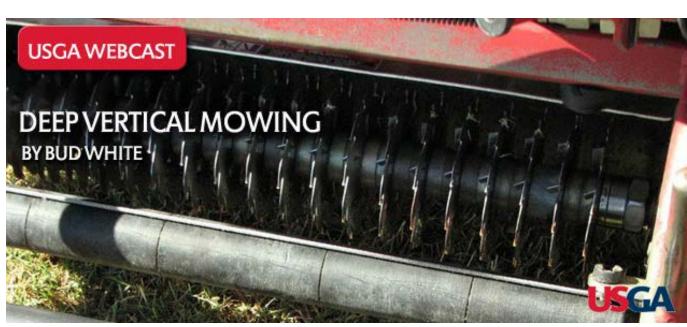


GREEN SECTION RECORD

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HOW TREES IMPACT USGA COURSE RATING™ AND SLOPE RATING®

TREE REMOVALS FOR AGRONOMIC PURPOSES ARE VERY UNLIKELY TO HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

beauty and challenge for players. Unfortunately, trees can make it very difficult to maintain a healthy, uniform stand of turf. Trees create shade, restrict air movement and compete with turf for water and nutrients in the soil. All of this can result in poor turf performance and undesirable course conditions when trees are located too close to playing areas. When investigating the underlying problems associated with poor turf performance, start by examining trees and their impact on growing environments. When turf suffers and playing conditions are compromised because of trees, golf facilities are wise to routinely remove problematic trees, especially those near the most important playing areas.

Trees are common features on golf courses adding aesthetic

Tree removal is often met with resistance from golfers despite obstacle value on this hole, but it is unlikely that the Course Rating and the negative impact trees have on turf. Golfers are often

Slope Rating will change dramatically if removed. concerned with how removing trees might impact the difficulty of a particular hole or the course in general. The phrase "we cannot remove that tree because the hole will become too easy" has been muttered often. This sentiment is highly subjective from a golfer standpoint, but understanding the USGA Course Rating System™ can provide some valuable insight for this concern.

NO-MOW ROUGH MANAGEMENT

CONVERTING MANAGED ROUGH TO UNMOWN TURF CAN REDUCE COSTS



A 50/50 mixture of sheep and hard fescue along the perimeter of a bunker can produce a look that accents the hazard without compromising the playability of turf in the surrounds.

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golf course roughs is nothing new, it really picked up momentum in the early 1980s with the increased use of fine fescues and native grasses. Native grasses are those that originated as a true native grass to each region, while fine fescues are those originating from other regions of the world and adapted to a given growing environment. These grasses can reduce, albeit not eliminate, maintenance costs for unmowed roughs. When the right turfgrass species and management structure are in place, the end result can produce a playing surface desired by both superintendents and Optimal growth for each species requires specific soil

While the concept of reducing maintenance inputs in

types and growing conditions. The first step is to test the soil for nutrients and pH. Once this information is reviewed, deficiencies can be corrected and specific grasses or forbs can be selected that have the ability to thrive at your course.

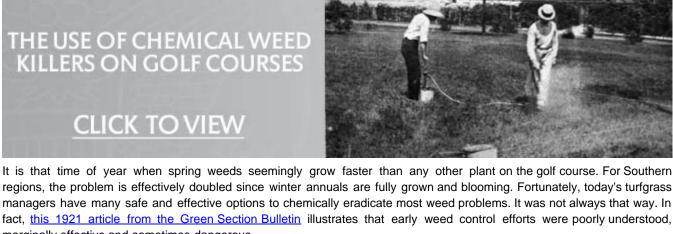


Spring is an extremely busy time for golf course maintenance personnel and there is likely to be more interaction

than usual between golfers and maintenance staff members. While staff members should always watch for golfers, some tasks require a lot of concentration and utilize noisy equipment. As a result, the staff member may not notice golfers waiting to play. Golfers should remember that hitting into someone (whether a worker or another golfer) is never justified. This video explains how a little patience can prevent serious injury and help improve your course.



an ecosystem. This study shows that properly managed golf courses are a good place for salamanders to call home.



narginally effective and sometimes dangerous. REGIONAL UPDATES

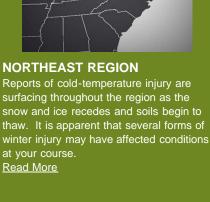


FROM THE ARCHIVES



regular regional updates outlining current issues and observations from the field.

Be sure to view updates from multiple regions as featured ideas, techniques and solutions to problems often apply to other parts of the country.



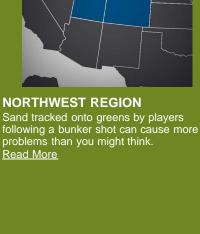
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MID-CONTINENT REGION As much of the lower Midwest remains in a significant drought, now is the time to take stock of your water. Read on for a list of questions that golf facilities should be asking themselves so that plans are in place before a potential summer drought event occurs. Read More











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