



THE NEWSLETTER

May 2005

of the **Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, Inc.**

Sponsors and administrators of the Troll-Dickinson Scholarship Fund – Awarded yearly to deserving Turf Management Students.

Fifteen years after his radical career change, Karl Heintzelman takes a brief look back

By Gary Trask

MONTHLY FEATURE Karl Heintzelman has the perfect remedy for when he's having a bad day at the office. He simply takes a whiff of the fresh air and thinks back to the days before he got into the golf business. The days when he had to get out of bed and actually go to an office.

"I figure a bad day here is a heck of a lot better than a good day in the insurance business," says the head superintendent at Thomson Country Club in North Reading, Mass.

It was Heintzelman's disdain for your typical 9-to-5 job that drove him to life as a superintendent. After graduating from Gettysburg College with a business degree, the Bethesda, Md. native toiled as a branch manager at a bank and in a commercial training position at an insurance company. Sure, he was making a decent living for he and Lynn, his wife of two years at the time, but he didn't exactly come home every evening with a feeling of fulfillment.

"He was never a suit jacket and tie type of guy," Lynn confesses.

So with the full support of his wife, the 31-year-old Heintzelman decided it was time for a change. He had always loved golf and a friend of a friend that was a superintendent at a local club told him he should explore a job in the golf business. He cut his hours back at the insurance company to part-time and began taking classes towards a turf degree

"It's a scary feeling to go home and tell your wife that you're leaving a job that was supporting you to take a position that would pay \$7.50 an hour . . . There were times that I said to myself, 'What am I doing?'"

**Ken Heintzelman
Thomson C.C.**

at the University of Maryland while working on the grounds crew at Columbia Country Club in Chevy Chase, Md.

"It's a scary feeling to go home and tell your wife that you're leaving a job that was supporting you to take a position that would pay \$7.50 an hour," remembers Heintzelman, who is now 46. "But she was so supportive. There were times that I said to myself, 'What am I doing?' But she remained positive and kept telling me that everything would work out."

Two years later, Heintzelman left the desk job life behind for good when he

accepted the assistant superintendent position at Robert Trent Jones Golf Club in Virginia.

"It took a while, but about one year into that job I finally knew that I made the right decision," he says. "I actually enjoyed going to work, which is something I never experienced before."

After the Robert Trent Jones Golf Club hosted the PGA's President's Cup in 1994, Heintzelman was recommended by his boss for the head job at Ipswich Country Club, which was also owned by Club Corp at the time. The Heintzelmans, now with a daughter, Claire, in tow, relocated to New England. In 1999, he made the move to Thomson where, just by coincidence, his cousin Webb Heintzelman was and still is the head golf professional.

Webb and Karl knew each other growing up, but now they are much closer since they work together.

"We have a great relationship," Karl says. "Growing up, we probably only saw each other five or six times a year. It's ironic that we're both working at the same course doing something we both love very much. It's funny how things work out sometimes."

Looking back, Heintzelman is grateful that he made the career change and even more thankful that he ended up at Thomson C.C.

"The people here have been great to me," Heintzelman says of Thomson C.C., which is well known for its tight

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fairways and dicey greens. "I enjoy the fact that I'm able to set my own course and do what I think needs to be done in order to keep things in the condition that people have come to expect here.

"There's a great sense of satisfaction when you work hard and see the fruits of your labor shine through. People really appreciate your work. And that doesn't always happen when you're locked up in an office 40 hours a week." ■

"There's a great sense of satisfaction when you work hard and see the fruits of your labor shine through. People really appreciate your work."

**Ken Heintzelman
Thomson C.C.**

CALENDAR . . .

- June 16 **Scholarship & Benevolence Tournament**
The Country Club
Chestnut Hill, Mass.
Supt. - William Spence
- July 11 **GCSANE Monthly Meeting Team-of-Two Championship**
Gardner Municipal Golf Course
Gardner, Mass.
Supt. - Michael Hermanson
- August 23 **GCSANE Monthly Meeting Individual Championship**
Marlborough Country Club
(permanent yearly site)
Marlborough, Mass.
Supt. - Kenneth Crimmings, CGCS
- Sept. 19 **GCSANE Monthly Meeting Joint Meeting with Golf Course Managers of Association of Cape Cod**
Eastward Ho! Country Club
Chatham, Mass.
Supt. Emeritus - Brian Cowan
Supt. - Frank Hancock
- October 6 **GCSANE Monthly Meeting Joint Meeting with the Northeastern GCSA**
Berkshire Hills Country Club
Pittsfield, Mass.
Supt. - Stephen Curry
- Nov. 1 **GCSANE Monthly Meeting 9-Hole Meeting**
Wampatuck Country Club
Canton, Mass.
Supt. - Edward Eardley

**Dr. Joseph Troll
Turf Education Fund Raiser**

**October 20, 2005
Cape Cod National Golf Club
Brewster, Mass.**

Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS, Host

\$225/Player • \$900/Foursome • Scramble Format

Lunch at the course
Dinner to follow at the Wequasset Inn
(See the course and the inn at www.wequasset.com.)

**For more information call Steve Curry
at (413) 329-4912**

Put a special mark on your calendar for our annual S&B Tournament, says GCSANE president Hermanson

With the lousy weather we have experienced, it was quite impressive to see what great shape Segregansett Country Club was in for our first golf meeting of the year on April 25.



A special thanks goes to Rich Gagnon and everyone there for the great course, food, and hospitality. I'd also like to thank the folks from Allens Seed

Store, Inc. for providing the on-the-course refreshments. Everyone really appreciated this.

The May meeting is the Superintendent / Club Official Tournament at Worcester Country Club, and I will report on that in my next president's message.

June 16 brings a very special event to our calendar – the Annual Scholarship & Benevolence Tournament hosted this year by Bill Spence and The Country Club. This is one of our most important fund raising efforts, and we need your

help. If your course can donate a round of golf with carts for our raffle, please contact Dave Comee. Last year's tournament helped us award \$8,000 in

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

scholarships. Over the years thousands of dollars in benevolent aid has been distributed to our members. The S & B fund is available to all members, whether a superintendent, assistant, affiliate, or friend. All the monies raised that day go directly into the fund.

The S & B fund balance as of May 11, 2005 was \$113,012.52. Domestic stocks with a Four-Star Morningstar rating comprised 90.8% of our investment. The remaining 6.2% is invested in foreign stocks, bonds, and the money market. The S & B has done extremely well over the years and is invested in various Fidelity funds.

Another date to put on your calendar is October 20 for the Dr. Joseph Troll Turf Education Fundraiser hosted by GCSAA Past President Stephen G. Ca-

denelli, CGCS, at Cape Cod National Golf Club. Cape Cod National in October and Eastward Ho! in September. It doesn't get much better than that. Hopefully, by the time you read this, summer will have arrived.

**Best Wishes,
Michael J. Hermanson
President, GCSANE**

Another date to put on your calendar is October 20 for the Dr. Joseph Troll Turf Education Fundraiser hosted by GCSAA Past President Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS, at Cape Cod National Golf Club.

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Patrick Daly, CGCS, describes trustee slot after two years as Education Chairman

I was appointed to the position of Trustee for GCSANE at this year's annual meeting after serving for two years as Education Chairman.

I am involved primarily with Government Relations and Integrated Pest Management (IPM), and I am currently working with the Massachusetts Lawn Care Association on the Fertilizer Pre-emption Bill. I also have been working with the Mass Pesticide Bureau on Zone II or Interim Wellhead Protection compliance.

I have the ability to work with Chava McKeel at GCSAA, using the Advocacy group to create Action Alerts to send to our members so they may communicate with their elected officials.

My role is to be proactive on issues that are important to us and try to limit our exposure when it comes to regula-

tory issues. If there are any issues you would like me to look into, please feel free to drop me an e-mail or give me a call at the club.

I also serve as chairman of two other committees for GCSANE. I am taking over for Jim Fitzroy as Certification Attester for GCSAA, appointing other Certified Golf Course Superintendents to review the facilities of certification candidates. I have also helped out with the MGA as the GCSANE First Tee Liaison for their facility, MGA Links at Mamanatappett.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on the Board of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England and hope that I can continue to serve its members to the best of my abilities.

Pat Daly, CGCS

Expert UMass plant disease diagnostic team consolidates all services at Holdsworth Hall

The University of Massachusetts at Amherst recognizes the importance of reliable and prompt diagnosis of plant diseases for the turf, floriculture, vegetable,

UMASS NEWS

nursery, urban forestry, and landscape industries. To insure that we continue to provide the most reliable service, all of the plant diagnostics expertise will be integrated into one location in Holdsworth Hall. The diagnostics team will be able to call on each other's expertise to make fast and accurate diagnosis. "This is going to help us better serve Massachusetts growers and farmers," said Kathy Carroll, of UMass Extension.

The diagnostic team will be guided by Dr. Rob Wick, who will be returning to his involvement in turfgrass pathology. Dan Gillman, will continue to serve the urban forestry and nursery sectors, and Bess Dicklow has recently been hired to provide day-to-day diagnostic service for the vegetable, floriculture, and tur-

grass industries. She will also conduct plant pathology training at conferences and workshops.

Dr. Wick began his diagnostic career in 1975 during his M.S. program at the University of Connecticut. Moving onto Virginia Tech for his Ph.D., he was assigned a major role in diagnostics where

The UMass Extension Plant Diagnostic Lab is available to serve commercial landscape contractors, turf managers, arborists, nurseries, and other green industry professionals.

he worked with all crops from tobacco to apples. It was at Virginia Tech where Rob developed his interest in turfgrass pathology working under the tutelage of Dr. Houston Couch. After a stint on the faculty at Virginia Tech he decided to take a new opportunity back in his native New England at UMass. Dr. Wick continued to work in diagnostics and turfgrass diseases at UMass and eventually turned over turfgrass pathology to Dr. Gail Schumann. Gail quickly became a leading turfgrass pathologist while Rob complemented her activities with his turfgrass nematology expertise. Rob's return to turfgrass pathology will fill the gap left after Gail's departure.


Dan Gillman has coordinated the operation of the Landscape, Nursery, and Urban Forestry Diagnostic Lab in Amherst for eight years. He received his M.S. from the University of Minnesota in plant pathology in 1988 and then worked at the University of Minnesota Plant Disease Clinic for three years, answering questions and diagnosing woody ornamental and vegetable diseases/disorders. He then managed the statewide oak wilt and Dutch elm disease programs for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. He was at that position for over five years before coming to the UMass Extension Landscape, Nursery, and Urban Forestry Diagnostic Lab.

Continued on page 9

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Can a lawn grow without drugs? Grass-roots campaign to limit chemicals sparks debate among weed fighters

By Kay Lazar,
Boston Globe Correspondent

(Originally published May 1, 2005; reprinted by permission.)

Grass-roots campaigns to squeeze out pesticides and go organic are gaining ground along Boston's North Shore, joining a big-bucks battle over the greening of America's lawns.

Local leaders from Newburyport and Newbury recently teamed up to offer a

TURF SCIENCE workshop on chemical-free lawn care. The city of Gloucester sponsored a free "Protect Your Family From Toxins" forum with medical and organic experts. Manchester-by-the-Sea's annual town report, mailed to all residents in March, included a pamphlet detailing "Simple Ways To Grow a Healthy, Organic Lawn." Environmentalists equate their mission to the campaign that stamped out cigarettes in most public places.

"When local boards of health got together to do local smoking bans, and there was enough momentum, we got our statewide smoking ban last year," said Dr. Lawrence Block, an activist and cardiologist who chairs Swampscott's Board of Health and who spoke at Gloucester's recent toxins forum.

"That kind of grass-roots effort," Block added, "gives me great optimism we can do this with pesticides, too."

Swampscott and Marblehead are among a handful of communities statewide that prohibit most pesticide use on public lands. The movement is growing locally, nationwide, and in Canada, with some governments extending the restriction to private property.

At least 65 municipalities across Canada have restricted pesticides. Toronto's bylaw, for instance, applies to public lands as well as homeowners.

In the United States, a coalition of 20 consumer and environmental groups launched a campaign in April that urges two of the largest home and garden retailers, Home Depot and Lowe's Home Improvement, to carry more organic lawn care products and to "reconsider" the sale of weed and feed products to

"protect the health of children, families, pets, and the environment."

That has fueled a high-stakes counterattack from the multibillion dollar pesticide industry.

Citing increased "activist threats" and recent pesticide bans in Canada and the United States, a nationwide coalition of pesticide manufacturers, suppliers, and lawn care companies recently launched a \$1 million ad campaign to "educate consumers" about pesticides, according to a press release from the group, called Project EverGreen.

"We believe the misinformation from some activists are blanket statements that all pesticides are bad and have potential to harm humans and others," Den Gardner, Project EverGreen's executive director, said in an interview.

"Our approach is, as a consumer, you should have the choice to use the products to help maintain a green space," he said. "And those chemicals have gone through years and years of testing and approval by the EPA."

Continued on page 9

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Some moisture stress prior to high temperatures is good for turf, according to Dr. Danneberger

By Karl Danneberger

Little rainfall has occurred in the last week or so in areas of Ohio and in some areas the turf is getting to look a little dry. Given the last couple of springs, it was actually a surprise to see my golf ball bouncing down the fairway this week.

Agronomically, some moisture stress prior to summer high temperatures is desirable. Turfgrass plants that undergo moisture stress like annual bluegrass, perennial bluegrass, and Kentucky bluegrass are more heat tolerant than those not exposed to moisture stress (Wehner & Watschke, 1981).

Physiologically, drought pre-conditioned plants tend to accumulate ion solutes, specifically potassium, at higher levels during periods of high temperature stress compared to non-drought stress plants (Jiang & Huang, 2001). The higher ion concentration allows for a

relative higher osmotic adjustment potential during summer stress.

In addition, a deeper, more extensive root system develops if conditions are dry prior to high temperature stress

(Jiang & Huang, 2001). Given that the optimum soil temperature range for root growth is 50 to 65 F (10 to 18 C), and soil temperatures in Central Ohio have averaged between 53 and 58 F at the 2-inch depth from April 5 through April 18, this dry weather is conducive to deeper root growth.

Originally published
April 19, 2005

Turfgrass plants that undergo moisture stress . . . are more heat-tolerant . . .

A deeper, more extensive root system develops if conditions are dry prior to high-temperature stress.

References:

Wehner, D.J. & Watschke, T.L. (1981). Heat tolerance of Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, and annual bluegrass. *Agronomy Journal* 73, 79-84.

Jiang, Y. & Huang, B. (2001). Osmotic adjustments and root growth associated with drought preconditioning-enhanced heat tolerance in Kentucky bluegrass. *Crop Science* 41, 1168-1173.



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UMASS TURF RESEARCH FIELD DAY 2005

Wednesday June 22, 2005

Joseph Troll Turf Research Center
South Deerfield, Massachusetts

From the North: From Route 91 take exit 25. Turn left onto Route 116. Follow 116 South to River Road (on the left just before the Connecticut River bridge). Turn left onto River Road. The Center is on the corner of Route 116 and River Road.

From the South: From Route 91 take Exit 24. Turn right onto Route 5 North. Turn right onto Route 116. Follow Route 116 to River Road (on the left just before the Connecticut River Bridge). Turn left onto River Road. The Center is on the corner of Route 116 and River Road.

Turf managers and their associates from across the Northeast Region are invited to attend University of Massachusetts Turf Research Field Day on Wednesday, June 22, 2005. This year's event will be held at the recently dedicated Joseph Troll Turfgrass Research Center on River Road in South Deerfield, Massachusetts. Please join us for an update on ongoing improvements to the Center, and to see our new maintenance building currently under construction.



As always, attendees will have the opportunity to meet the researchers and educators of the UMass Turf Team, and to hear about and *see* current turf research underway at UMass. Several ongoing studies will be highlighted at Field Day, including an array of National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) trials. The half-day agenda will include a trade show, and Green Industry vendors and exhibitors will be on hand.

QUESTIONS ABOUT FIELD DAY 2005? E-Mail fieldday@umassturf.org

Help support turf research at UMass! The first annual fund-raising golf tournament raised more than \$72,000 dollars for the construction of a new maintenance building at the Joseph Troll Turf Research Center.

Plans are currently underway by a dedicated tournament committee for the second annual Joseph Troll Turf Education Fundraiser, the proceeds from which will be directed towards future improvements at the Center. The event is scheduled for October 20, 2005 at the Cape Cod National Golf Club in Brewster, MA.

Visit our web site for further UMass Turf Research Field Day information, as well as information on:

- **Winter School for Turf Managers** – Intensive 7 week short-course held annually in January – February. The historic 2006 session will mark the 75th Winter School class
- **Diagnostic Services** – A wide range of turf diagnostic services is available from UMass, including disease diagnosis, nematode assay, turf insect identification, and weed identification.
- How to sign up for the **free TurfTalk e-mail list**, with timely turf **Management Updates**.

<http://www.umassturf.org>

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS TURF RESEARCH FIELD DAY

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2005

To be held rain or shine at the Joseph Troll Turf Research Center, South Deerfield, Massachusetts

8:00-9:00 Registration - Trade Show - Equipment Demonstrations*

9:00 Welcoming Remarks

9:15-11:15 Featured Research Presentations:

- Effects of Fall Applied Nitrogen and Potassium on Winter Injury to Perennial Ryegrass
- Resources and Tips for Diagnosing Diseases of Tall Cut Turf
- Managing Grassy Weed and Sedge Species: Is This an Easy Task?
- Turf Insects 2005: What to Watch Out For
- Managing Pesticide Exposure from Treated Turf

11:15-11:45 Open Forum with the UMass Turf Team

11:45 Lunch - Trade Show - Equipment Demonstrations*

Following Lunch: Massachusetts Association of Lawn Care Professionals Monthly Meeting
UMass Turf Advisory Board / Tournament Planning Committee Meeting

* VENDORS/EXHIBITORS – Equipment demonstrations must be arranged in advance with Thom Griffin, (413) 545-3066

2 contact hours in commercial certification category 37 (turf), category 32 (sod), category 49 (demo & research), the dealer license, and the applicator's license have been approved for all New England states.

For more information contact: Jason Lanier at (413) 545-2965, Mary Owen at (508) 892-0382, or e-mail fieldday@umassturf.org

REGISTRATION FORM

Pre-registration deadline: June 17, 2005. Return this form (with your check payable to *University of Massachusetts*) to: Turf Field Day, UMass Extension, French Hall, 230 Stockbridge Road, Amherst, MA 01003. * Municipalities may register using a PR# or PO# and faxing those registrations to (413) 577-1620.

FOR ATTENDEES:

_____ attendees @ \$45 each* = \$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED = \$ _____

FOR VENDORS/EXHIBITORS:

Vendor/Exhibitor registration** = \$ **150**
_____ additional lunches @ \$15 each = \$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED = \$ _____

*Attendees: \$5 additional charge for on-site registration June 22. Morning coffee & lunch is included in the registration fee.

**VENDORS/EXHIBITORS: Fee includes 2 lunches, a table, and two chairs. Additional lunches are extra. You may set up after 6 a.m. on June 22. If there are any special requirements, or if you wish to set up June 21, please contact Thom Griffin at (413) 545-3066.

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Dr. Wick & Dr. Vittum keep everyone informed with briefings on nematodes, weevils, & grubs

Date: April 29, 2005
Category: Nematodes
Subject: Nematode News
Submitted by: Dr. Robert Wick

A few nematode samples are rolling in now, mostly because golf course superintendents are curious about root-knot juvenile nematodes. Root-knot juvenile populations are highest in the spring. A surprising finding this past month has been that ectoparasitic nematode populations, in particular stunt and spiral, have been relatively high. I would not predict that this would be a trend for the whole of southern New England, but courses near the coast, or more southerly, may have elevated nematode populations this year.

TURF SCIENCE

Date: April 20, 2005
Category: Insects
Subject: Annual Bluegrass (Hyperodes) Weevils, White Grubs
Submitted by: Dr. Pat Vittum

Hyperodes weevils

As we enter this extended period of unseasonably warm weather in the Northeast, we have been receiving many phone calls from golf course superintendents wondering about the annual bluegrass weevil. We have reason to believe the weevils survived the winter just fine, and the adults appear to be on the move in many areas.

Previous "recommendations" were based on making an insecticide application when Forsythia reached full bloom. But more recently, Paul Heller (at Penn State) and I have found that applications made in the period a week or two after Forsythia full bloom to dogwood full bloom work very well. (Paul uses the "serviceberry" as an indicator plant, whereas I suggest that applications not be made until Forsythia bushes are showing significant green as the leaves begin to open).

Based on telephone reports from people throughout the Northeast, I would guess that much of southern New Jersey is in the period where applications

could be made this week. The courses in Westchester County, N.Y. and points north are probably looking at next week. Courses in most of Massachusetts should be making applications during the first week of May, unless they have local spots that are unusually warm. In general, Paul and I have found that it is better to go a little bit "late" rather than going a bit "early," even though the warm temperatures sometimes make folks get a little anxious.

The spring application should be chlorpyrifos (Dursban™) or a pyrethroid and should be watered in lightly. Some of the pyrethroids that are available are: bifenthrin (Talstar™), cyfluthrin (Tempo™), deltamethrin (Deltagard™), and lambda-cyhalothrin (Battle™, Scimitar™).

White grubs

Most grubs should be back in the root zones feeding at this point. Now would be a good time to monitor your areas to

see which species are active. Keep in mind that European chafers and oriental beetles have been expanding steadily, so many turf managers are now dealing with two, three, or even four pest species in a given location. So get out and take a look – figure out which species you have. It will have a direct bearing on your options later in the season.

If you would like help identifying the grub species and are willing to send us at least 50 grubs from each location, contact us. We will give you instructions on shipping grubs to us, and we will do the identifications for you. This information helps us to refine our understanding of where each species is active now. So contact us either by e-mail (p.vittum@ent.umass.edu) or by phone at (413) 545-0268. Don't send us any grubs without contacting us first!

**Dr. Robert Wick & Dr. Pat Vittum,
UMass-Amherst**

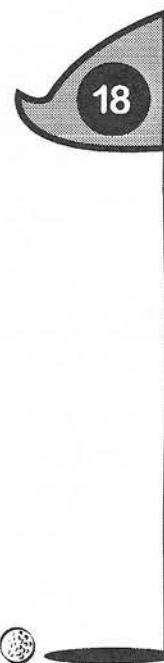
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Drive to limit chemicals engenders debate among weed fighters

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Environmentalists disagree, saying adequate testing has not been done on the vast majority of chemicals and that health problems for humans, birds, and fish have been linked to lawn products.

As the debate continues, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection this spring stepped up its free seminars on chemical-free lawn care, which are offered to residents. Ann McGovern, who coordinates the DEP program, said the aim is to reduce the amount of toxic waste ending up in the state's landfills and waterways.

"Some organic materials you purchase may be more expensive than the synthetic ones, but once you get that healthy soil, it's not expensive," she said. "It may take two or three years to develop, but it goes on forever and keeps the water clean."

Chip Osborne, a Marblehead florist and North Shore guru in the organic movement, has traveled from Maine to Maryland in the past five years teaching homeowners how to wean themselves off lawn chemicals. He also maintains a "demonstration" organic lawn on park property which, he said, has attracted visitors and calls from as far away as California.

"No one denies, in some way, shape and form, chemicals have aided our life. But we are bombarded with lawn chemicals, house-cleaning chemicals, and there are some ways we can minimize this exposure," Osborne said. "There is no need to dump this cocktail on the grass."

The latest statistics from the EPA show an increasing number of homeowners have turned to such cocktails. In 2001, homeowners used 102 million pounds of pesticides, more than a 10 percent jump from the previous year. While commercial and industrial users account for a slightly higher overall pesticide use, homeowners are outpacing them when it comes to pesticides that kill weeds, the numbers show.

"There's still a lot of old school, 'I want my lawn to look good,'" said David Knodel, organic lawn care manager for

Leahy Landscaping Inc. in Lynn. Knodel said the company, which has clients throughout the North Shore, phased out chemical lawn care service seven years ago and now only offers organic. While chemical-free popularity is growing among the company's homeowners clients, commercial accounts – especially cash-strapped communities – have been slow to follow, he said, because Leahy's labor-intensive organic service can be more expensive. Experts need to more closely monitor the soils, he said, instead of applying one or two doses of traditional weed-and-feed products and walking away.

Some communities, such as Newburyport, have been going pesticide-free on public lands by default.

"We don't put anything down, any fertilizer or weed killers on public parks because we don't have the money for it," said Kay Halloran, Newburyport's recycling coordinator. "We don't have an ordinance that says it, but we don't have the money to do that."

In other towns with tight budgets, where big money was spent creating

athletic fields, officials sometimes opt to use non-organic fertilizers to help the grass grow, but draw the line at weed-killing pesticides, Knodel said.

"A lot of athletic fields cost millions to install. You don't want to lose them," he said. "They are doing the minimum maintenance so the fields are kept playable and safe for the students. But there is a financial factor, and to go organic may triple that cost."

Since 2000, state law has required that parents, staff, and children be notified when pesticides are used at schools and day-care centers. And since 1987, Massachusetts has required licensed professionals to post flags when they apply pesticides to commercial or private property. But homeowners who use the chemicals are not required to follow those rules, according to the state's Pesticide Bureau. ■

Kay Lazar can be reached at klazar@globe.com.

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UMass diagnostic team home at Holdsworth Hall

continued from page 4

Bess Dicklow, (M.S. plant breeding, Cornell), has over ten years of UMass diagnostics experience under the mentorship of Drs. Zuckerman, Schumann, and Wick. She brings specialized skills in culturing and identification of plant pathogenic fungi and bacteria, immuno-detection techniques, and PCR. Bess' new responsibilities will be the diagnosis of vegetable, floriculture, and residential turf diseases.

The UMass Extension Plant Diagnostic Lab is available to serve commercial landscape contractors, turf managers, arborists, nurseries, and other green industry professionals. It provides woody plant disease analysis, woody plant and turf insect identification, turfgrass identification, landscape, weed identification, and nematode assays. The services include a written report with pest management strategies that are research based, economically sound, and environmentally appropriate for the situation.

Send specimens and payment (payable to the University of Massachusetts) to UMass Extension Plant Diagnostic Lab, Holdsworth Natural Resources Center, 160 Holdsworth Way, UMass, Amherst, MA 01003. For more detailed submission instructions and fee schedule go to the UMass web sites at http://www.umass.edu/agland/services/plant_diagnosis.html, or call (413) 545-3208. ■

Source: UMass press release

To insure that we continue to provide the most reliable service, all of the plant diagnostics expertise will be integrated into one location in Holdsworth Hall.

DIVOT DRIFT . . . announcements . . . educational seminars . . . job opportunities . . . tournament results . . . and miscellaneous items of interest to the membership.

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome New Members: David W. Johnson, Supt., Whitinsville G.C., Dudley Mass.; Christopher M. Johnson, Supt., Milford C.C., Milford, Mass.; Bernard E. Meehan, Jr., Supt., Wahconah, Dalton, Mass.; Jeremy Stachowicz, Supt. of Grounds, Wahconah, Dalton, Mass.; Jeffrey Berger, Assistant, Dedham Country & Polo Club, Dedham Mass.; and Brian Griffin, Affiliate, McNulty Construction, Framingham, Mass.

Proposed for Membership: Louis P. Betencourt, Supt., Quail Ridge C.C., Acton, Mass.; John Sadowski, Supt., Turner Hill G.C., Ipswich, Mass.; G. A. Fialkosky Lawn Sprinklers, Friend, Newton, Mass.; DAF Services, Inc., Windsor Locks, Conn.; Richard J. Young, Affiliate, DAF Service, Windsor Locks, Conn.; Tim Crane, Assistant, Marlborough C.C., Marlboro, Mass.; Scott P. Godfrey, Assistant, Duxbury Yacht Club, Duxbury, Mass.; Michael Leavey, Assistant, Worcester C.C., Worcester Mass.; David Webster, Assistant, Belmont C.C., Belmont Mass.; Christopher Wilkins, Assistant, Winchester C.C., Winchester Mass.; Christopher P. Filadoro, Affiliate, R.F. Morse & Sons; Richard Schrader, Assistant, Segregansett C.C., Taunton, Mass.; and Michelle Maltais, Affiliate, Allens Seed Co, Tiverton, R.I.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Glen Misiaszek, golf course superintendent at Cohasset G.C., who recently became a certified golf course superintendent as designated by the GCSAA.

Congratulations to Dr. Wick at UMass, who has just been awarded a Fulbright grant for a course in plant diseases and to help develop a diagnostic facility in Bangladesh. "We are very proud to have such a distinguished scholar serve on our faculty," said Dr. Peter Veneman, head of the Plant, Soil, and Insect Sciences department at the University of Massachusetts. "It is a great honor for our department and college."

GCSANE NEWS

GCSANE is looking for copies of The Newsletter prior to 1960 and photos from GCSANE events. GCSANE is trying to build up its history archive and database. Please contact Michael Stachowicz if you have any of these items.

There is a \$250 stipend for an article from a GCSANE member. The article doesn't have to be perfect - we will pretty it up if we have to. It is a great way for members make some money while beefing up their portfolio. A

length of 600-700 words is all we ask, a mere two pages in MSWord in 12-point type, single spaced. The Newsletter would like to invite all affiliates to submit a press release about new hires or a company bio. We will print on a first come, first served basis.

GOLF RESULTS

Segregansett C.C., Taunton, Mass. April 23, 2005

Format: Three-person best ball out of the four person team.

1st place gross: Ron Dobosz, Ed Gianni, Tom Rioux, & Jim Small.

1st place net: Joe Piana, Ed Eardley, Bob Dembeck, & Andy Langlois.

2nd place net: Brian Griffin, Jon Targett, Ted Zubial, & Jack McNulty.

INFORMATION

Now available: The 2005 New England Guide to Weed Control in Turfgrass contains information about registered turf herbicide products, including specifics on application, timing, and environmentally responsible use. The guide is available as a free, downloadable PDF file at: http://www.umassurf.org/publications/online_pubs.html.

UMass Extension Landscape Message - www.umassgreeninfo.org. The UMass Landscape Message is compiled from information gathered by monitoring landscape sites statewide. The message contains current local information useful to landscapers, arborists, turf managers, and nursery growers. Some 25 messages are produced per year, and released on Fridays (schedule varies according to season). The following information is available for landscape plant materials and turf: What insects are emerging that week; disease occurrences & potential disease problems; weeds to watch for; growing degree day & plant phenology reports; cultural problems & solutions; and pest management strategies, including IPM. The Landscape Message can be accessed online at no charge at <http://www.umassgreeninfo.org>. E-mail and fax subscriptions are available for \$50. Contact eweeks@umext.umass.edu for details.

UMass Extension Weed Identification Workshops. Weed identification is an important step in an effective weed management program. Using a classroom presentation, potted weed herbarium, and weed walk, UMass Extension Specialist Randy Prostack helps participants enhance weed identification skills. The workshop is rain or shine (lunch not provided), 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Four pesticide contact hours

available; MCLP and MCH credits are offered. Broadleaf & Grassy Weeds - July 27, Elm Bank, Wellesley, Mass.; July 28 (Spanish/English), Elm Bank, Wellesley, Mass.; Grassy Weeds in Depth - August 11 at Cape Cod; & Sept. 1 at Amherst, Mass.. The cost is \$90 per person (pre-registration required; space limited). Registration is first-come, first-served through the mail. For a registration form, go to www.umassgreeninfo.org or call (413) 545-0895.

Scouting for Pests and Problems of Turf & Woody Ornamentals in the Landscape. Learn how to put IPM practices to work efficiently. Join us in a walk through the landscape for demonstrations of IPM tools and techniques, as well as a close look at some of the most common cultural problems and troublesome insect, mite, and disease problems. Topics include using plant phenology, monitoring techniques, and using growing degree days to effectively manage pest problems. Although the focus is on woody ornamentals, this year's workshops will have a larger turf component than in the past. The workshop is rain or shine, 5-7 p.m. Two pesticide contact hours for categories 29, 36, 37, and Applicators License available. ISA, MCA, MCH, and MCLP credit requested. Choose one of these locations: June 2 at West Barnstable, Mass.; or June 9 at Westfield, Mass. The cost is \$50. Dress for walking, rain or shine; bring clipboard, pencil, and hand lens. Enrollment is limited. Registration is first-come, first-served through the mail. For a registration form, go to www.umassgreeninfo.org, or call (413) 545-0895.

The Stockbridge School of Agriculture Alumni Association, UMass-Amherst, is holding its 6th Annual Stockbridge Alumni Golf Classic at the Red Tail G.C. in Devens, Mass. Thursday, July 21, 2005. Registration is at 7 a.m. and tee-off at 8 a.m., with a BBQ lunch reception to follow. The \$150 greens fee includes continental breakfast, goodie bag, lunch, and golf cart. To ensure Stockbridge will live forever, proceeds of the tournament will be donated to the Stockbridge School of Agriculture Director's Chair. For registration or information, visit www.stockbridgealumni.org and click on the Stockbridge Alumni Classic 2005 link.

The University of Rhode Island will hold its 74th Annual Turfgrass Field Day August 17, 2005. For information contact Dr. Rebecca Brown at (401) 874-2755; fax: 401-874-2494; e-mail: brownreb@mail.uri.edu.

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