I have become extremely concerned about our profession of late – there appears to be a kind of complacency which I do not wish to be a part of – an “acceptance of our lot” attitude which serves no-one - least of all our industry.

We have come too far in the last 15 years or so to now sit back and not gain strength and confidence from the advances made already in the acceptance of responsibility in managing golf courses.

So why am I so concerned?

I believe there is a serious omission in the management of golf courses – I see it in the average private members golf club, which make up approximately 90% of the golf played in this country.

There appears to be few who have the necessary confidence to stamp their authority and ensure that the right things are carried out on golf courses and therefore ensure the best courses and therefore ensure the best potential future proactive courses.

For a time I was very confident in my intention through this article is to get some sort of reaction from our profession – tell me and other concerned colleagues through Greenkeeper International whether I am right and what we should do about it.

Am I worrying undeservedly? – unfortunately I do not think so.

Please respond in your hundreds of you from across the UK and Europe. The friendliness of everyone there that week shows that there are no individuals in this Association. We are all equals and that is what BIGGA is all about. So once again thanks for a great week and keep up the good work, PS. You can put my name down for next year as I will certainly be there. Thanks also from Craig Pennycook and Gary Rodgers.

National Championship thanks

In the beginning of October, six of us from Denmark decided to go and visit my good friend Matt over in Bristol and play some golf. We would all like to thank Matt Hawker, Head Greenkeeper Bristol & Clifton GC, and Gary Hawley, Head Greenkeeper Filton GC, their Pro shop and their members for the warm welcome we all got.

For some of us it was the first time in England, and the weather was with us. Hope to see you all in Denmark next year.

Mick Steele, Head Greenkeeper Morse Golf Club, Denmark

Despite this, soluble phosphate gradually becomes immobile in most soils. When an application of phosphate is applied, a chemical reaction takes place in the soil which creates other forms of phosphate that are relatively insoluble. In acid soils phosphate tends to react with iron or aluminium to form iron phosphate or aluminium phosphate. In alkaline soil phosphate reacts with calcium to form calcium phosphate. These chemical reactions create the insoluble forms of phosphate that we associate with as managers of turfgrass. The article was certainly not intended to encourage excess phosphate application but to clarify the confusing issue of soil analysis. I hope this has cleared up any confusion that the article may have caused.