

THE GREENERSIDE

May - June 1994 • Volume 17 Number 3

Winter damage hits East Coast courses hard

Editor's Note: When it became evident that many of you, the GCSANJ members, were facing severe turf damage from this past winter's wrath, your association jumped immediately into action. First, there was the free seminar on winter injury. Next, this press release was developed to let the golfing public know what you were up against in preparing their beloved courses. It was sent out to the major dailies in New Jersey, some Philadelphia papers and to Golf Course Management, late March, early April. Subsequently, reporters from various papers have quoted from this piece. Below is this press release.

In the wake of the most severe winter since 1977-78, golf course superintendents from Maryland to New York are reporting the loss of as much as 30% of their turf on greens and up to 70% on fairways.

The blanket of ice and snow that has kept area courses closed for as long as two to three months prevents gas exchange around the grass plants, in effect smothering the plant. Superintendents are discovering that under the layers of ice the turf is rotting and black in some areas, giving off a powerful stench once the ice is removed.

Winter injury, including extensive winterkill of Poa annua and perennial ryegrass, extends from the Baltimore/Washington, DC area, through the Philadelphia area, central and northern New Jersey and into the Poconos, said the USGA Green Section. Snow Mold damage that is much heavier than usual is being reported through Ohio and Kentucky.

Over two hundred golf course superintendents, assistants, greens chairmen, club officials and course owners from the New Jersey/Philadelphia area met on March 28 at Tavistock Country Club in Haddonfield, NJ, to compare notes on and discuss the ramifications of this winter's legacy of severe damage to area courses.

The joint meeting of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey (GCSANJ) and the Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents (PAGCS) opened the line of communication between superintendents, club officials and the USGA. The meeting was

assembled by the GCSANJ. Jim Sklorusky, NE Region agronomist for the USGA, discussed previous years' damage from upstate NY and Montreal. David Oatis, director NE Region USGA Green Section, discussed communication with club membership and talked about what superintendents can expect during the coming season. Keith Happ, agronomist with the Mid-Atlantic Region USGA Green Section, illustrated that the winter damage is widespread across the region. All speakers discussed how superintendents should proceed to repair damaged areas.

Some of the clubs hardest hit by winter injury will not be opening until "well into May," said Thomas I. Grimaldi, CGCS, of Tavistock Country Club. Grimaldi spearheaded efforts to organize the meeting.

Continued on page 4

In this issue



<i>Editorial</i>	2
<i>President's Message</i>	3
<i>GCSANJ NEWS</i>	5
<i>The "Reel" world</i>	9
<i>"Island in the Sun"</i>	11
<i>Celebrating a century</i>	12
<i>GCSAA News</i>	13
<i>X marks the spot</i>	16
<i>Back nine</i>	29

THE GREENERSIDE

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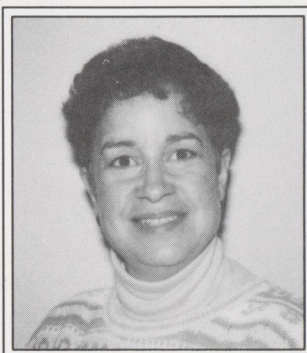
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EDITORIAL



Mind over seeding

by Ilona Gray

Quite a few golf courses over-seeded this spring to help offset the ravages of the winter storms. A seed is the supreme example of spring and the renewal of life. It is the one element of even the most fragile of

plants, which survives the stress of winter, the vagaries of water and temperature and, in nature, the randomness of just where it is supposed to grow.

If you have any grass seed left over, pick up one and look at it very closely. Some of you, like myself, may have to take off your eyeglasses to get really close to this particular piece of nature. Seeds are surrounded by a tough outer coat that guards against the fungus and insect predators that might otherwise destroy the tender embryo inside. This same seed coat somehow is able, when conditions are right, to let in just enough moisture to allow the seed inside to swell and break free of this protective mantle. Most grass seeds take seven to fourteen days of soaking up moisture and warmth before risking germination.



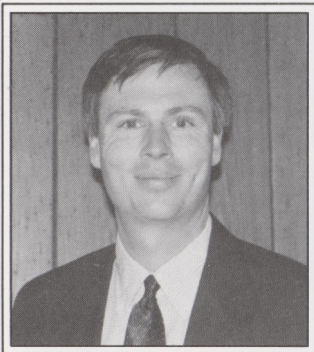
Looking at the seed, I can't help but picture GCSANJ. If measured against the world, it is a small organization. Its tough outer coat is comprised of the rules and practices of our membership along with our own link to the GCSAA. It often takes time to get things started, or it can remain dormant. This tough outer coat helps an organization ride out the difficult and trying times. It lets in just enough change and permits just enough flexibility to allow the organization to stretch and to grow and to get the right things done in the right fashion.

A nurturing layer filled with all of the ingredients required for a successful germination exists past the outer coat of the seed. In the GCSANJ this nurturing layer is the membership, the advertisers and the professional staff of the association. Collectively, they provide the financial and creative resources to ensure professional growth and success. Deep inside the seed, surrounded by the nurturing layer, is the embryo or germ of the seed. This is the basis for hope for the future growth of the association. An embryo contains the genetic information of its ancestors selected and determined by nature to be successful. In the embryo of the GCSANJ is the history and experience of all of its members both past and present, providing guidance for the future.

A seed is a metaphor for so much more. It is a mechanism by which the species hedges against the risks in nature. An individual plant may not be

Continued on page 4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It can only get better...

This past winter certainly was one for the record books, and unfortunately many of us still have scars on our courses to remind

us of the cold, snow and ice. Our Association tried to help in a number of ways, and I would like to tell you about your Board's actions in your regard.

As it became evident that the severe weather could cause turf problems, we reached out to the media to help us get our story out. A number of articles were published throughout the state telling of the possibilities for damage, with the idea that a golfing public informed on potential problems would be more understanding to our plight come Spring. Your Board is satisfied with the positive response we received from these efforts, and even more so by the fact that GCSANJ, and the professionals who make up our group, received favorable press and an increased awareness by the public on who we are and what we do.

When it became evident that turf was indeed lost, Education Chairman **Vince Bracken** and Vice President **Marty Mantell** moved extremely quickly to put together a free seminar on winter injury. Working with **Tom Grimal** and with the full support of Tom's Tavistock CC, an excellent session was presented with an attendance of more than 200! Of particular importance was the attendance of many green chairmen and club officials, which also served GCSANJ by promoting our work and professionalism. This kind of responsiveness to a problem is something that your Board has as a high priority, and I am particularly proud of the work that Tom, Vince and Marty did in making it work in such a short time frame. Special thanks to our speakers, USGA's Dave Oatis, Jim Sklorasky and Keith Happ, who presented a fine program and illustrated with their enthusiastic participation the strong relationship we have with the USGA . . . a relationship that your Board has worked to promote and strengthen.

Another relationship that GCSANJ is looking to strengthen is with the NJPGA. We already participate in the annual PGA spring show as their guest, and we are looking at other options for improving this friendship. One idea that is currently being discussed is a joint education/golf meeting with the PGA, perhaps with an upgraded

superintendent/pro golf event. Look for more on this as we develop the idea.

.....

My thanks to **Wendell Beakley** for his service on the Board this past year and a half. Wendell is forced by job commitments to step down, and although we will miss him, we understand his position and thank him for his time and effort. Welcome to Tom Grimal as he returns to the Board to fill Wendell's spot. Tom is a long-time supporter of GCSANJ and a past officer, and we know he will step right in and work hard in District 4.

Chris Carson
Chris Carson
President, GCSANJ

Calendar

- May 24** • **Dodge Charity Classic: Rockaway River C.C.;** Superintendent, Wayne Foster. Contact PGA, (908) 521-4000.
- June 7-9** • **NJSGA 93rd Amateur Championship: Panther Valley G. & C.C.;** Superintendent, Pat Campbell. Contact NJSGA, (201) 338-8334.
- June 16** • **June Monthly Meeting: Essex Fells C.C.;** Match Play Versus Par and Quarter Finals for the 2-Man Net Team Championship. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- July 12** • **July Monthly Meeting: Crystal Springs G.C.;** ABCD Net Best Ball. Contact Judy Policastro, (201) 379-1100.
- July 12-14** • **NJSGA/CIT Open Championship: Metedeconk National G.C.;** Superintendent, Steve Cadenelli. Contact NJSGA, (201) 338-8334.

Calendar continues on page 30

Mind over seeding

Continued from page 2

successful. It may be attacked or trampled or otherwise destroyed. Through its seeds, however, the information and experience of generations is stored and protected allowing the species to compete in an often harsh nature. It is the same for the golf course superintendent. The experience and benefits available through GCSANJ are as significant as those obtained by the seed.

There are a great number of programs and events in the works for this year at the GCSANJ. It is an opportunity to

store up for the next tough season all of those ingredients that are necessary for making a successful "seed": Professional experience and training; conviviality of membership itself; sharing of ideas and commitment to implementing them; doing something for others in need; contributing to the common good. The best way to plant GCSANJ seeds is to participate. Come to the monthly meetings. Work on a committee, write an article for *The Greenside*, and most importantly—don't miss out on the fun!

Winter damage hits East Coast courses hard

Continued from page 1

The USGA is outlining several turfgrass recovery procedures. The Green Section is recommending that renovated and overseeded winter damaged areas remain restricted to golf traffic as long as possible.

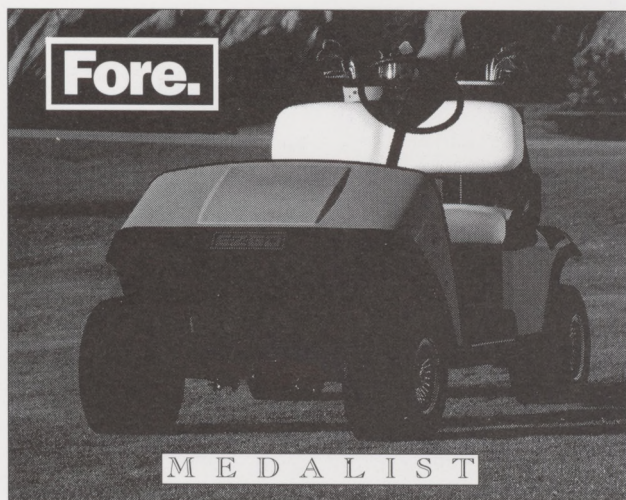
Perennial ryegrass areas should recover rapidly and

well after overseeding, according to the Green Section. In a letter from the USGA Green Section to area superintendents, the USGA "recommends that superintendents apply a starter fertilizer to the seed bed, achieve good soil-to-seed contact and use heavier seeding rates for the most rapid recovery."

Overseeding is called for on damaged greens and superintendents are warned to delay pre-emerge applications.

"Lightly cultivate the surface through spiking, shallow aeration and, possibly, careful slicing," says the Green Section. Covering the seed with geo-textile fabrics could aid germination, and primed seed will germinate better than traditional seed at lower soil temperatures, said the Green Section.

The meeting was videotaped, and an edited edition will be made available at a moderate cost from GCSANJ. Those interested in obtaining a copy should contact Judy Policastro, GCSANJ Headquarters, (201) 379-1100.



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GCSANJ NEWS



THE SEASON LAUNCHES AT THE CAPE

by Shaun Barry

Following in the tradition of General MacArthur, we returned to Cape May National G.C. The only difference was that this time the good guys lost again. **Steve Malikowski** has offered his golf course as a permanent site to open our monthly meeting schedule. I'm not sure our egos can take the beating. If, however, we remember the hospitality we were given, then Steve will continue to have us as his guests.

The day started at the Lobster House with a beautiful lunch and a fine presentation by **Ed Schulsinger**. I'm sure many people learned a little more about what a horticulturist can do. Immediately following this, 70 people braved the weather and headed for the course. As usual, some people seemed to be playing a different course. How else can we explain that **Doug Larson** shot 76 and somebody else (no

names) had 131. It was that kind of day.

Doug's score won low gross while **Bill Beverlin** (70) and **Ken Mathis** (70) tied for low net honors. **Chip Kern** came late, hit the longest drive and ran before **Dave Pease** could check and see if his driver was legal. **John Boyer** stiffed it at #3 for closest to the pin honors, while **Fran Owsik** edged out **Chris Carson** at #17. The skin winners were **Rob Finnesey**, **Khlar Holthouse** and **Joe Blocksom** with 1 each while Mr. Larson had 2.

Fifteen teams also qualified for the 2-Man Net Team Championship. They will all be attempting to wrest the title away from the defending champs—**Tom Grimac** and **Bob Prickett**. It should be an interesting season-long event.

The final part of the day was a shoot-out, which was sponsored by the owner of the course, Mr. Bob Mullock. The field of 4 was made up of the three low gross scores of the day and a sponsor's exemption (**Steve Malikowski**). Completing a sweep for the day, Doug Larson birdied the

Continued on page 6

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GCSANJ NEWS

Continued from page 5

18th hole to beat **John Farrell**. Steve "took" third and **Ian Kunesch** was fourth.

Thanks to everyone at Cape May National. It was a great day, and I know we all hope to be back in 1995. 🌿

TWO-MAN NET TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIERS

- (1) Grima-Prickett vs. (16) Lane-Stout
- (8) Campbell-Mickens vs. (9) Gasper-Walsh
- (4) Betts-Mitchell vs. (13) Carson-Kriews
- (5) Ashton-Mathis vs. (12) Finnesey-Ruzsbatzky
- (2) Simpkins-Wall vs. (15) Fountain-Kunesch
- (7) Driscoll-O'Brien vs. (10) Mellor-Stiles
- (3) Carpinelli-Larson vs. (14) Farrell-Woods
- (6) Geer-Owsik vs. (11) Barry-Pease 🌿

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED

Welcome to the following new members of GCSANJ:

Louis Bosco	C	Philadelphia Turf Company	Dist. 4
Chris Brawley	B	Maplewood Country Club	Dist. 2
Eric Cadenelli	A	Galloway Natl. Golf Club	Dist. 4
Kurt Mazzucco	B-1	Flanders Valley Golf Course	Dist. 2
Peter Pedrazzi, Jr.	B-1	Essex County Country Club	Dist. 2
David R. Werner	B	Overpeck & Orchard Hills Golf Club	Dist. 1

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Les Mickens	A Basking Ridge C. C.	Dist. 2
James Woods	C Berger Agency	Dist. 3
Peter McCormick	C Turf Net Assoc.	Dist. 3 🌿

NJPGA GOLF MERCHANDISE AND 500 BOTTLES

by Doug Vogel

Frederick Taylor would have been proud. His theories on scientific management were never put to practice any better than they were at the NJPGA Golf Merchandise Show and Exhibition by **Brett and Chris Owsik**. With 500 water bottles to assemble before the 10 o'clock opening, their precision teamwork looked like an assembly line in

Continued on page 7



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GCSANJ NEWS


Continued from page 6

high gear. The Rutgers Athletic Center surely hasn't seen teamwork like that in quite some time.

Working the crowd like a well seasoned Vegas lounge act were **Shaun Barry, Dennis Shea, Marty Mantell, Doug Vogel** and headliner **Fran Owsik**. Any doubts of whether we would ever get rid of all the bottles were put to rest at 10:09 when Fran handed out the first bottle. Word spread like wildfire and by 11:28 the last bottle left the booth in the hands of a very happy lady. For one hour and nineteen minutes we were the booth to be at.

Of course the true mission of the booth was to showcase to the golfing community that the golf course superintendent is a **dedicated, educated** professional in charge of maintaining the high standards they expect on their golf

courses. This was no better evident than by the many questions fielded by the above mentioned members. Dennis and Fran explained about ice damage to concerned golfers. Marty helped a show-goer who inquired about building a backyard sandtrap. Yours truly talked to two turf students about the benefits of joining our association. I don't know what Shaun was talking about but it seemed he was always holding court with a crowd of lovely women. Our participation in the show was deemed a success.

Somewhere, when the weather warms up and thirsts need quenching, at least 500 people will get the message "Golf Course Superintendents of N.J. **We Keep Grass Green!**" 

Continued on page 8

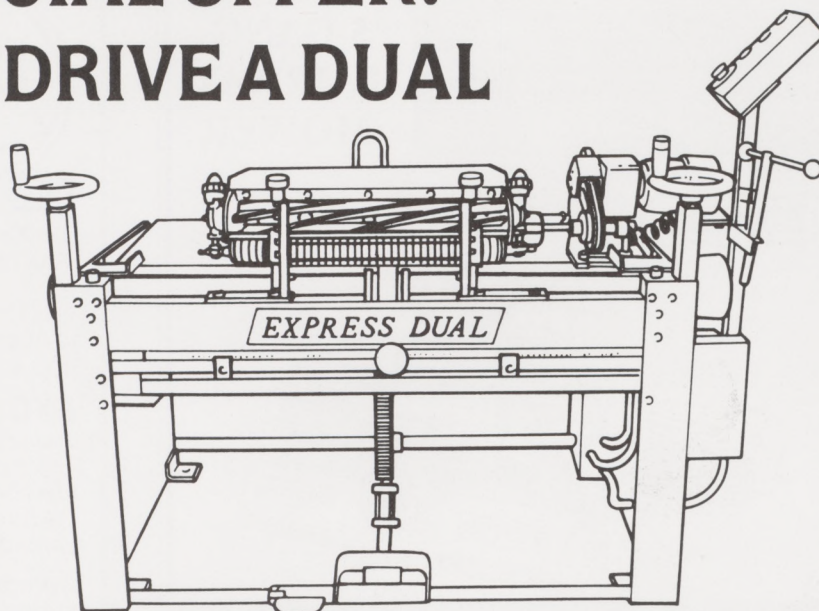
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Continued from page 7

DISTRICT FOUR'S FIRST MEETING IN '94

by John Boyer

District 4 members met at Marriott's Seaview Resort on March 24th. This rescheduled meeting fortunately was on the only nice day in March. John Boyer, the host superintendent, made a presentation concerning the 85 bunker reconstructions on the Bay Course. A tour was given after the talk showing this Donald Ross - designed golf course. The design features of the bunkers were not changed, only enhanced. All the old contaminated sand was removed along with the surrounding areas. Drainage was installed and a polyester fabric liner installed. All new 7" thick sand was added and topsoil and tall fescue sod was laid around the bunkers.

After the tour, over 40 members enjoyed a fine lunch.

Right after lunch 32 diehard golfers remained to play 18 holes on the challenging Pines Course. Everyone managed to complete the course just before the pre-Daylight Savings Time sunset. 🏌️



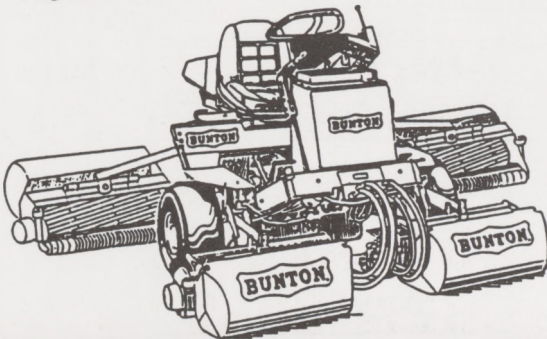
Some District 4 members as they tour the Bay Course before lunch and an afternoon of golf on the Pines Course.

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The "Reel" world

by John Martin, Jr.

Some years ago a few mechanics from New Jersey decided to create an organization which would help them and their fellow golf course mechanics. Better education and greater communication within their field were to be the main goals. **Ray Schroeder, Bob Lay, Wayne Frew and Gary Droz** started the New Jersey Golf Course Mechanics Association with some financial and technical help from GCSANJ.

Our meetings are held in the late fall, winter and early spring. We have had annual booths at both the Rutgers Field Day event and the state turf grass convention. We also work closely with the equipment sales companies and manufacturers, who have been kind enough to host some of our meetings. National service representatives from various companies have come and talked at our meetings. All of our meetings include a period of time allotted strictly to the sharing of ideas and hints on repairs,

with the hope that we can all become more productive at our jobs.

This year, while many of the golf courses shorthanded winter crews have been busy cleaning up the 30+ inches of snow, those mechanics not plowing have been working hard to prepare course equipment for the upcoming season. Somewhere in between the snow removal and the winter equipment service, we have managed to hold a few meetings.

At our January meeting we held our annual elections. Returning are **Robert Lay** of Mountain Ridge CC as president, **Gary Droz** of Ridgewood CC as vice president, **Wayne Frew** of Echo Lake CC as secretary and **Brian Coleman** of Upper Montclair CC as treasurer.

The dangerous road conditions, caused by one of the many snow storms that rolled through New Jersey, led to a low turnout for the meeting. This, though, is not the only thing affecting meeting attendance. Many superintendents,

Continued on page 13



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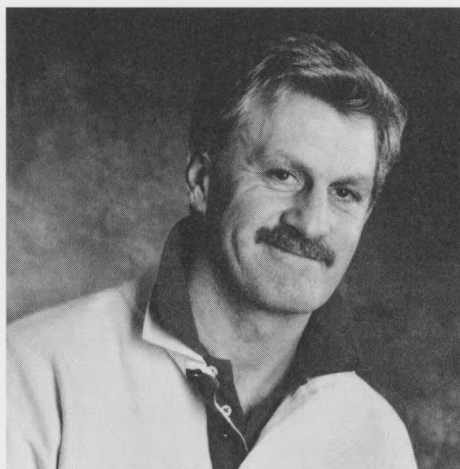
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*Tim McAvoy, Superintendent,
Fox Hollow Golf Club, Somerville, New Jersey*

IN NEW JERSEY'S "BROWN PATCH ALLEY... I'VE HAD GREAT SUCCESS WITH DACONIL 2787®."

"This part of New Jersey might be called 'Brown Patch Alley,'" exclaims Tim McAvoy, certified golf course superintendent at Fox Hollow Golf Club in Somerville, NJ. "The terrain, the soil, and the grasses we grow seem to make us more susceptible." Fortunately, Tim has found that Daconil 2787® Flowable Fungicide from ISK Biosciences Corporation "has a great ability to stop Brown patch every time."

Stops Dollar spot, too!

Fox Hollow's greens are bentgrass, Tim says, "and unfortunately, *Poa annua*." Recently renovated tees are 100% bentgrass, while the fairway grass is a combination of fescue, rye and *Poa*. That makes the fairways more susceptible, he believes, to Brown patch and Dollar spot.

"The fairways are where I use Daconil 2787 most," he says. "Starting in late June, I pretty much follow a 10- to 14-day preventive schedule for both diseases."

"We try to make good use of all the products and cultural practices available to us," Tim adds. "We use a slow-release urea-type fertilizer in the spring and then little or no nitrogen until September. We watch the water so we're not exceptionally wet, and we dethatch and do some other things to keep the microclimate as cool as possible when the turf is under the most stress."

Tank mixing saves time.

Besides great Brown patch and Dollar spot control, superintendents get still another important benefit from Daconil 2787: "The flowable formulation is compatible with so many other products," says Tim, "I can tank-mix and knock out two or three diseases. With so much acreage, tank mixing really helps me stay within my personnel budget."

And with Daconil 2787 as the cornerstone of Tim's disease-control program, he doesn't have to worry about disease resistance, either: "As far as Daconil 2787 is concerned, I don't think there's ever been a documented case of resistance. I've always had great success with Daconil 2787."

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"Islands in the Sun": A welcome relief this winter

by Ken Krausz

Islands in the sun was the theme for this year's Flower Show in Philadelphia. In between storms 8 and 9 or some other snow events, I had the opportunity to attend this mecca of flowers and warmth. I was not able to attend the New Jersey show so when the opportunity to go to Philadelphia came up I jumped at the chance.

The trip was two hours each way, and the parking was a pain. I finally got inside, and the place was packed. I could hardly move around, there were so many people. My only choice was to find a quiet corner and start seeing the exhibits. My plan worked; within ten minutes of seeing and smelling all those plants my head was in the right place, everything was calm, and I hardly noticed all the people around me. There were all kinds of "island theme" settings along with fantastic specimen plants and pictures made

from plant materials. I could go on and on about the experience but you will be reading this with the spring season upon us, so it will lose some of the atmosphere that it had in the middle of this past winter.

I saw one piece of equipment that caught my fancy. "The Weed Eater Robotic Solar Mower" is a solar powered lawn mower that, if left outside, will cut your lawn all day long. There was a sensor wire buried in the perimeter of this lawn, and when the mower got to it, it turned around and started cutting in another direction. The mower may not cut straight lines but is advertised to cut up to a 13,500 square-foot lawn.

If you have the chance to attend one of the flower shows next winter, go and enjoy; if you can get past the crowds you should have a great day, and, who knows, maybe next there will be a snow-powered paddle tennis court cleaner.



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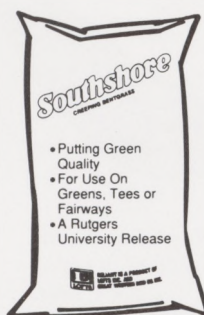
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Celebrating a century

by Ilona Gray

A centennial is a great opportunity to showcase a course. It brings a lot of additional publicity and fosters a natural inclination to make the course as attractive as it can be. The superintendent facing that challenge is **Michael Vacchiano** of the Glen Ridge Country Club. Mike recently told *The Greenside* about the activities and projects that are underway to help make the 100th anniversary of the club a great success.

A float designed to look like a golf hole will be part of the Bloomfield Memorial Day Parade. A picnic at the club will top the day. In June, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra will tune up and perform on the first fairway on the course. Also in the works is a costumed tournament with half the participants women and the other half men, dressed in golf garb styles of 100 years ago. Mike did not say whether he and his wife Susie will be participants or observers in this tournament, but it should be a real photo opportunity.

A formal dinner dance will be held this November. A leather bound book on the history of the club is expected to be completed that month as well. To mark the end of the centennial year and start the next century, the club will bury a time capsule on New Year's Eve. Mike tells us that a copy of *The Greenside* will be included in the capsule.

There are big plans afoot for the course as well. With a budget of over half a million dollars and 12 employees for the summer, the course will be undergoing a general beautification program. An automated dual row irrigation system will be a welcomed new feature on the course.

Mike has been working on New Jersey golf courses since 1980. He started out in golf course maintenance at the age of 16 at Quail Ridge Golf World in Wall, NJ. He moved up to the position of foreman at Hollywood GC in

Deal and to the position of Assistant Golf Course Superintendent at both Essex Fells CC and Alpine CC before coming to Glen Ridge CC.



A scene from Glen Ridge Country Club, which will be celebrating 100 years with festivities throughout the rest of 1994.



Michael Vacchiano, golf course superintendent at Glen Ridge Country Club.

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GCSAA NEWS

NEW JERSEY SUPERINTENDENT RECEIVES GCSAA CERTIFICATION

Earle Edward Casteen, superintendent of Forge Pond Golf Club, has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

Casteen has been superintendent of the Brick, NJ, course since 1987. He lives at 205 Neptune Drive, Manahawkin.

To become certified, a candidate must have five years experience as a golf course superintendent, be employed in that capacity and meet specific educational requirements of college credit or continuing education units. The candidate must then pass a rigorous six-hour examination covering knowledge of GCSAA and its certification program; the rules of golf; turfgrass management; pest management, safety and compliance; and financial and organizational

management. Also, an on-site inspection of Casteen's golf course operation was conducted by two currently certified superintendents: **Alan S. Beck, CGCS**, of Linwood Country Club, Linwood, and **Patrick A. Wall, CGCS**, of Cedar Creek Golf Club, Bayville. ♪

NEW CLASSIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

At the 1994 annual meeting during the recent Dallas conference and show, the GCSAA membership voted on and approved changes in the requirements for some GCSAA classifications.

The new requirements reserve the Class B membership for golf course superintendents with less than three years experience. The Class C membership is reserved for all assistant golf course superintendents. Note that the new bylaws give voting privileges to Class A, B and C members (and appropriate retired classes), which entitle them to a gold membership card.

As a result of the new bylaws, you may see a classification change during the processing of your dues payment. If a classification change is appropriate, it will be reflected on your 94-95 membership card. ♪

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The "Reel" world

Continued from page 9

while supportive of the organization, do nothing to encourage their mechanics' involvement in our meetings.

I would like to remind everyone that our association is dedicated to education and communication in our field. With the diversity of equipment, advances in product technology and tighter budgets; the need to pass along time and money saving information has never been so important.

So please encourage your mechanics to join our association and attend some of our meetings. Everyone has something to learn and something to share. For information on joining, talk to any of the people mentioned above.

In future columns we will attempt to pass along some helpful technical hints. Watch for them!

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(It's about time.)

The truth leaks out

by Steve Malikowski, CGCS
Certified Good Camera Shooter

I'd like to begin this article with a question that is probably being asked by many golf course superintendents. What is the main similarity between the Pentagon and the GCSAA Trade Show? A camera is not allowed inside either of these places. Well EXCUUUUUSE ME!!

I didn't realize that taking pictures of friends I have not seen for a long while was a national security risk. I was not aware that photographing the largest golf equipment trade show in the world (the one my employer paid for and sent me to) was against the law. How do I explain to my boss that he can't see the equipment that he just spent \$100,000 for until it is delivered. I guess I'm supposed to say trust me, Bob, you hired me to make these decisions.

Just a few days ago I was speaking with Ilona Gray on the phone, and a commercial representative (that's the politically correct way of saying salesman) popped into my office and overheard me discussing this issue with her.

Well, let me tell you, his eyes just about bugged out of his head in anticipation of telling me his reason why cameras are not allowed.

When I got off the phone he told me that he has personally seen people of what I'll call a different heritage actually taking pictures of our American equipment so they can bring them back to their country so their engineers can use these pictures to duplicate our national secrets. Yes, he has actually seen these KAOS agents drop little mirrors on the floor under a Ransomes 5000 Triplex to inconspicuously view the underside of the machine. My gosh, what's next? I hear from CONTROL Headquarters that they might even stoop so far as to actually buy one of these American pieces of equipment to use as a model to build their own.

Well, that's just one reason. Want to hear another one? Well, the commercial people at the show usually tell their spouses that they really don't enjoy the trade show. In fact they only do it because they have to, and that it is really a chore to have to set all this stuff up and then stand around and have to actually talk to superintendents about it.

A camera, well don't you dare. If you want to bring home a picture, you can pick up a piece of literature to bring home. (Let me stress the prefix liter in LITERature at this point.) Well, I asked for some LITERature, and I was told they just happened to be out of it. I guess there must have been a flock of people who wanted to bring home pictures of a flail mower this year, and I got there too late.

They were all gone. (I was there 2 hours after the opening of the trade show.) I said, "That's okay, just tell me about the verticut kit for this flail unit." "Well, I just started with the company, and I didn't know you could verticut with this thing." I said, "Okay, just direct me to someone who can give me the information I need." Now he tells me, "Can you come back in about an hour because the guy that has

the info you need is having lunch with the Hooters Girls right now." He can have lunch with them because his wife won't see any pictures. And he'll

tell his wife how he had to take some superintendents to dinner. Well, I guess I'll see the flail mower when it gets delivered to my course.

Maybe I'll go get some information on this new chemical for my greens I've been hearing so much about. So I get into this large line of people I think are trying to speak with

Continued on page 17

What is the main similarity between the Pentagon and the GCSAA Trade Show? A camera is not allowed inside either of these places. Well EXCUUUUUSE ME!!

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X marks the spot

by Ed Walsh, CGCS

The one thing I am finding out about middle age is that a lot of things I did when I was younger are starting to return to my way of life. One of those things is my hair cuts.

When I was a kid I would go to the local barber who seemed, at the time, to be about a hundred and fifty years old, use hedge shears to trim my hair and a comb that resembled a bunker rake. Now I went to this guy until I was fifteen or sixteen or somewhere around the time I started to pay for my own hair cuts.

During the middle-teenage years you started to be aware of how you looked and, more importantly, how you thought girls thought you looked. It was at that time that I started to go a beauty salon to get my hair cuts. All my friends were going to the same salon, and we all got flat-top hair cuts, which were the in-thing in the early sixties, especially if you were an athlete.

Now that was about thirty years ago, and I went to a salon for all the time between now and then until my last few hair cuts. I needed to get a trim one afternoon and the salon I usually go to was closed, closed early I might mention. Because of the kind of weather we've had this winter my salon closed early a lot. It seemed that every time I needed a trim it snowed and my salon closed early or never opened at all.

It was after one of these failed attempts to get my hair cut and at a time when it was absolutely necessary that I looked neat and trim, that I gave the old barber a chance. Heck, he was the only place open at the time. After the second trim (I was pretty pleased with the first trim so I gave him a second chance), I started to realize that this guy does a pretty good job, stays open at times that are most convenient to my crazy schedule and costs \$8, which is less than half of what I had been paying at the salon (before the tip).


During the past thirty years you would never see me enter a barber shop, and I didn't know anybody who didn't have their hair cut at a beauty salon. As I look back, I really can't tell you why a barber shop was off limits, but I am certainly glad that my usual place was closed so often this winter and that I found out that the local barber does a very satisfactory job.

Now this story does have a moral, and I hope it makes some kind of sense. #1: Everybody has complained about

the winter but if it wasn't so bad I would never have found out that a barber can do a good job of cutting my hair. #2: A barber can save you a lot of money. #3: All barbers are not 150 years old (this one is about 79) and #4: The stuff barbers put on your hair, after they trim it, doesn't smell like perfume, and I really did hate leaving the salon and smelling like that.


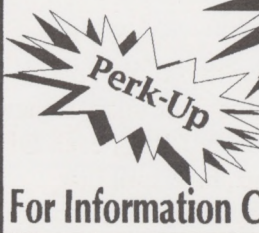

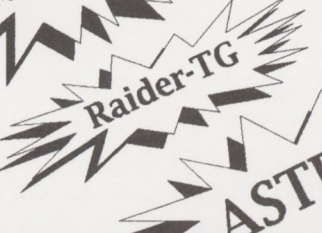


If anyone can understand why I wrote this column please let me know. Seems that every year when I return from the GCSAA Convention and Golf Championship I have to be De-Malikowskied. Which is another way of saying "being brought back from the beyond".

Just wanted to congratulate Ilona Gray for her GCSAA award winning efforts with *The Greenside* this past year. I know that Jim Gilligan and I always agree that Ilona produces a far better product than we did. Keep up the good work.



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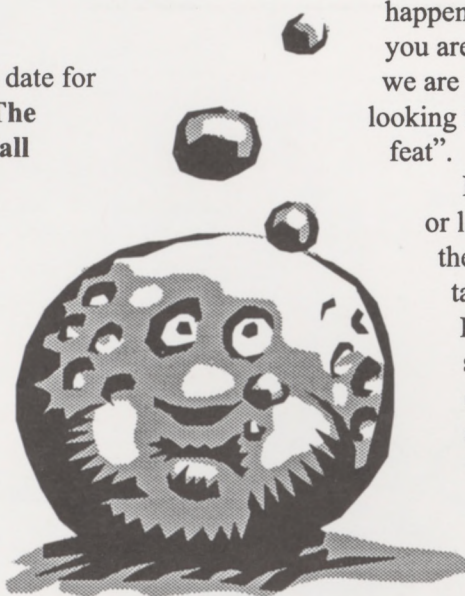
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Grudge match set for Club Championship

by Ken Krausz

"The Rules of Golf C.C." has set the date for the much awaited match between Jim "The Blind Man" Pelrine and Ken "Don't Call Me Sour" Krausz. Ed "101X" Walsh will be providing the trophy, which he states will look great in the winner's basement. This match is a result of my interpretation of the rules that Mr. Pelrine feels were not to his liking. Jim made the challenge in front of my peers, so I had no choice but to accept.

By now I'm sure you are all asking if the tickets for this event are sold out, and if there is some way you can attend this prestigious event. Well, you are in luck! The date is June 16, 1994, at Essex Fells C.C., which just so



happens to be the GCSANJ Monthly Event. If you are not able to attend, and we hope you can, we are in negotiation with ABC Sports as they are looking for new footage for "The Agony of Defeat".

Ed Walsh says, "I'm not sure if the winner or loser of the event will get the trophy, but there will be no rulings by the rules interpretation committee." Keep your ears open as Larry Dodge may need help roping and staking for crowd control or filling in the divots on June 17. Well, I have to go now as my informants tell me that Jim was spotted on the practice tee, and I have no choice but to at least buy a bucket of balls. Jim and I, along with the entire staff at "The Rules of Golf C.C.", look forward to seeing you then.

Remember:

WEAR YOUR HARDHATS.

The truth leaks out

Continued from page 15

another commercial representative, but as it turns out he's at lunch with the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders and for that info you'll have to come back. Boy, these Comm Reps have it tough! The line was for autographs of the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders.

Now I move on. I pass a cardboard cutout of Nancy Lopez, full size mind you, and the info states the hours she will be there for autographs. The same with Ben Crenshaw, Mike Hill and countless other famous people that I in the past had my picture taken with. But not any more because cameras are not allowed for security reasons or some other stupid reason.

Well, quoting a famous sailor, I'll say this. "I've taken all I can stands till I can't stands no more." Anyone who wants pictures of the trade show or anyone at the trade show should be with me at the next one in San Francisco. I am not only taking my camera to take pictures, I'm also bringing my camcorder, and I want to invite anyone who wants some interesting shots, to stick with me. You may get a picture of me being dragged off the trade show floor by GCSAA Secret Service Camera Police. I'll bet even Ed Walsh thinks that is funny. No cameras, huh, well just watch me. Stay tuned, like Paul Harvey says, for the "rest of the story."



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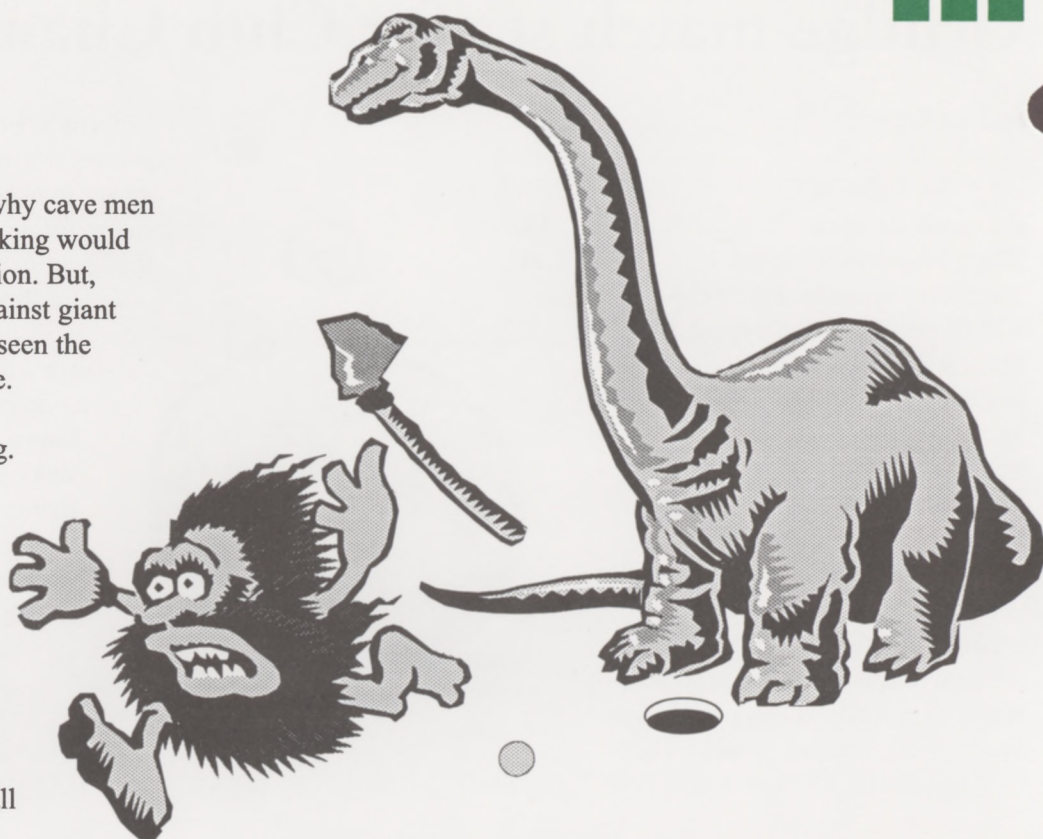
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Jurassic golf

by Dr. Bob

I've been wondering a lot about why cave men carried clubs. Conventional thinking would argue that it was for self protection. But, really, what good would a club be against giant creatures with claws and fangs? I've seen the movies. Take King Kong for example. None of the natives on Kong Island would have dare tried to club the king. Gas grenades and biplanes with machine guns barely managed to bring him down.

The best answer for why men would carry clubs is golf. We know it's an ancient game, but we really don't know just how ancient. If our ancient ancestors liked to travel through the fields in groups, why not in foursomes? If they were all



carrying clubs, why not knock a few balls around and see who would have the longest shot. Why not take aim and see who is closest to the target. Golf was probably invented long before we thought it was.

It's a small leap of faith to picture a Pleistocene glacier receding and leaving behind it a grassy meadow and a few stones. Men with clubs soon followed and the game was invented. Maybe the paintings on the caves in France should be re-examined for evidence of golf playing. I'd love to go and write about it.

How did the ancients keep score? We really don't know, but the need to keep score could have driven them to invent mathematics and writing. Needing rules for the game, the ancient ones could have invented the concept of law, complete with judges and a gallery for more informal decision making. You can't play the game naked and so clothing was probably invented along with early endorsements. Playing the game competitively forced greater and greater concentration on technological advances. Wooden clubs were upgraded to metal. Competition required more standard playing conditions, and formal courses were laid out and, of course, someone had to be responsible for them. This likely gave rise to the first superintendent.

These theories may sound pretty wild to some, but I know if I could just get a government grant (say for a million dollars or two), I could write about it for years to come. Maybe Spielberg would buy the movie rights?

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Pesticide effects on beneficial insects

by Deborah Smith-Fiola
Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Beneficial insects are those insect predators and parasites which naturally keep pest insect populations under control. These include lady beetles, Syrphid flies, lacewings, Trichogramma wasps, etc., in both adult and larval stages. Pesticide use, including insecticides, herbicides, acaricides and fungicides (in that order), can be highly toxic to beneficial insects. As a rule of thumb, predators (which consume insects) tend to be less susceptible than parasitoids (which lay eggs inside of insects) but their response is more variable.

The toxic dose of a pesticide is never the same for beneficials and pests. Highly toxic pesticides, which break down quickly may have less impact on beneficials than those with low toxicity yet a long residual. Pesticides may also decrease life span, fertility and/or mobility of beneficials.

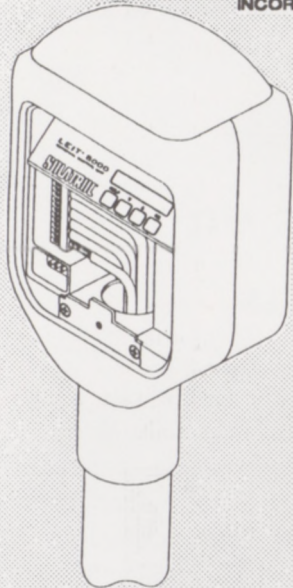
Entomological research on the use of beneficial insects to manage pest populations is the future of IPM programs.

Use the following tips when using pesticides to reduce mortality of beneficials:

- **Decrease pesticide application rates** - This allows the survival of low levels of the pest, a food source/prey to the beneficials.
- **Spot treat** - Spray only individual plants with a problem, rather than every single plant in an area. For example, if only one azalea in a row of ten has a lacebug problem, only spray that one azalea, not all ten. This allows beneficials to survive on non-treated plants and eventually move back to treated plants.
- **Use less sprayer pressure** - Sprays seldom reaching the interior of a plant allow beneficials an untreated area in which to take refuge.
- **Use granular, systemic products** - These tend to be less harmful to beneficials than foliar sprays.
- **Avoid general broad spectrum pesticides** - which kill all pests they hit including beneficials. Choose a specific product for a specific pest.

Continued on page 20

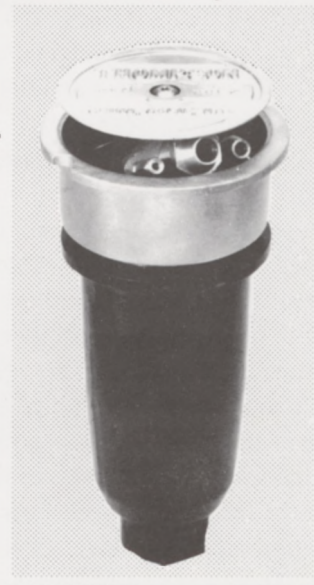
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Winter damage

by Bob Way, IPM Program Associate
Rutgers Cooperative Extension

No one needs to be reminded of how bad the winter was. It is evident in the landscape. Because of the severity of this past winter and the amounts of de-icing salts applied to roads and walks there has been a great deal of damage to landscapes all over the state. Foliage of broad leaved and needled evergreens as well as branches of deciduous trees and shrubs were blasted by drying winds. The damage is obvious all over, particularly where the plants are exposed to winter winds and baking sun. The foliage and branches give up water to the dry winter air and can not replace it because the water in the soil is frozen. This results in die-back of leaves and branches and, in some cases, whole plants.

The salts applied to roads, walks and parking lots have had their effects also. Trees and shrubs can be affected in several ways. If the foliage is sprayed by passing vehicles it may have a desiccated or burned look. The foliage will eventually die and fall off. If the salty water is absorbed by the soil around the roots, then the damage may create a nutritional problem. The salt will affect the roots' ability to take up water and nutrients. The salt can also affect soil quality, causing poor aeration and drainage. Turf around these areas may be dead or dying.

Much of the browning out of needles on the evergreens along the highways is from salt damage sustained this winter. As long as the buds on the branches are alive, those branches will recover this spring. But if the winter winds killed off the buds, those branches are dead.

If a planting bed right along a walk or parking lot was heavily dosed by salt and the soil is well drained, give it a good supply of fresh, salt free water to leach the salt out of it. When there are heavy rainfalls, the problem might take care of itself. In poorly drained soils salts tend to accumulate, so the potential for salt damage is increased in these types of soil. For future protection from salt damage where there is a problem, a shallow drainage ditch between the shrub bed and the salt source will help the contaminated water flow away from the root zone of the plants. To reduce the effects of salt where it cannot be leached out, an application of gypsum at a rate of 50 lb./1000 sq. ft., which is incorporated into the top six inches of the soil at the drip line of the tree or shrubs, can be helpful. (For more information on salt damage see RCE bulletin FS663.)

Trees and shrubs which went into the winter in healthy condition have a better chance of coming through the

winter with little or no damage. If, however, they were stressed before winter, the chance of winter injury is greatly increased. Presently, much of the current damage to leaves, needles and branches is due to the severe winter season, but there can be other causes of these symptoms. Be sure to give it all a close look to be sure of the cause. When winter injury is confirmed, check for the extent of damage. Scrape the bark to see if there is living tissue underneath before pruning out the branch. If there is green

under the bark the branch has life in it and may come back. If it is brown under the bark then it is dead. Also check the buds; if they are alive the branch will probably send out new

growth this season. If they are dead, there may not be any growth from that branch. Typical branch dieback from winter injury looks black or burned and is dry or brittle. Leaf and needle damage is brown or tan and may only affect a part of the leaf. The problem usually occurs on the side of the plant facing the prevailing winds, but the whole plant may be affected. When the extent of the damage has been determined, prune out all dead areas.

The chance of another winter like this past one happening again in the near future is probably slim, but we never know. Next winter, consider some sort of winter protection where the problem was most severe.

The chance of another winter like this past one happening again in the near future is probably slim, but we never know.

Pesticide effects on beneficial insects

Continued from page 19

- **Use biorational insecticides** - Soaps and oils, once dry, have a negligible effect on beneficials. Many beneficials fly when products are applied, then return safely since there is no residual. Soaps will not harm beetle larvae (e.g. lady beetles). Some pesticides are more toxic to beneficials than others. use the following list as a guide:

Highly toxic to beneficials: Diazinon, Dylox/Turcam, Dursban, Malathion, Orthene, Sevin, Talstar, Vydate.

Low toxicity to beneficials: Avid, Dimilin, Dipel, Di Syston, soaps, oils, Pentac, Mancozeb, Metasystox-R, Thiodan, Vendex.

(ref: Mizzell, Univ. Fla, Proc. So. Nurs. Assoc., 1991)

The common diseases of landscape turf



by Karen A. Plumley, Graduate Student, Plant Pathology

Richard J. Buckley, Coordinator, Plant Diagnostic Laboratory

Bruce B. Clarke, Ph.D., Extension Specialist in Plant Pathology

DISEASE	SYMPTOMS/SIGNS	HOST	SEASON	BEST MANAGEMENT
RED THREAD	Small, water-soaked patches. Antler-like sclerotia on leaf tips.	bluegrass ryegrass fescues	early spring to late fall	Avoid low nitrogen, excess thatch and drought stress.
LEAF SPOT & MELTING OUT	Oval, purple leaf spots. General thinning and yellowing.	bluegrass ryegrass fescues	early spring to late fall	Avoid high nitrogen, leaf wetness and low mowing. Use resistant cultivars.
POWDERY MILDEW	White powdery spore masses on leaf blades.	bluegrass fescues	spring to fall	Avoid high nitrogen and low mowing. Use shade-tolerant cultivars.

Continued on page 22



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Common diseases of landscape turf



DISEASE	SYMPTOMS/SIGNS	HOST	SEASON	BEST MANAGEMENT
NECROTIC RING SPOT	Rings of dead turf with green, healthy turf (or weeds in the center. Root and crown rot.	bluegrass fine fescues	spring and fall	Avoid high nitrogen and drought stress. Overseed with ryegrass or tall fescue.
DOLLAR SPOT	2-3" patches. Hour-glass leaf lesions with bleached centers and dark borders.	bluegrass ryegrass fescues	late spring to fall	Avoid low nitrogen, low mowing, thatch, leaf wetness and drought stress.
SLIME MOLDS	White, gray, brown, red or yellow slime-like blobs of spores on leaf blades.	bluegrass ryegrass fescues	late spring to fall	Remove spore masses by washing or raking. Control thatch.
BROWN PATCH	1" to 3" patches of thinning turf. Tan leaf lesion tall with dark border.	ryegrass fescues	summer	Avoid high nitrogen, leaf wetness and excess thatch.
SUMMER PATCH	Rings of dead turf with green, healthy turf (or weeds) in the center. Root rot.	bluegrass fine fescues	summer	Avoid high nitrogen, wet soil, compaction and low mowing. Use resistant cultivars.
PYTHIUM BLIGHT	Rapid, greasy collapse of leaves. Cottony mycelium.	bluegrass ryegrass fescues	summer	Avoid high nitrogen, leaf wetness and thatch. Improve drainage.
FAIRY RINGS	Dark green rings 1-20'. Rings of mushrooms. Rings of dead turf.	bluegrass ryegrass fescues	fall summer spring	Avoid thatch and drought stress. Fertilize and rake mushrooms to mask.
RUST	Orange spore masses on leaf blades. General thinning and yellowing of turf.	bluegrass ryegrass fescues	fall spring	Avoid low nitrogen and leaf wetness. Use resistant cultivars.
STRIPE SMUT	Black masses of spores on shredded leaves. General thinning.	bluegrass	fall spring	Avoid high nitrogen. Use resistant cultivars.
PINK SNOW MOLD	1-5" patches of bronze turf. Gray to pink mycelial mass.	bluegrass ryegrass fescues	late fall to spring	Avoid high nitrogen and thatch. Remove leaves and mow late into fall.

NGF unveils new guidebook for planning golf events

A new and improved edition of *Planning and Conducting Competitive Golf Events*, one of the National Golf Foundation's (NGF) long-time best sellers, is now available. Last revised in 1988, it has sold over 15,000 copies since first being introduced.

The new edition has been updated to reflect, among other things, changes in the USGA's Rules of Golf and handicapping system. At 96 pages, it's nearly double the size of its predecessor.

Other features include:

- A complete set of sample sign-up sheets and score sheets for stroke and match play events;
- A sample contract for securing a golf course for tournament play or golf outings;
- A guideline sample of an actual set of bylaws and standing rules for a golf association;

- A new three-ring pocket binder cover that allows all the new sample forms to be removed and copied.

The new edition contains descriptions of more than 90 different event formats; from individual to team events, junior to senior events and from one-day to season-long competitions.

"It also takes the reader beyond the local club level event into regional and state competitions," says Martin Becker, NGF's director of Membership Services. "It's a complete guide that covers the gamut . . . from promotion to the breaking of ties and even the awards ceremony. It's ideal for anyone responsible for tournaments."

Those interested in receiving more information or wishing to purchase a copy can do so through NGF Member Services at (800) 733-6006. Price: \$25 for NGF members; \$35 for non-members, plus shipping and handling.

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Pesticide control program

by Ron Meyer, Research Scientist
DEPE-Pesticide Control Program
Pesticide Evaluation & Monitoring Unit

There has been an increased interest in pesticides over the past few years. Concerns over the quality of the food supply, possible contamination of both ground water and surface water by pesticide residues and potential harmful impact on wildlife have fueled many lively discussions. Federal and state agencies charged with regulating pesticide use have access to the vast amount of information and testing results required for registration of a pesticide product in the United States under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). Unfortunately, the information required under FIFRA does not always provide a simple or straight forward answer to these concerns. In those situations, additional



information is often required.

Due to concerns raised by a number of citizens of Long Beach Island (including the Alliance for a Living Ocean), a project has been initiated by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy (DEPE), Pesticide Control Program (PCP). Under both the federal and state laws which regulate pesticides, in order to consider any restriction on the sale or use of a pesticide, the scope of the potential impact must be defined and evaluated scientifically. Without a demonstration of risk to the environment, limitations could not be put into effect. This project will examine the pesticides used in lawn and turf pest control on Long Beach Island. The goal is to determine whether or not pesticides employed for weed control are behaving as expected in this particular setting. Soil and water samples from a variety of locations on the island will be analyzed

using analytical methods developed by Rutgers University and comparing the results with predictions of behavior from available information and computer modeling systems by staff of the PCP Pesticide Evaluation & Monitoring Unit.

The project will be conducted in phases over the next year. The first phase involves the analysis of Barnegat Bay water at sites where runoff from pesticide treated areas is likely. These samples are being obtained by Long Beach Township Beach Patrol staff during the course of their weekly water quality sampling.

The second phase involves the installation of monitoring wells at various locations on Long Beach Island by the DEPE, New Jersey Geological Survey. This was accom-

Continued on page 25

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Pesticide control

Continued from page 24

plished by October 1993. These wells penetrate the upper water table. After the wells have stabilized, samples of ground water, along with representative soil samples, will be obtained by PCP personnel to establish a baseline level over the "non-application season". Homeowners will be given a "log" to enter information regarding the application made to the monitoring site. Samples will be obtained by PCP personnel from the various monitoring wells from April through October 1994. Ground water samples will probably be taken on a routine schedule yet to be determined (based on personnel, resources and funding). As with bay samples, sampling will be directed to follow rainfall events. Soil samples at the various sites will be obtained throughout the monitoring period on an irregular basis.

Analytical results from samples obtained, along with the logs maintained by the homeowners, will be assembled by PCP Pesticide Evaluation & Monitoring Unit. The data will be evaluated and compared to information on compounds identified, obtained from federal and state sources,

manufacturer submissions and the scientific literature. Based on this evaluation, recommendations will be made to the Pesticide Control Program. These recommendations could range from the necessity for a more extensive study to modifying the use patterns for certain pesticides to the continuation of the present situation.

Studies such as this have the potential for providing specific information on locations deemed vulnerable to pesticide impact, such as ground water and wetlands. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the federal agency which regulates pesticides, has begun efforts to determine whether local conditions of use and ground water vulnerability warrant restrictions and limitations on the use of specific pesticides. The study on Long Beach Island may provide a first step in making local conditions a major consideration for use modifications.

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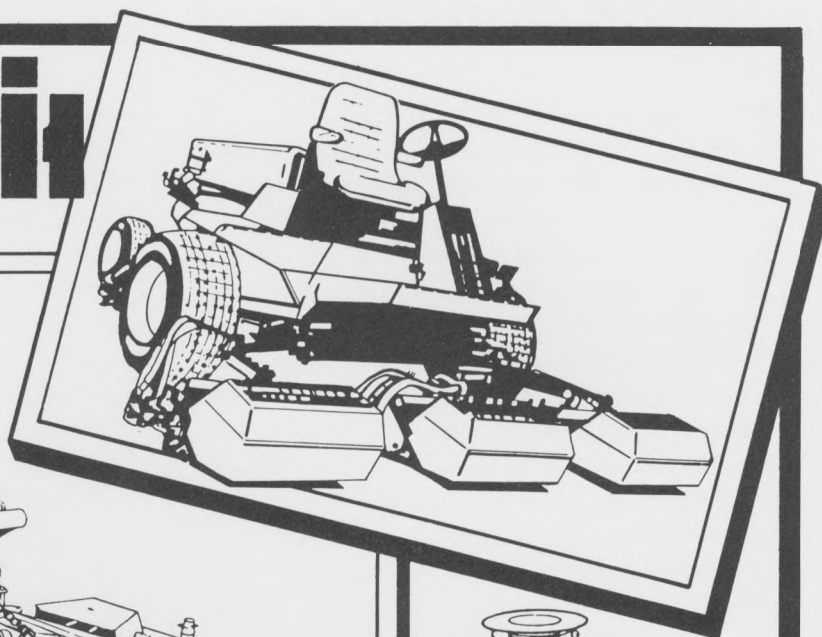
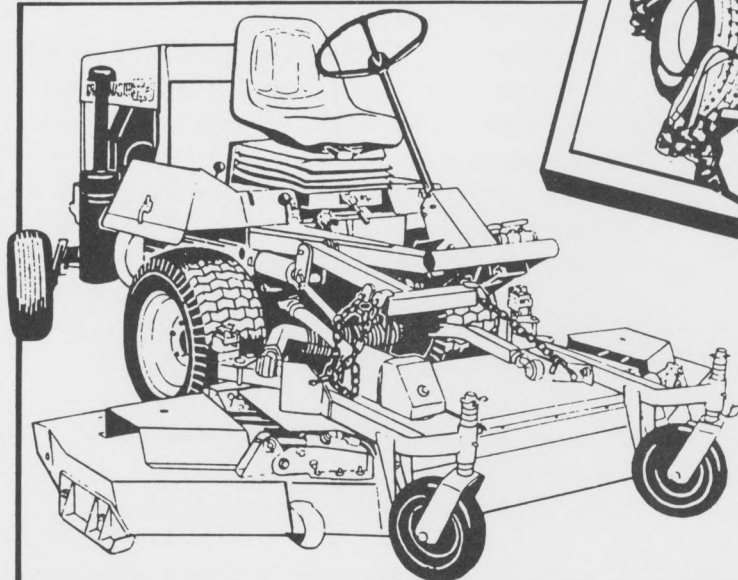
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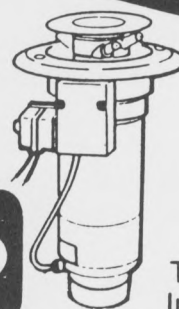
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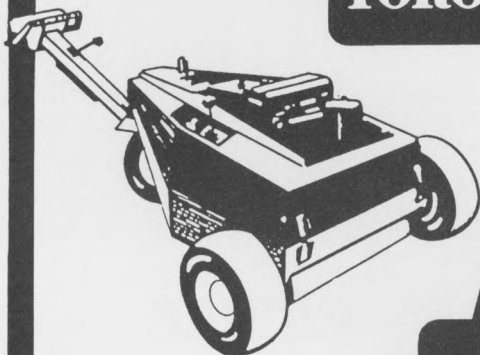


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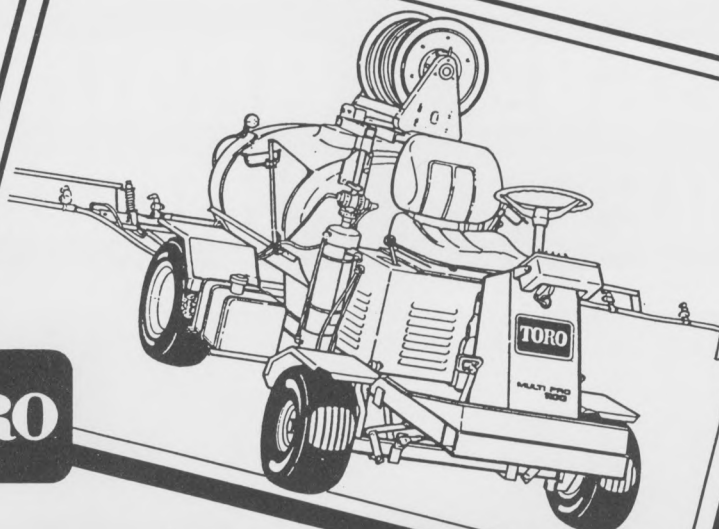
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Words that may later haunt you

by Mary Reid, an attorney at a Cleveland law firm.

You suspect an employee has been stealing and you fire him. Then, as a warning to other employees, you post a notice on the company bulletin board stating that the employee has been terminated for theft of company property.

You may have achieved your goal—to discourage similar behavior by other employees. But you've also just opened the door to a potential lawsuit. A Dallas man recently won a \$15.5 million judgment against Procter &

Gamble for just such an offense. Don Hagerty sued Procter & Gamble for defamation of character, claiming that he had never been tried and convicted of theft and that no proof existed to substantiate the theft claim. He successfully argued that his ex-employer was responsible for destroying his reputation and causing him to be turned down for the 100 jobs he subsequently sought.

An isolated case? Not at all. The number of defamation suits filed by terminated employees against ex-employers is growing. Between January and October of this year, U.S. courts decided about 60 defamation cases, with many others still pending. And while the \$15.5 million judgment in the Hagerty case is not representative of the average payment, the courts have demonstrated a propensity for awarding generous sums in similar cases of anywhere from \$32,000 to \$4 million.

Small businesses, in part because they often lack built-in safeguards and written policies for terminating employees, are frequent targets of defamation suits—suits that, in most cases, could have been averted had the employer taken the appropriate precautions before terminating the employee. Astute employers will avoid defamation suits by familiarizing themselves—and any employees who act in a supervisory capacity—with the law.

What is a defamatory statement? Generally, a defamatory statement is any statement deemed capable of damaging a person's reputation. Common examples of defamatory statements include:

- A statement criticizing an employee's job performance, specifically if it implies incompetence or inability to perform.
- A statement accusing an employee of a crime.
- A statement involving lack of integrity in the performance of employment duties (e.g., alcoholism, lack of ethics, dishonesty or untrustworthiness).

The number of defamation suits filed by terminated employees against ex-employers is growing.

A former employee suing for defamation must prove that the employer "published" the defamatory statement. Publication means that the employer disclosed the defamatory statement to a third party, either directly or indirectly through other employees. Disclosure may be verbal or written. Defamation suits frequently stem from comments made by an ex-employer to a prospective em-

ployer within the context of giving references.

Once publication has been proved, the employee must show that the allegedly defamatory statement was indeed false, and that

publication of the statement caused injury to the employee's reputation. In many instances, damage to reputation is proved by demonstrating that the employee was held in lower esteem by others who heard or read the defamatory statement, as a direct consequence of having heard or read the statement.

It is important to note that statements of pure opinion

Continued on page 28

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Words that may haunt you

Continued from page 27

are generally protected under the law. In such cases, the employer must demonstrate that he or she was merely expressing an opinion, rather than asserting a fact. However, to be safe, employers should avoid expressing—and discourage others from expressing—negative opinions of co-workers in the workplace.

Employers should take steps to protect themselves against potential defamation suits when terminating an employee. These suggestions may be helpful:

- Avoid giving references to prospective employers, either verbally or in writing. Do so only with the written consent of the ex-employee—and even then, refrain from offering any information other than dates of employment and position held.
- Be absolutely certain about the “factual” circumstances when discharging an employee. This may be accomplished by conducting a complete investigation. When appropriate, consult employment and labor law authorities before launching such an investigation.
- Be certain personnel files contain only that which can

be substantiated.

- Restrict the number of people informed of the particulars behind an employee’s termination to only those who absolutely need to know. This not only lessens the impact of an employee’s defamation claim, but also demonstrates good faith and professionalism.
- Do not make an example of a fired employee. Allowing information concerning the termination of an employee to filter into the workplace may indirectly discourage behavior similar to that of the terminated employee. However, if the ex-employee can prove that his or her ex-employer was the source of such information, the ex-employee may have grounds to file a defamation suit.
- If it is absolutely necessary to make an example of someone, be exceptionally cautious in how such an announcement is phrased. Before accusing an employee of serious wrongdoing, be certain you know all the facts—and can prove them.

Reprinted from the 12/20/93 issue of the Wall Street Journal.

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Back Nine



UNDERSTANDING WINTER DAMAGE

A new video produced by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey has been made available. "Understanding Winter Damage" runs for just under 30 minutes and costs \$15.00. Tom Grimaldi, superintendent at Tavistock C.C. and Marty Mantell, superintendent at Rancocas G.C., are credited with putting it together. Those interested in obtaining a copy should contact Judy Policastro at GCSANJ Headquarters, (201) 379-1100.

A ROSE IS A ROSE EXCEPT WHEN IT'S NOT

Names can be so misleading. Purple finches are red; Bald Eagles are not bald; the 100 Years War took a lot longer than that; the Red Sea is blue most of the time; two-sided floppy discs are rigid and can only go into the computer one way; rye bread is mostly wheat flour and whole wheat bread is made from ground flour; Internal Revenue Service taxes money you earn outside the US; thermometers don't measure therms, but degrees; and Panama hats are made in Ecuador.

NEW EXTENSION LITERATURE

The following new fact sheets (FS) are available at your county cooperative extension office: *Managing Soil pH for Turfgrasses* (FS 633); *Thatch Management in Turf*

(FS 740); and *NJ Seed Standards for Sod Certification* (FS 738).

NEW NJ DEPE COMMISSIONER

Bob Shinn of Burlington County is now the new DEPE Commissioner. He has been an advocate of farmland preservation in New Jersey and views himself as a "hybrid between a businessman and an environmentalist". The former Acting Commissioner, Jeanne Fox, has moved to the US EPA as Regional Administrator for New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

1993 GOLF WINNERS

US Open—Lee Janzen; PGA Championship—Paul Azinger; Masters Golf Tournament—Bernard Langer; British Open—Greg Norman; and US Women's Open—Lauri Merten. Most money earned by a male player in a single 1993 Professional Golf Tournament: Nick Price at the Tournament Players Championship in Ponte Vedra, FL—\$450,000. In women's golf, the single highest payment was made to Kristi Albers—\$180,000—at the Sprint Classic in Tallahassee, FL. In New Jersey the big bucks went to Lee Janzen, \$290,000, for the US Open and to Shelley Hamlin, \$67,000, at the Shop Rite Classic at Somers Point, NJ.

ADMINISTERIUM

A new quasi atomic element was recently reported in the *Journal of Irreproducible Results* as heard by this writer on a WCBS News 88 Radio announcement. The element, unlike all other known materials, has no electrons and no protons. Its atomic nucleus has only one neutron. It is surrounded, however, by four Assistant Neutrons, which are in turn orbited by 40 Deputy Assistant Neutrons. There is little else known about the new element except that it has the remarkable effect of slowing down every process or project in which it comes in contact. The element is distributed throughout the planet, but appears most concentrated in capital cities. It is reported to have a half life of three years, after which it re-organizes.

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GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTS

Registrant voluntarily cancels last of mercury pesticides used on golf courses

The Environmental Protection Agency has canceled the registration of the mercury-based pesticides Calo-Clor and Calo-Gran as voluntarily requested by the registrant, Grace Sierra Crop Protection Co. of Milpitas, California.

Both Calo-Clor and Calo-Gran contain two active ingredients, mercuric chloride and mercurous chloride, at different percentages.

They have been used on golf course turf and greens to control the fungi Pink Snow Mold and Grey Snow Mold. About 21,000 combined pounds of these two pesticides are used annually.

These two products are the last mercury-based pesticides registered for use in the United States.

The cancellation was effective November 1. Under terms of the action, Grace Sierra Crop Protection Co. may sell and distribute until June 24, 1994, products that had been labeled for release or shipment on or before June 25, 1993. Retailers and other distributors may sell these prod-

ucts until their stocks are exhausted. Likewise, users may use these products until their supplies are depleted.

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Calendar

Continued from page 3

July 26-30 • USGA Junior Amateur Championship: Echo Lake C.C.; Superintendent, Chris Carson. Contact USGA, (908) 234-2300.

August 4-7 • MGA Amateur Championship: Hackensack G.C.; Superintendent, Richard Lane. Contact MGA, (914) 689-0390.

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