The USGA Green Section Record



August 20, 2010

Is It Time To Rebuild Your Greens?

Four factors that should influence your decision (8 minute video).

by James F. Moore, director

A harsh winter and a brutal summer have taken a toll on greens of all types. With many courses facing major replanting and extended down-time, this may be the best opportunity in years to accomplish more than simply growing the turf back. This video will help you decide if reconstruction is the best option for your course. Watch the video



A bad year on the greens might actually be a great opportunity to fix major construction problems.

If you would like more information on how to evaluate your greens

and on the reconstruction process, follow these links.

Green Section Recommendations For A Method Of Putting Green Construction

Helping Your Greens Make the Grade - A Report Card

Building The USGA Green: Tips For Success

Water Conservation For Everyone

by Patrick J. Gross, director

The southwestern part of the United State is working hard to conserve water. This video (length: 11 minutes) outlines some of the most effective steps you can take at your golf course, regardless of where it is located.

Watch the video



"History never looks like history when you are living through it." - George Santayana (1863 - 1952)

by the USGA Staff

Skipping essential cultivation and aeration programs has never been a good idea. (Be sure to read the North Central update in this issue.) The following paragraph first appeared in the USGA publication *Timely Turf Topics* in June 1944.

SCARIFICATION ADVISABLE BEFORE HOT WEATHER: Where curtailed maintenance programs involve less frequent and higher cutting of greens, the problem of mat formation on creeping bent and Bermuda



grass greens becomes increasingly serious. The accumulation of this mat of stolons and organic debris not only adversely affects the putting surface of the greens, but encourages severe disease attacks that are difficult to control, even when sufficient competent help is available for necessary frequent treatments with fungicides. Labor and time therefore may well be spent now in removing the mat before the unfavorable hot, humid conditions of midsummer.

On the other hand, it has always been a good idea to learn from those who have gone before us. One of the best to do this is to view past articles written in the *Green Section Record*. Every article since 1921 is available on-line in full text, including photos. Search for specific topics or browse full issues simply by *visiting this site*.

Regional Updates From Across The Country

Good advice and important news

2 - 4 - 6 - 8 We Don't Need To Cultivate

by Bob Vavrek, senior agronomist, North-Central Region

It's easy to blame the weather for bad greens this summer, but in my opinion it was just a matter of time before significant summer losses of turf were going to occur at some courses. These courses, for whatever reasons, have not made managing organic matter in the upper soil profile a priority. *Read this entire update*

The Heat Goes On!

by Darin S. Bevard, senior agronomist, Mid-Atlantic Region

In parts of the region, the oppressive summer heat is still hanging on and continuing to take its toll on cool-season putting greens. Bermudagrass, however, forges ahead. In our travels, we continue to see damaged turfgrass from the hot summer. Daylight hours are getting shorter, which helps the turfgrass by reducing the number of hours

the grass is under stress. It is time to implement programs to promote recovery, but be careful and be flexible. *Read on to find out more about these recovery programs*

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Visit the USGA Green Section Portal

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USGA Green Section P.O. Box 708 Far Hills, NJ 07931-0708 908.234.2300





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