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1978

# Green is Beautiful"

ario Golf Superintendents Association

ARNSHAW CRESCENT — ETOBICOKE, ONTARIO M9C 3M4 — TELEPHONE 622-9929



MAY 1978



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*This is the time we all wait for, "Spring" to open our golf courses and see green grass, after a long, snowy winter.*

*In the past few weeks we have been planning a program to apply to our golf course season; Fungicide, Fertilizing and General Maintenance.*

*Some of us have less damage than others, but over-all it seems like we wintered well.*

*I would like to encourage members to play on their golf courses periodically; as I feel it is a good way to see your course, the way your members see it.*

*I would like to remind members to make an effort to attend meetings, where many ideas are shared, and many problems are solved.*

*Wishing you all a successful season.*

*President, Paul Scenna.*

*P.S. Winter is over, and holidays have come to an end, and its time to get to work.*

## — O.G.S.A. EXECUTIVE FOR 1978 —

President, Paul Scenna. . . . . (519) 623-3292  
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Secretary, Paul White . . . . . (416) 561-1216  
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Roster, Bob Brewster . . . . . (416) 676-9777  
Symposium 1979, Al Beeney  
Nominating Chairman, Al Beeney  
Executive Newsletter Editor, W. Hynd 239-9630  
Social Committee, Stuart Mills  
Turf Research Chairman,  
Paul Dermott . . . . . (416) 247-9281  
Welfare — East, Rusty Waskman  
West, Ken Nelson  
Central, W. Hynd



## MONTHLY MEETING - FEBRUARY 1st, 1978 GLENDALE GOLF CLUB, HAMILTON

**Host: Paul White**

Thirty Superintendents and Associates were in attendance for this date.

Fertilizer — "What's great for '78", was the topic and the following companies were represented:

Gunstar Chemicals —	Bob Emond
Manleys —	Ron Strettan
C.I.L. —	Barrie Williams
Scotts —	Dave Dick
Bradford Chemicals—	Doc R. Allman

All representatives gave an interesting account and the following is Doc R. Allman's topic:-

### **Sulphur and P.H.**

Soil PH can be lowered to 6.5 by broadcasting sulphur on putting greens at the following rates:

Present Soil PH	Sandy Soil	Clay Soil
7.5	8-12 lbs./1000 sq. ft.	16-20 lbs/1000 sq. ft.
8.0	20-30 lbs./1000 sq. ft.	30-40 lbs/1000 sq. ft.
8.5	30-40 lbs./1000 sq. ft.	30-40 lbs/1000 sq. ft.
9.0	40-60 lbs./1000 sq. ft.	————

Golf courses could apply up to 300 lbs. per acre, Spring and Fall. Rule of thumb - one 50 lb. bag will do one green.

This was followed by:

Duke Lawn Equip —	David Flegg
Turf World —	Bill Black Jr.

who gave brief accounts of their products.

After lunch 16 participants tried out on the Curling Rink, the winning group being Hugh Kirkpatrick's rink: John Smith, Blake McMaster and Kimmo Salonen.

Altogether a fine day for all who attended.

Runners up: Bill Bowen, Dave Moote, Bill Harding, Dave Dick.

## MONTHLY MEETING - APRIL 11th, 1978 ESSEX GOLF CLUB

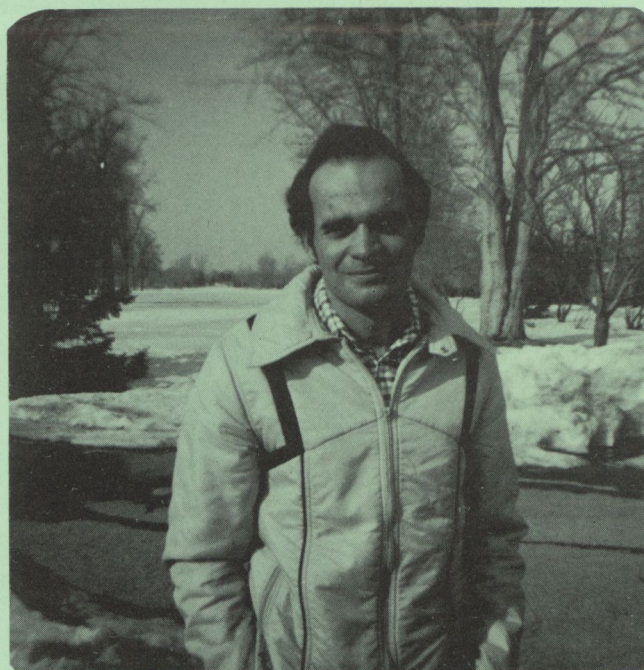
**Host: Bill Fach**

This was a combined meeting between Michigan and Border Cities and O.G.S.A. One hundred and ten were in attendance. Forty-five from O.G.S.A.

Some 20 arriving from the Toronto area in "The Paleno Express" to meet many of the Windsor area at Danny Uzelac's Dominion Golf Club, a fun evening.

It rained all night but the sun shone for the 60 golfers playing the Essex Course which was in remarkable condition this early in the year.

Before and after dinner speakers were: Dr. Janke, "Fertilizer effects on Soil P.H." and Dr. Reike, "Top Dressing Materials".



Bill Fach - Windsor Essex Golf Club

## MONTHLY MEETING - MARCH 15th, 1978 BAYVIEW GOLF CLUB

**Host: Ed Ortleib**

A goodly number of Superintendents were away on this occasion and only 16 curled.

John Smith reports that the following rink won the Annual Trophy:

Skip —	Paul Scenna
Vice —	Bill Bowen
Second —	Rusty Warkman
Lead —	Paul Sheppard

Runners up:

Skip —	Neil Acton
Vice —	Rod Trainor
Second —	Lon Klevinas
Lead —	Bernie Macdonald

### OBITUARY

James H. Roberts passed away January 1st, 1978. Mr. Roberts retired in 1972 following 20 years as Golf Superintendent at Sunningdale Golf Club, London, Ont.



## EDITORIAL

Golfdom Magazine researched a few years ago and found that, despite improvements in golf equipment, clubs, balls and teaching techniques, video tape, etc., the overall standard of play among golfers had not improved in 50 years. We, as Golf Superintendents might add, from a maintenance standpoint, that golf courses have much improved in playability and "eye appeal", particularly in the past 20 years. It is questionable if this has been an aid to lowering scores.

It is general knowledge that the Professional and low handicap golfers couldn't care less about the colour of grass as long as the lies are tight and the ball runs true on the greens, etc.

The average medium to high handicap golfer, on the other hand, may have a different approach to the game. This person may have a special need for the soothing qualities of green grass to offset his frustrations on the golf course.

Whatever, our job as Superintendents is to assure that each golfer coming off the course will have reaped some benefit and relaxation from his experience, it isn't always easy.

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The Canadian Golf Superintendents Association Conference, March 5-8, Hotel Toronto was by all accounts a huge success, with a varied educational programme to meet all tastes.

The social events, Wine and Cheese Party sponsored by the O.G.S.A. — Rainbird Bash and Closing Banquet and Dance assured a good time for all attending.

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The O.G.S.A. Spring Dance to be held April 1st at Brampton Golf Club was cancelled due to lack of response.

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Winter weather still persists in the Toronto area at this date, April 10th, there is still frost in the ground and snow in sheltered areas.

Dave Gourlay reports from the North End that most of the golf courses in his area are still covered with snow. It would appear, hopefully, that the golf courses are in a healthier state than last year, which was a disaster to many of us.

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The Peter Jackson Ladies Golf Classic will be held at St. George's Golf Club, May 28 - June 4th, and we welcome Golf Superintendents to attend and view the ladies, a remarkable group of the finest golf talent in the world.

The recent success of Sandra Post should be of added interest to this event.

Here's hoping for above normal temperatures through May to start things moving.

Al Beeney had the unforgettable first hand experience of an earthquake during his holiday in Mexico.

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Association ties are selling well, both green and blue are equally popular.

## DRIP IRRIGATION

This method of irrigation is now being practiced on some golf courses in California and Florida due to the shortages of water. It is a method of supplying water to the plant through small tubing which is hooked to a water censor supplying the root system with the proper amount of water. The plant would have to be supplemented with sprinkler irrigation if the temperatures became hot. Drip irrigation is used successfully in farming in the United States. Canada uses it only on 1000 acres for deciduous fruit, vegetables, nursery plants and ornamentals. Whereas the United States uses it on 133,717 acres, adding citrus fruits, nuts, sugarcane, greenhouse plants, two crops and avacadoes. More information may be obtained through Turf World Irrigation or an article in November '77 Scientific American Magazine available at your local library.

## "MOVING AROUND"

Henry Geurtin has taken the job at Beachrove Country Club in Windsor, Ontario. He has been replaced at Chiguacousy by Barry Endicott who was previously at Glen Shields Golf Club. Al Draper has moved to Greenhills Golf Club where they will be opening up a new nine holes this September.

## "INDUSTRY"

### O. M. SCOTT COMPANY

Doug Heron is now the regional manager for Ontario, Quebec, Ohio, Michigan and parts of New York State. He has 1400 golf courses to visit throughout the season. Dave Dick formerly of Sleepy Hollow has taken the Toronto territory.

### SPRAMOTOR

Ron Craig has taken over as manager for the Rexdale branch and has made a lot of changes in the past few months, re-organizing their building.

### GENSTAR

Lorne Hanson has accepted the position of manager at their Elmira, Ontario plant.

## RETIREMENT

Jack Wilson of Manchester Products has retired from the fertilizer business. We would like to wish Jack the best in retirement life and also good health.



# OHIO AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER REPORT #4 ON ATAENIUS SPRETULUS RESEARCH PROGRAM

## RESEARCH REPORTS

In addition to the article on the *Ataenius* beetle which I wrote for the November issue of *Grounds Maintenance Magazine*, I am enclosing another report on our work. Please call me if you have any questions: (216) 264-2540.

## LIFE HISTORY STUDIES

Gerry Wegner, Ohio State University Ph.D. Graduate Student, has now completed his second year of a three-year program on the life history of *Ataenius* at three golf courses in Cincinnati, Ohio. As Gerry's major professor, I think he is making good progress toward charting the life history of this insect. This winter emphasis will be placed on obtaining eggs from adults we collected last year. The objective of this study is to have larvae that would allow us to study the threshold development temperatures required. So far Gerry's studies have indicated that the adult beetles are surviving very well this winter. Monitoring of the survival of this overwintering population will continue into next spring.

Gerry presented a paper on his research at the Entomological Society of America meetings in Washington, D.C. He did well in his presentation. Gerry is now looking forward to 1978, which should be the final year for his research.

## CONTROL STUDIES

A second year of testing the adult program for control of *Ataenius* on various golf courses in Cincinnati again showed that control with one application of diazinon at 6 lbs. ai/A was excellent. Remember the principle of this program is to apply the insecticide so as to control the adults with the insecticide residue as they fly in to lay eggs and thus prevent egg laying. To assist the turf managers in making applications at the proper times, we have keyed this timing to the full bloom of certain trees and shrubs that are common on most golf courses. These shrubs are: Spirea, Horse Chestnut, Black Locust and Hawthorn. In 1978 we plan to confirm this timing and add a broader range of indicator plants which should be found on golf courses in all the states where *Ataenius* has been doing damage.

In 1977 efforts were made to instigate research on the adult control program in Colorado, New Jersey, Maryland and West Virginia in order to obtain positive data in support of placing this method of control on the diazinon label. For various reasons, including low infestations in New Jersey and Maryland, only data from Ohio were generated. The Company's response to my request for registration was that there is not enough data from enough regions of the U.S. to support petitioning EPA for such a label. It seems that among our problems is the fact that we do not have enough entomologists in these states to do research. We need positive data (real numbers) from Colorado, Missouri and Minnesota. If necessary, I will go to these states to assist with obtaining the data. I will be asking the GCSAA and whoever for some funds to cover the necessary travel. We must get this data.

More bad news! You may recall from the previous three reports that the Ciba Geigy experimental insecticide CGA-12223 gave excellent control of *Ataenius* and all other grubs, even under thatch. I have been informed that this compound will not be further developed for turf at this time. The cost of manufacture was given as the primary reason for this decision. Needless to say, this is bad news because there is nothing as good as this compound in sight.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The map below outlines 20 states where, as of 1977, the *Ataenius* beetle is known to have damaged at least some golf courses.

## EVALUATION OF AN ADULT CONTROL PROGRAM FOR CONTROL OF ATAENIUS SPRETULUS LARVAE IN GOLF COURSE FAIRWAYS

The method of preventing larval infestation of *Ataenius spretulus* by controlling adults before eggs are laid was tested in 1976. One application of diazinon 4 EC at 6 lb Ai/A prevented a larval infestation. However, one application of chlorpyrifos (Dursban® 4EC) at 2 or 4 lb Ai/A did not. This method of control was further tested in 1977.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

Thirteen fairways on 3 golf courses in Cincinnati, Ohio (Table 1) were used in the 1977 test program. Liquid formulations of diazinon (AG-500-4 EC) and chlorpyrifos (Dursban® 4 EC) were applied with hydraulic sprayers at 25 to 35 gallons of spray per acre. Granular diazinon (14%) was applied with a tractor drawn 10 ft. Gandy® drop-spreader. An area at least 100 ft. x 30 ft. on either the tee or green end of each test fairway was left untreated. Each fairway was irrigated lightly for 10 minutes after application.

General field conditions at the times of treatment were as follows: (1) Adults - much flight activity; first eggs noted May 2. (2) Turf - 50 - 70% *Poa annua*; soil - moist; thatch average depth 0.5 in. The following trees and shrubs were in full bloom: Black Locust, Robina pseudo - accacia; Horse Chestnut, *Aesculus octandra*; Hawthorn, *Crataegus* sp., Bridal Wreath, *Spirea* sp.

Post treatment evaluations made June 6 consisted of counting the number of larvae in a circular area 4.25 in. x 3 in. A standard golf course cup-cutter was used for this purpose. From 15 to 20 samples were taken in both the treated and untreated areas of each test fairway.

## RESULTS

**Diazinon** - Control with diazinon 4 EC generally excellent, and fair to excellent with the 14% granular formulation (Table 1). Treatment for the second generation was not necessary.

**Dursban** - Control with the 2 applications of chlorpyrifos was generally fair. The results obtained at Terrace Park Country Club were considered to be inadequate.

## CONCLUSIONS

The data from these tests confirm the results obtained with diazinon 4 EC in 1976. Applications timed to kill adults before they can lay eggs successfully, prevent the development of larval infestations. The insecticide residue must continue killing adults through most of their egg-laying period. **Knowing when egg laying begins is essential.** Research on the biology of the *Ataenius* beetle by Gerald Wegner, Ph.D. graduate student, conducted during the control studies showed that Black Locust, Horse Chestnut, Hawthorn and Spirea were in full bloom when first eggs were laid (May 2). The bloom of trees and shrubs could serve as indicators to turf managers for the timing of sprays in this program of control. The list of plants will be expanded in 1978.

The results with chlorpyrifos indicate control may be inadequate. The results suggest the residual is not long enough to control adults through their period of oviposition.



## FROM outhouse to RUNNING WATER — THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MAINTENANCE BUILDING

by Steve Miller

The maintenance building is an industrial shop area where machinery and materials are stored and repaired and maintenance work is performed. It provides washroom, eating, changing and shower facilities for the staff, and it acts as the nerve centre for all daily, monthly and yearly planning of golf course maintenance operations. Last but certainly not least, it is the training centre of the grounds staff.

If you have found that your current facility does not meet all or just a few of the above or if you are building a new course and must provide the above, then you are in the market for a new maintenance building.

In order to be successful at achieving a building which meets your needs, considerable effort must be put into the planning. The time put into advertising for tenders, reviewing tenders, and compiling the final specifications, is the most crucial. The actual construction of the building by comparison is the least troublesome provided proper planning has been done and a reputable contractor is used.

Proper planning is **crucial** to constructing a building within the budget.

There are a couple of keys to successful planning. The first is the chairman of the building committee. It is well advised that he be a person who is familiar with the construction industry. If he has a working knowledge of calling tenders, letting contracts, and all the ramifications of contractual work he will save the club from many problems.

The second key is the superintendent. He is the one who is going to work in the building and is supposed to know what should be in the building. It is his input into the planning which is going to define the final product.

How do the chairman and the superintendent produce the building they want within budget? At the Burlington Golf and Country Club we followed this sequence of events:

1. A report on maintenance buildings was compiled by the superintendent. This included a description of existing facilities, the functions of a maintenance building, size requirements, physical descriptions of buildings belonging to surrounding clubs, and the value of equipment and materials to be stored. Or in simple terms, any data related to the use of a maintenance building.
2. On the basis of this report and discussions with the chairman specifications were drawn up for a building. These specifications were included in a document called "Instructions to Tenderers". This document contains a general description of what is desired in the way of a building. It does not specify what kind of building is to be built. What we were looking for was a contractor who could provide us with a building system which meet our needs.
3. A call for tenderers was placed in the local paper and the Instructions given to those parties interested in bidding on the job.
4. Once all the tenders are received the crucial work begins. A decision has to be made as to who will be awarded the contract and whether his building meets your requirements. A helpful way of doing this is to draw up a flow sheet of the bids. List down one side all the bidders and list across the top all specifications this allows you to compare the specifications of each contractor against the other contractors with ease.

5. Once a potential contractor has been chosen by the committee then a detailed examination of his proposal must be made to ensure that it includes all your requirements. One or more meetings may be required between yourselves and the potential contractor to achieve this.

Failure to include all that you want in the contract will result in add-ons to the cost of the job. And it is additions that will result in an over spent budget.

Once you are satisfied with the contractors proposal and the contract is awarded then the rest is just a matter of logistics. As superintendent you should be responsible to the committee to ensure that the building is being built to the specifications. If add-ons do occur during the course of construction, be sure that their cost is put down in writing. Upon substantial completion of the building an inspection should be made to find deficiencies in construction. These should be listed, given to the contractor and rectified by him. Once final completion has been accepted move in and enjoy your new facility.

### I WANT TO BE YOUR FRIEND

*I see you at the meetings; but you never  
say hello,*

*You're busy all the time you're there,  
with those you already know.*

*I sit amongst the members and yet  
I'm a lonesome guy;*

*The new ones are as strange as I, but  
you old members pass me by.*

*But darn it, you folks asked us in,  
and talked of fellowship,*

*You could just step across the room,  
but you've never made the trip.*

*Why can't you nod and say hello, or  
stop and shake my hand; then go  
and sit among your friends, now  
that I'd understand.*

*I'll be at your next meeting, perhaps  
a nice time to spend;*

*Do you think you could introduce  
yourself? I want to be your  
FRIEND.*



## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Al Smith, when he was Governor of New York, once became so exasperated at delays in constructing a new bridge that he bawled out the staff working on the project. "Stop wasting time with all these reports and meeting and build something!" he fumed.

Few leaders will have much difficulty understanding the reasons for his impatience. It's surprising how many otherwise capable employees have a tough time producing tangible results. For one reason or another, they can't seem to get things done.

It's not easy to find people who produce. A lot of employees put in a day's work but don't have much to show for it. Others work the same number of hours and accomplish a great deal. What accounts for the difference and what, if anything, can you do about it?

One of the reasons high-achievers are able to accomplish so much is that, when it comes to their jobs, they have a one-track mind. No matter how difficult, they don't let anything divert them or stand in the way. In short, they concentrate on getting the job done, no matter what!

The best way to supervise people like that is simply to tell them what you want, then step out of their way and let them do it.

On the other hand, under-achievers are apt to let a thousand and one things take their minds off their work. They haven't learned the trick of putting their jobs first, everything else second.

Delegation of responsibility with such people is, therefore, somewhat limited. Managers stand a better chance of having things turn out the way they want them to if they keep careful track of the progress these people are making. This requires keeping an eye on individuals who have a tendency to let things slide. In actual practice, what gets done is often "not what a manager expects, but what he inspects".

A few individuals may even have to be reminded occasionally that they're on the payroll, for one purpose: to produce something, not just go through the motions. They may need a gentle nudge to get them off to a good start and headed in the right direction.

In any case, managers who are after results get their people used to the idea that what they are being measured by is the end product. The words and actions of these managers leave no confusion in anyone's mind that what counts is to **get the job done!**"



**MR. ROBERT TREVIS**  
Kanawaki Golf Club, Caughnawaga, Que.  
Newly Elected President - C.G.S.A. 1978

## "BEWARE OF THE EXPERT"

By Bill Knoop

Being a golf course superintendent has to be an easy job. What other profession has available to it so many "experts" that are so willing to give advice at such a low cost. Sometimes you even get advice without asking. Who are these "experts"? They come from all over, they are your club members, your employer, your employees, your fellow golf course superintendents, the salesmen, the technical representatives, turf-grass consultants and, oh yes, guys like me from the university. We are all "experts".

You've got a problem, we all know the answer or do we? You, as a golf course superintendent are faced with problems of some type every day. Some are considered big problems, but hopefully most are not so big. No matter the size of the problem you will need to make a decision regarding the problem and you want to make the right decision. No one can tell you with 100% certainty what the right decision may be.

A look at the problem solving or decision making process may help increase your odds of making the right decision. The first step is to accurately identify the problem. For example, last winter we lost a lot of grass on greens to what we are calling winter kill. We have a problem that we must solve so it won't happen again. We must identify the cause of the problem. It could be a lack of Fall moisture. It could be a shallow root system. It could be a thatch layer that prevents water from getting to the roots. It could be a heavy soil that has restricted root growth or it could have been caused by even something else. The point is that you must use your basic turf knowledge and experience to identify the real cause of the problem.

The next step is to decide how to solve the problem. You could decide to do nothing and hope it doesn't happen again. You might decide the best solution is to reconstruct the green or you might select some other method to repair the damage. In selecting the best solution to the problem, you must also consider your budget situation, your available labour, the effect your choice will have on play, etc.

In this whole process the word **you** has been used often. This is because it is your job to make decisions. No one else can step into your shoes and make your decisions. Many "experts" will try if you let them, but most of us would rather live with our own decisions than have to live with decisions that have been made for us.

"Experts" are not all bad. Use them to help you explore the possible causes and solutions to problems, but in the end you're "the man" and you should make the decisions.

Several years ago, Dr. Dick Skogley spoke at a New Hampshire Turf Seminar and suggested that when we are faced by an "expert" we should remember the origin of the word. He said the word should be divided into 2 parts, X and spert. The first part, X, means a has been and the second part, spert, means a drip under pressure. **THINK ABOUT IT.**

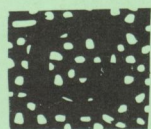
Dr. Knoop is former Director of Education for GCSAA and currently on the staff at Iowa State University. This article was written in Iowa Golf Course Superintendents Reporter.



# GOLF

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OLF is a science, the study of a lifetime, in which you may exhaust yourself but never your subject. It is a contest, a duel, or a melee, calling for courage, skill, strategy and self-control. It is a test of temper, a trial of honour, a revealer of character. It affords a chance to play the man and act the gentleman. It means going into God's out-of-doors, getting close to nature, fresh air, exercise, a recreation of tired tissues. It is a cure for care, an antidote to worry. It includes companionship with friends, social intercourse, opportunities for courtesy, kindness and generosity to an opponent. It promotes not only physical health but moral force.

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D. R. FORGAN

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