Portland GC, respectively, now with Turf Products.

Congratulations to Tim Gerzabek and his wife, Cheri, on the birth of a baby girl "Lynn", and to Jonathan Jennings and his wife, Susan, on the birth of a baby boy "Theodore".

CAGCS software is available for purchase at all CAGCS monthly meetings

CAGCS Annual Christmas Party - December 11th!

It is not too early to mark your calendar for our annual Christmas party. For the past two years, our annual celebration has been a great success apparently because of the central location, hospitality and great food of the Hawthorne Inn in Berlin, CT.

Also, because of popular demand, we will again be entertained by *The Crescents*, one of the northeast's most renowned 50s and 60s rock 'n roll showband.

Upcoming Events

Oct. 6
Tashua Knolls Golf Course
Ed Zenisky, Host Supt.
Supt/Assistant Tournament

Oct. 19
Torrington Country Club
Ed Goodhouse, Host Supt.
Scholarship & Research Tournament

Nov. 4
Rock Ridge Country Club
Robert Welch, Host Supt.
CAGCS Annual Meeting

Dec. 11
CAGCS Christmas Party
Hawthorne Inn, Berlin, CT

Jan. 5th
CAGCS Winer Seminar
Hawthorne Inn, Berlin, CT

Room Block for 1999 Conference & Show

CAGCS has blocked 25 rooms at the Omni Hotel (headquarters hotel). Orlando is an extremely busy place when there are no special events.

Along with our annual convention, there is also a race at Daytona Speedway during the same time. If you need a room, contact the CAGCS office as soon as possible.



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Golf results from August 4th meeting Topstone Golf Club

On August 4th, we headed to Windsor, CT, to the Topstone Golf Club. The tournament for the day was an ABCD Best Ball - 80% handicap.

1st Gross

Mike Dukette, Bruce Morse,
Bob Silva, Anthony Grosso

2nd Gross

Brian Pope, Mike Decker
John Gallagher, Steve Rackliffe

1st Net

Wayne Urban, John LaBrie,
Bob Chalifour

2nd Net

Peter Hull, Tim Berge,
Palmer Whitney

Skill Prize Winners

Closest to line #5 - Hank Suchinski

Closest to pin #8 - Noel Hall

#15 - Hank Suchinski

Longest drive #10 - Jim Staszowski

Hot Ball Winners

Kevin Kennedy, Eric Kundahl,
Bob Defeo, Craig Bernier

UMass Winter School for Turf Managers

The 1999 schedule begins January 4th and ends February 19th.

Applications are now available with a deadline for applications of Oct. 1, 1998.

For more information contact:
Trudie Goodchild/UMass Dept. of
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Mary Owen/UMass Extension Turf
Program Phone: 508/892-0382; Fax:
508/892-4218

The Stockbridge School of Agriculture will be hosting the second annual Job Fair on Feb. 9, 1999 in the Campus Center at UMass Amherst.

Watch for the December issue for more details on how to participate.

All members are urged to participate and contribute to the *Clippings*. Please send in your articles and/or comments to the CAGCS Office, P. O. Box 3678, Woodbridge, CT, 06525.

The annual CAGCS Family Day held on September 14th hit an all-time high for attendance with approximately 160 adults and children being treated to a day of fun at Lake Compounce in Southington, CT.

Many thanks to the Social & Welfare Committee headed by John LaBrie for a well-organized day.

CAGCS members and their families were treated to a barbeque lunch and were able to enjoy the many rides with an all-day ride pass.

CAGCS wishes to also thank Novartis, Rhone Poulenc and Zeneca for their sponsorship of this year's event.

Dogs of Summer

Please send in a few words and picture (if you have one) of you and your dog(s) at work for an upcoming article.

**Deadline for December
Issue is Nov. 7.**

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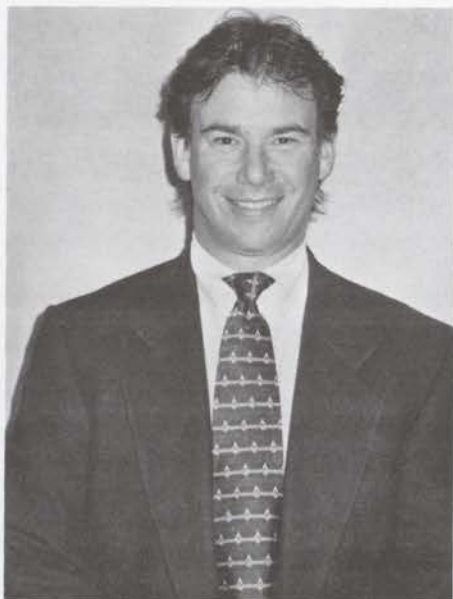
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Jud W. Smith, Superintendent
Orange Hills Country Club
Asst. Supt. - Todd Olovson
PGA Professional - Mike Gramelis

September 14th brought us to the Orange Hills Country Club in Orange, CT, which

Meet our host

has been owned by the Smith family since 1930. Jud's grandfather acquired the property in 1930 when it was just nine holes and all of the greens were sand. Now, all 18 greens are native soil.

The front nine is fairly open and forgiving. In 1961, the back nine was designed by Geoff Cornish and built by Walter Smith, a CAGCS member since 1949. It contrasts the front nine with its hilly, tight terrain that leaves little room for error. The signature hole is the 13th, a 153-yard par 3.

Jud is the golf course superintendent and his sister, Judy Smith-Morgan, is the clubhouse manager. Their parents, Walter and Leontine, are active in the business.

Since Jud became superintendent seven years ago, the improvement plan

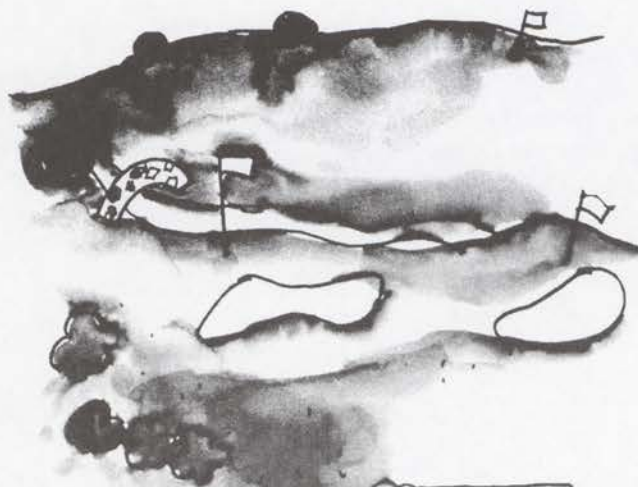
has included new tees, bunkers, cart paths and irrigation.

Jud received a BS in Business from the University of Richmond and attended the UMASS Winter School in 1991.

Jud joined CAGCS in November of 1990 and has since served our association as chairperson of the Social & Welfare Committee, the Historical Committee and is on the Newsletter Committee. He is presently serving CAGCS as Secretary.

The participants were treated to a truly extraordinary reception, and we would like to thank the Smith family, the golf pro, Mike Gramelis, and the entire staff at Orange Hills for their hospitality.

Jud lives in Orange with his dog, Augie.



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superintendents

October will take our association to Trumbull for our monthly meeting on the 6th which will be hosted by Tashua Knolls Golf Course where Ed Zenisky has been the golf course superintendent for the last 15 years.

Ed is a life member of our association and a 23-year member of GCSAA.

After graduating from Stockbridge in 1962, Ed began his career at Springfield CC under Larry Graham. From there, he went on to Huntington Crescent on Long Island. He became assistant at Mill River, superintendent at Newtown, Shaker Farms, Chippanee for 11 years and Oak Lane before hanging his hat at Tashua in 1984.

He and his wife, Marie, a comptroller for a software company, enjoy

traveling. They have two children and two grandchildren.

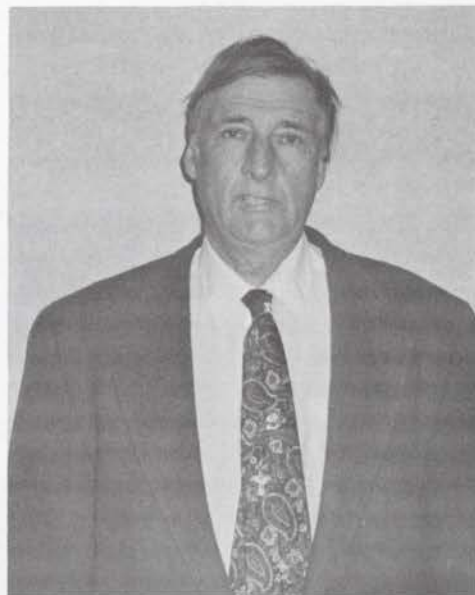
Aside from golf, Ed likes to restore antique cars.

Tashua is an 18-hole, par 72, municipal golf course which hosts 55,000 rounds yearly.

It was built in 1975 and designed by Albert Zikorus. The signature hole is the 14th, a par 5, with an elevated tee that gives a view of the water framing both sides of the fairway.

The course is in the second year of a bunker restoration program. A double row irrigation system is being installed and there are plans for a 9-hole, par 3 course on the table.

They have a border collie, Moore, who does a good job of keeping the geese to a minimum. Tashua is a spikeless golf course.



Ed Zenisky, Superintendent
Tashua Knolls Golf Course
Architect: Albert Zikorus
PGA Professional: Walter Bogues
Date of meeting - October 6th
Supt/Assistant Tournament

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- Farmingbury C.C. - Wolcott
- Farms Country Club - Wallingford
- Fenwick Golf Course - Fenwick
- Hopmeadow C.C. - Simsbury
- Hunter Golf - Meriden
- Innis Arden - Greenwich
- Madison C.C. - Madison
- Oak Lane - Woodbridge
- Old Lyme C.C. - Old Lyme
- Pine Orchard C.C. - Branford
- Portland West - Portland
- Portland Golf Course - Portland
- Quarry Ridge - Portland
- Shuttle Meadow - Kensington
- Silver Springs - Ridgefield
- Southington C.C. - Southington
- T.P.C. - Cromwell
- The Patterson Club - Fairfield
- Tumblebrook - Bloomfield
- Watertown Golf Course - Watertown
- Westwood Golf Course - Farmington
- Woodbridge C.C. - Woodbridge
- Woodway C.C. - Darien
- The Orchard - Milford

Suitable habitat

(continued from page 4)

courses during all or part of the year," said Jean Mackay, Education Director for Audubon International.

"The event also indicates that many birds may be benefiting from habitat enhancement projects such as nesting boxes and water features."

Dedicated and committed cooperators at Certified and Signature Golf Courses hosted teams of volunteers to identify and count wild bird species positively identified by sight or sound from the golf course property.

Observations were made within the 24-hour period of Saturday, May 9th. Results were then tabulated at Audubon International headquarters and the winners were awarded prizes for various categories.

The Club at Seabrook Island in John's Island, South Carolina was this year's first prize winner with a total of 77 species sighted.

Coming in a close second was

Summerlea Golf and Country Club in Quebec, Canada, with 75 species.

Winner of the "Best Birds" designation for the most interesting range of bird species was Rum Point Seaside Golf Links in Berlin, MD.

A total of 36 courses participated with over half sighting 40 or more species.

Some of the most commonly reported species include the red-winged blackbird, northern cardinal, great blue heron, and red-tailed hawk. Among some of the most noteworthy sightings of the day included a great gray owl, common murre, greater road-runner, green kingfisher, and yellow crowned night heron.

"The true winner of the North American Golf Course Birdwatching Open is wildlife and in particular, migrating birds," said Mackay. "Events such as these demonstrate the importance of recognizing golf courses as potential habitat for wildlife and managing them with this in mind."

CAGCS trivia contest

Sorry, but out of the entries received for the June issue, there was no winner.

June trivia question: Give the real first names of these present and former PGA professionals:

Ben Hogan..... William
Chip Beck..... Charles
Chi Chi Rodriguez..... Juan
Fuzzy Zoeller..... Frank Urban
J.C. Snead..... Jesse Carlyle
Jack Nicklaus..... Jack

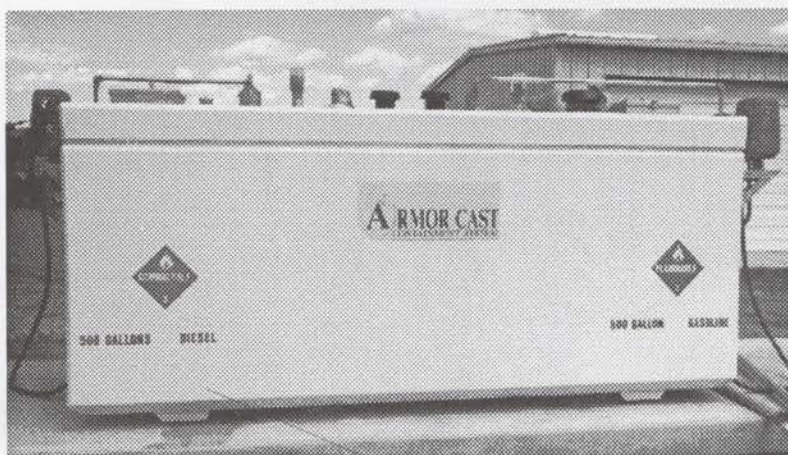
The question for this issue is:

Which Connecticut municipality is currently "home" to the most current superintendent members? Name the town and the supers.

Send your answers to the CAGCS Office, P. O. Box 3678, Woodbridge, CT, 06525.

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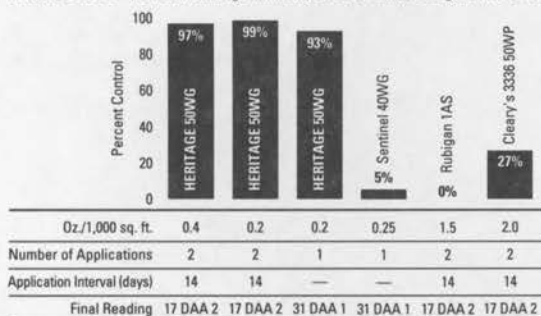
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Anthracnose¹ (*Colletotrichum graminicola*) on 80% Annual Bluegrass, 20% Perennial Ryegrass

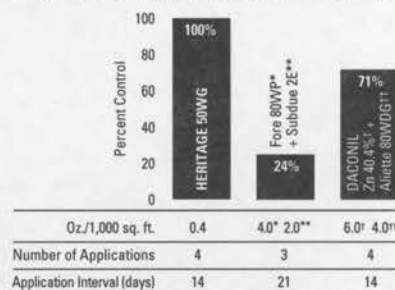


Dr. Don Scott, Purdue University, 1995

US 67-95-P354

¹ Also isolated from plots: 2 species *Rhizoctonia*; 3 species *Pythium*; and several species *Curvularia*.

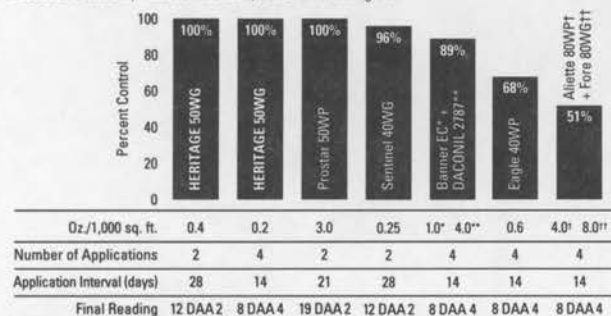
Pythium Blight (*Pythium aphanidermatum*) on Perennial Ryegrass



Dr. John Watkins, University of Nebraska, 1996

USNP-96-P030

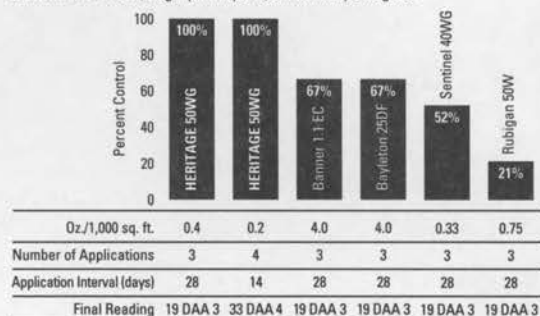
Brown Patch (*Rhizoctonia solani*) on Colonial Bentgrass



Dr. Pat Sanders, Penn State University, 1994

US 66-94-P356

Summer Patch (*Magnaporthe poae*) on Kentucky Bluegrass



Dr. Bruce Clarke, Cooke College, Rutgers University, 1994

US 66-94-P362

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