USGA GREEN SECTION

Weekly Update



May 28, 2010

Behind the Scenes at the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach

An interesting and entertaining peek at what it takes to prepare a course for the U.S. Open

by Patrick Gross, USGA Green Section

With the U.S. Open just around the corner (June 17-20) the Pebble Beach Golf Links is a very busy place. To get an idea of what goes into preparing a site for a major championship sit back and listen to this 20 minute recorded webcast delivered by Pat Gross of the USGA Green Section.

Listen to this recorded webcast

Bermudagrass Disease Update

Recording of a webcast that took place on Thursday, May 27th, 2010

by the USGA Green Section

With bermudagrass across much of the country weakened by a hard winter, disease problems are likely to be more prevalent and more difficult to control. In this free USGA Green Section webcast, three prominent turfgrass pathologists delivered valuable updates on important diseases of bermudagrass and offered helpful programs for controlling these pathogens throughout the year. Speakers and their respective topics include:

Dr. Bruce Martin, Clemson University Professor of Turfgrass Pathology "Effective Fungicide Programs for Bermudagrass Putting Greens"

Dr. Lee Miller, University of Missouri Extension Turfgrass Pathologist "Managing Fairy Rings"

Dr. Phil Harmon, University of Florida Assistant Professor of Plant Pathology "Disease Trends in the Southeast"

You can listen to the recording of this webcst by clicking on the link below. No special software is required to view the recording.

Listen to this recorded webcast

The Calendar Says GO, But The Weather Says WHOA!

An Update from the Northwest Region

By **<u>Derf Soller</u>**, agronomist, Northwest Region



In travels to golf courses the past few weeks in CO, WY, MT, and UT, it has been d�j� vu all over again! Continuing cold, not just cool temperatures, have stalled winter recovery at almost every facility. The calendars at most courses are all the same -- large group outings are the norm, as are the spring kick-off events for many women's and men's associations. The problem is that the current conditions have

not allowed golf course superintendents to enjoy all the hard work they have put into the golf course this spring. Most courses have completed their spring aerations of the golf course, but it is the greens that golfers are watching most closely. Greens have been successfully core aerated, cleaned up, topdressed, overseeded , and fertilized. It has been a testing time for maintenance crews as they "hurry up and wait" for growth to begin.

Read the rest of this update

Are You Ready For Summer?

An Update from the Northeast Region

By **Jim Skorulski**, senior agronomist, Northeast Region

Winter Damage Update - A couple of days of hot and humid weather are welcomed this week, at least by those working to recover from winter damage. The periods of cooler, dry, and windy weather in April and May have been a challenge. Even with that said, the recovery efforts I have observed have made tremendous progress. It is easy to lose sight of where we are on the calendar, especially with the early start experienced this season. Areas that remain thin should be spike-seeded and topdressed. Use a hexagon plugger to repair the larger gaps that have not yet recovered. A soil probe can be used for plugging the smaller pock marks that remain. Hand-dress the pock-marked areas with a sand/peat/compost mix and seed to smooth those surfaces. Repeat the practice on a weekly basis until the surface is full.

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