

REGIONAL UPDATES

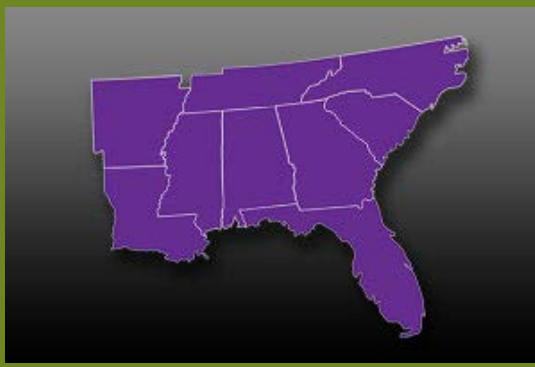
The USGA Green Section is divided into four regions staffed by agronomists who work with golf facilities on care of the golf course. USGA agronomists provide regular regional updates outlining current issues and observations from the field. Be sure to view updates from multiple regions as featured ideas, techniques and solutions to problems often apply to other parts of the country.



NORTHEAST REGION

Temperature fluctuations and open conditions are making for a white-knuckle ride this winter.

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SOUTHEAST REGION

Weather forecasters have predicted a strong El Niño. While many of us in the Southeast Region had hoped that the predictions were wrong, El Niño is here and is causing some concerns.

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WEST REGION

Golf leaders met at PGA West in advance of the CareerBuilder Challenge Tournament to discuss water, the economy and the positive contributions of golf in the Coachella Valley.

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CENTRAL REGION

Severe floods typically affect golf courses during spring, but winter floods can be particularly troublesome due to cold weather and the inability to use the irrigation system for cleanup. Fortunately, this simple tool can be modified to remove silt deposits from putting greens.

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2015 Green Section Record Compendium

To make it as easy as possible for you to enjoy and utilize the *Green Section Record*, all of the 2015 articles and multimedia products have been assembled into a single, easy-to-use 2015 USGA *Green Section Record* Compendium.

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Next Issue - February 5, 2016

At the ultra-low mowing heights commonly used on putting greens today, proper mower setup has never been more important. Fortunately, modern mowing equipment enables superintendents and equipment managers to manipulate myriad variables to achieve the greatest quality of cut and provide the best possible playing conditions. Learn more about the variables that affect mower performance, its impact on putting green playing quality and how you can manipulate it to best suit the needs of your golf course in the Feb. 5, 2016 issue of the USGA *Green Section Record*.

Steve Kammerer Joins USGA Green Section Staff



Steve Kammerer, Ph.D. has joined the USGA Green Section staff to coordinate efforts as the Regional Director of the Southeast Region, working with Patrick O'Brien and Todd Lowe. He replaces John Foy, who retired from the USGA staff Dec. 1, 2015, after 30 years as an agronomist for the Green Section.

A native of Xenia, Ohio, Steve received a B.S. from The Ohio State University and an M.S. in plant pathology from the University of Georgia. In 2011, he received a Ph.D. in plant pathology from the University of Florida. His research involved a two-year scouting program on golf courses to identify and quantify the susceptibility and pathogenicity of *Rhizoctonia* species as affected by temperature and salinity on seashore paspalum and bermudagrass. The results of his work have been helpful to many golf courses in the Southeast and have significantly contributed to the understanding and management of these diseases.

Steve began his career with ISK Biosciences in the early 1990s and, through a series of mergers and acquisitions, ended a 25-year career with Syngenta in 2015. His experience as a technical specialist and, most recently, as Syngenta's global technical manager for abiotic stress mitigation provided years of experience problem solving on golf courses and gaining a deep understanding of turf care products.

Steve brings with him a strong enthusiasm to share his knowledge with golf courses across the Southeast Region. He will soon establish an office in Atlanta. He can be reached at skammerer@usga.org.

More From The USGA Green Section



At Casa De Campo, Paspalum by the Seashore

Switching to salt-tolerant seashore paspalum has been a game-changer for playing conditions at Casa de Campo in the Dominican Republic. [View Now](#)



Video: Managing Trees on the Golf Course

The right tree in the right location can be a priceless asset to a golf course, but trees that adversely affect turfgrass health or playability are liabilities. Dave Oatis, regional director of the Northeast Region, provides a lesson in the history of trees, how they made it to golf courses, and why they must be managed carefully. [View Now](#)



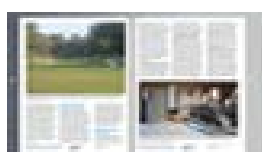
Latin America Amateur Championship: Cooperation Evolves From The Ground Up

Darin Bevard, director of championship agronomy for the USGA Green Section, worked closely with the superintendent at Casa de Campo to ensure proper playing conditions for last week's Latin America Amateur Championship. [View Now](#)



Best Management Practice Case Studies

Best Management Practices (BMPs) in golf course management are critical for the protection and efficient utilization of our most valuable resources. BMPs are broad principles. The golf course manager implements these concepts with specific actions pertinent to the golf course. The USGA highlights case studies from across the U.S. that showcase real-world solutions. [View Now](#)



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