



THE SOUTH FLORIDA GREEN

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No. 2



EDITOR - *Mike Barger*



ASSOCIATE EDITOR - *Tom Mascaro*



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President's Message



THE ENERGY CRUNCH

The Golf Course Superintendent today is charged with the responsibility of providing an ever better golfing facility for the increasing number of golfers and carts. Added to those responsibilities now are federal safety regulations and two unexpected obstacles, fuel shortages and more inflation.

For the superintendents that had their yearly budget going into effect before October of 1973, as I did, it will be a near impossibility for us to stay within that budget. Gas prices have increased 28%, diesel 100%, and it remains to be seen how much the cost of fertilizer will increase with the shortage in fertilizer growing more acute all the time.

Electricity is on the increase 33% in six months and another 5% in May, 1974. The price of steel and the ever rising labor costs, equipment and parts have increased nearly 20% in a year. Last but not least complying with the Occupation Health and Safety Act by industry has added to the inflation of the budget.

The Energy Crunch will continue to plague us for some time to come, so what are the alternatives? We will have to give serious consideration to better utilization of our labor force and more productive from our equipment and care of our equipment. We should strive for better management of water, fertilizer, chemical and maybe even start that old compost pile again. In other words get back to sound and basic agronomy.

To end on a happy note, the first issue of **The South Florida Green** is behind us and we have received many letters of congratulation and approval regarding this venture, so let's everyone get involved to make this publication even bigger and better and a more useful tool for all of us.

Sam Oymirad

FROM THE EDITOR. . .

On this occasion of my first article as Editor of **The South Florida Green**, I admit to approaching the assignment with pride bordering on conceit. I do feel honored and truly blessed to have been selected for the position of Editor.

Always smugly believing I would be magnificent at this type of endeavor, I am surprised now at how humble I feel. This feeling arises when I contemplate the potential of our publication and the responsibilities entrusted to my care. I believe that the position requires prudent and carefully-considered action in many areas. However, if our publication is to realize its mission of enhancing the professional knowledge of our readers, I believe our editorials must report on the boldest and most advanced methods and techniques used in our industry. These will be my guidelines.

From the beginning, I have been resolved to include in my first article the tribute that is due to the men who are chiefly responsible for creating this publication. I recognize first our President, Lou Oxnevad, who serves our Association so capably and who, for years, has pressed for a publication like **The South Florida Green**. Next, I recognize, with equal credit, our Associate Editor, Tom Mascaro. Tom's assistance and contributions have been invaluable. If our publication attains the success it should, it will be due largely to the careful planning and efforts of these two men.

In conclusion, I only wish to convey my unbounded optimism for the future of **The South Florida Green** and make to you, the readers, my pledge that I will work diligently to make this publication the outstanding contribution to our profession that it should be.

ON MANAGEMENT COMMUNICATING

Tom Mascaro

Recently, I had the pleasure of addressing a group of young men aspiring to become Golf Professionals. It was an inspiring and challenging encounter. They asked sensible, basic questions; they were anxious to learn; and most impressive to me, they were receptive to the challenges of the future.

One of the areas of discussion was the relationship between the Golf Professional and the Golf Course Superintendent in a club organization. Each has his own definite areas of responsibility, while at the same time, each one's activity sometimes profoundly affects the others.

Tournaments and special events are unquestionably affected by maintenance practices and course alternations, while conversely, maintenance practices and course alterations are affected in the same way by tournaments and special events.

Torrential rains that flood the course, wind, and other things that only Mother Nature can dish out, upset everyone's schedule. Maintenance work must be re-scheduled and golf dates must be changed. It is obvious that when an emergency arises, it is imperative that the Golf Course Superintendent and the Golf

Professional coordinate their efforts in order to provide the best service to the membership.

Emergencies have, and always will, bring people together. But emergencies should not be the only time for sincere cooperation. Golf Professionals and Golf Course Superintendents should exchange views and coordinate activities on a regular basis. It is sometimes surprising how, over a cup of coffee, a minor problem can be solved, but if left to grow, can become a major problem.

New products, new techniques, and rising costs challenge the Golf Course Superintendent and the Golf Professional to become far more knowledgeable in his field. While being knowledgeable in your own field is imperative, a working knowledge of the other areas of responsibility is equally as important.

Conversation, problem-solving, and an appreciation for each other's problems are far more effective when each fully realizes the other's responsibility. This is what these aspiring young pros were trying to learn. They were acquiring a better understanding of why certain maintenance practices are necessary. They were learning the terminology of the Golf Course Superintendent. They were learning to communicate. Some day, when they become full-fledged Golf Professionals, they will find that their understanding of the Golf Course Superintendent's responsibilities will make their own job much easier and more rewarding.

FROM RESEARCH Part I

WEED CONTROL IN WARM SEASON TURFGRASSES WITH HERBICIDES

Dr. E. O. Burt
Turfgrass Research
U. of Florida

Why do I have Weeds?

Usually, weeds appear in lawns and other turf areas because the grass is thin and weak. Improper mowing, watering, fertilizing, and inadequate control of insects, fungi, and nematodes are some of the main reasons why turfgrasses do not grow well. Perhaps the species of turfgrass is not adapted to the particular soil or climatic conditions. Several other factors, such as thatch accumulation and excessive traffic, can lead to unhealthy turf. The result is weed invasion.



What can be done about weeds?

The first step in any weed control program is to correct the basic problem causing weeds. There is no substitute for proper maintenance practices. Normally, a healthy, properly-maintained turf is a weed-free turf.

After correcting the basic cause(s) leading to the presence of weeds, it may be desirable to use a postemergence herbicide to kill the existing weeds. Other situations in which it may be desirable to use a herbicide are where it is predetermined that the turf will be open or thin such as in a newly sprigged, plugged, or seeded area, or following vertical mowing of a thatched turf. Under these conditions, it may be appropriate to consider the use of a preemergence herbicide. Another situation in which it may be advisable to use a herbicide is where certain vigorous weeds such as nutsedge, bermudagrass, torpedograss, or crabgrass become established in spite of good turf management practices.

How to kill weeds Without killing the turf

Successful control of weeds without significant injury to turf requires attention to several vital steps. It should be recognized that in using herbicides, many times a chemical is being applied to kill plants (weeds) that are very similar in structure and other characteristics to the turfgrass we are attempting to grow. Therefore, it is essential to first of all, choose the correct herbicide and secondly, to apply it precisely.

Four "DO RIGHTS" which serve as a guide when using herbicides under any condition are as follows:

RIGHT CHEMICAL: Selection of the right chemical entails a thorough knowledge of the weed to be controlled and the turfgrass that is present. The wrong herbicide may not kill the weed or it may damage the turf.

RIGHT DOSAGE: The correct rate of application, likewise, is critical because too low a rate usually does not kill the weeds while too high a rate damages the turf. The margin of safety in dosage level for herbicides in turf is much less than for other pesticides.

RIGHT TIME: Preemergence herbicides must be applied before weeds appear, while post-

emergence herbicides should be applied to young weeds growing vigorously when soil and climatic conditions are favorable for application and good turf growth. When treating for weeds, the turfgrass should be healthy and not suffering from stress such as drought, damage from other pests, or mower damage. The weeds should not be mowed just prior to or immediately following the application of a foliage-absorbed herbicide.

RIGHT WAY: The right way includes the use of clean, properly-calibrated herbicide equipment with careful application to minimize misses and overlaps. Use low pressures (approximately 30 psi) and nozzle tips with a large orifice to reduce drift and to insure uniform coverage.

Which type of herbicide to use?

Selective herbicides for use in turf are classified as either preemergence or postemergence. A preemergence herbicide is one that has a few weeks' residual action in the soil and is applied prior to the germination of weed seeds. Postemergence herbicides are applied to established weeds. A few herbicides such as atrazine and Kerb are active in killing established weeds and at the same time, giving residual preemergence control of weed seeds. These two herbicides will be discussed under postemergence herbicides.

Generally, the use of a preemergence herbicide is a safer method of controlling weeds than with postemergence herbicides. In addition, preemergence herbicides have the advantage of effectively killing germinating seeds of many weed species, both broadleaf and grassy type weeds. Furthermore, preemergence herbicides control weeds before they seriously compete with turfgrasses for moisture, nutrients, and sunlight. The main drawback to this approach is the almost year-round period of weed seed germination in South Florida. Therefore, it may be necessary to make three or four applications of a preemergence per year. Another limitation to preemergence herbicides in South Florida is the fact that many annual weeds live for more than a year.

Some of the situations where it may be desirable to use a preemergence are: (1) newly sprigged or plugged areas; (2) following turf renovation; and (3) turf that has become thin due to insects, nematodes, fungi, or other causes.

Postemergence herbicides have the advantage of usually being more economical to treat a given area. Furthermore, it may be feasible to treat only those areas that are infested with weeds rather than the entire turf site. A major consideration with postemergence herbicides is the selection of the appropriate herbicide based upon the species of weeds present.

Which preemergence herbicide to use?

Some of the preemergence herbicides that can be used on warm season turfgrasses are as follows:

Common Name	Trade Name
benfen	Balan
bensulide	Betasan or Porefar
DCPA	Dacthal
EPTC	Eptum
terbutol	Azak
*atrazine	Aatrex
*simazine	Princep
**promamide	Kerb

*Use only on St. Augustine, centipede, or zoysia turfgrasses.

**Used primarily for Poa annua control in bermudagrass.

To be continued



CAN YOU TOP THIS? . . .



This problem occurred at night on one of Willow Lakes Golf Course greens.

Answer on page 9



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COMING EVENTS

S.F.G.C.S.A. MEETINGS

March meeting - POA Annum Classic, Tuesday, March 5, 1974, Lehigh Acres Country Club, Lehigh Acres, Florida.

Host Superintendent: Woody Woodliff.

April meeting Tuesday, April 9, 1974. Location to be announced.

May meeting Tuesday, May 14, 1974, Riviera Country Club, Coral Gables, Florida.

Host Superintendent: Lou Oxnevad.

FT-GA

Management Conference and Trade Show, September 16, 17, 18, and 19, 1974. Curtis Hixon Convention Center, Hilton Riverside Hotel, Tampa, Florida.

G.C.S.A.A.

45th International Turfgrass Conference and Show, February 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, 1974, Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, California.

Turfgrass Conference, April, 1974, U.S. Government Coastal Plain Experiment Station, Abraham Bac College, Tifton, Georgia.

COUNTY EXTENSION AGENTS WHO WORK WITH GOLF COURSES IN SOUTH FLORIDA

Broward County

Lewis E. Watson, County Extension Director; 3245 SW 70 Avenue, Fort Lauderdale - Telephone 581-8010


Dade County

Louis J. Daigle, Extension Agent, Ornamentals; 2690 NW 7 Avenue, Miami - Telephone 635-1387

Palm Beach County

Robert S. Pryor, County Extension Director; 531 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach - Telephone 683-1777

The County Extension Agents in large, heavily populated areas find an increasing need to work with specialty groups such as Ornamental Horticulture groups, Citrus Growers, Vegetable Growers, etc. Perhaps there are too few Extension Agents throughout the State of Florida who feel confident in working with such specialty groups as Golf Course Superintendents



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THE FLORIDA NURSERYMAN/JANUARY 1974

as we have here in South Florida. The Extension Service is fortunate to have many well-qualified agents available to give assistance to Golf Course Superintendents in their many specialty problems that arise on a day to day basis.

Extension Agents have the availability of University specialists such as Turf Technologists, Nematologists, Weed Control Specialists, Entomologists, and Pathologists, to consult with where problems which are unfamiliar to the Agents in the field, arise. Soil samples and turf samples are often sent to these specialists so their lab equipment and technicians can be put to work to help diagnose problems with golf courses, and recommendations be made to the golf course superintendents.

The Extension Service was established by an Act of Congress in 1914, and has grown to a point where each county in the State of Florida now has one or more Extension Agents. The larger counties with high population densities have greater need for special-

ty agents, and more agents are assigned to work with agricultural interests and allied interests in those particular counties.

In some areas where there is a heavy concentration of particular specialty commodities, Cross-County-Line Area Specialists are often assigned to develop educational programs to work on a very close personal basis with the specialty interests.

Perhaps eventually, in South Florida, an area specialist for turf can be assigned. There has been some discussion regarding the desirability of this action for several years. In the meantime, however, feel free to call upon your local Extension Agent, who stands ready and willing to assist you in whatever way that he can with the facilities and knowledge available to him. Please take advantage of all the Extension Service publications pertaining to your interest. Request these free publications from your local Extension office.

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STRAIGHT SHOTS

RECOMMENDED READING

All members of the South Florida Superintendents Association should be on the mailing list of the U.S. Government Printing Office. This branch of our government sends lists of available publications to subscribers of this service, which is free.

The list is called "Selected U.S. Government Publications" and is issued by:

The Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402

A cross-section of the latest list (Volume 2, Number 24, 1973) contains the following publications which would be of interest to most every Golf Course Superintendent:

"It's Your World, The Grassroots Conservation Story", 97 pages, illustrated - price \$2.00.

"River of Life: Water, The Environmental Challenge", 96 pages, illustrated - price \$3.00.

"The Modernized Metric System. The International System of Units" in chart form, 29" x 45" - price 55¢.

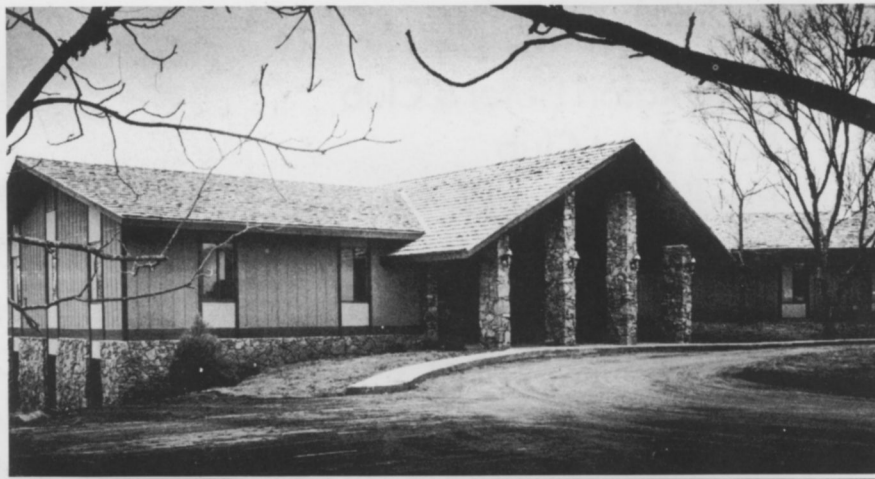
"Metric Pocket Card" - price 20¢.

"How to Control a Gully" (describes several conservation practices which can be employed to reduce soil erosion, sedimentation, and other problems caused by gullies) price 25¢.

Many other publications listed under the following headings, are available:

National News Reports
Education
Health
Business & Labor
Department of Interior
Government
Justice
Transportation
Environment

Your name on this mailing list for only an 8¢ stamp will keep you informed, not only as a Golf Course Superintendent but also as a member of your community and society at large.



On November 8, 1973, the Executive Committee of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America met in the Board Room in the G.C.S.A.A. headquarters building at 1617 St. Andrews Drive, Lawrence, Kansas. For the first time in G.C.S.A.A.'s 47-year history, it is housed in its own office building pictured above. Congratulations!

STRAIGHT SHOTS. . .

Keep your eyes peeled on Washington to see how lawmakers treat the tourist industry in fuel allocation plans during the energy crisis. A House-Senate conference committee agreed on an emergency energy bill prohibiting the government from discriminating against any segment of the economy, including recreation, in the allocation of fuels, and to make population growth a factor in fuel allocation plans. Governor Reubin Askew went to Washington to support these two concepts.

WEST COAST NEWS

The Everglades Golf Course Superintendents Association held their annual Christmas party on December 15, 1973 at the South Seas Plantation Country Club. There were 47 in attendance. The West Coast Golf Course Superintendents Association held their annual Christmas party December 1, 1973 at the Seminole Lakes Country Club. There were 150 in attendance. Reports indicate these parties were very successful.

ON FERTILIZER. . .

The Fertilizer Institute (1015 18th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.) makes the following reports:

Fertilizer demand is at an all-time high in the U.S. and the world.

Exports of U.S. fertilizers have boomed because foreign buyers

have, until late October 1973, been able to top domestic ceiling prices while getting world discount benefits of U.S. dollar devaluation. *U.S. fertilizer exports increased 18-26% in nitrogen and phosphate products in 1973.*

U.S. farmers planted 25 million acres more in 1973 than 1972, and plantings will increase by another 12 million acres in 1974.

U.S. fertilizer production is operating as close to full capacity as possible. New capacity is one to three years away.

Phosphate production will expand slowly over the next few years as new plants come into production.

HOOKS AND SLICES

Dr. Gene Nutter, in Southern Golf Operations, reports that a new golf tee is being marketed. It is constructed of compost and grass seed. After hitting, you do not retrieve it—you leave it lay and the irrigation system promotes germination. It is reported to be very easy on the equipment. (Ed. note—h— on the Superintendent).

Question: Do you play golf?
Reply: No, and I can't quit either.

Jackie Gleason ordered a set of golf clubs from Tony Penna stamped "The Great One". He ordered another set for his boss stamped "The Worst One".

SOUTH FLORIDA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION HISTORY

Part I

Jimmy Blackledge

It All Started In April, 1939

During the winter of 1938-39, Joe Ryan, Superintendent of Rolling Green Golf Club in Media, Pennsylvania and then President of the National Association, was visiting his daughter in Miami. Elwood Poore, the assistant Pro at Indian Creek Country Club, was the assistant Pro at Joe's Club in the summer and a mutual friend. For this reason, Joe spent some time with Elwood and me at Indian Creek. Joe urged me to consider the idea of organizing a local Golf Course Superintendents Association in South Florida, and we discussed this with Mark Mahannah, Superintendent of Miami Biltmore Country Club, and Mike Schuyler, Superintendent of Miami Beach Golf Club.

As a result of these discussions, we held an informal meeting at the Indian Creek Country Club on April 22nd, 1939 to formulate plans for such an organization. Attending this meeting were: R. F. Lawrence, Boca Raton Hotel & Country Club; C. C. Kelly, Florida East Coast Hotel Company; Mark Mahannah, Miami Biltmore Country Club; Stanley Kendust, Miami

Shores Country Club; Fred Hoerger, La Gorce and Bayshore Golf Clubs; Hans Schmeisser, Hollywood Country Club; and myself.

This group decided to call an organizational meeting for Saturday, May 13th, 1939 at the Hollywood Country Club. Hans Schmeisser and I drafted and co-signed a letter inviting all the known Golf Course Superintendents in the area to this meeting. Through the courtesy of Mr. Oscar Johnson, then General Manager of the Hollywood Beach Hotel Properties, this letter was mimeographed and mailed on May 6th, 1939.

We failed to record the names of those attending the Hollywood Country Club meeting, however, the following officers were selected: Jimmie Blackledge, President; Clyde Smith (Gulfstream Club), Vice-President; and Mike Schuyler, Secretary-Treasurer. A committee was appointed to draft proposed by-laws for the organization, and annual dues of \$5 were agreed upon.

On June 12th, 1939, the organization got underway at the Miami Country Club with Bill Barton as host. At this meeting, the by-laws were

presented and approved with some minor changes, and Mr. C. C. Shaw of Hector Supply Company was made an Honorary Member in recognition of his help in getting the word around to the Superintendents in the area. Attending this meeting were: Clyde Smith, Mike Schuyler, R. F. Lawrence, B. A. Yoder, Art Gleason, Bill Barton, Ward Wood, Norman Summers, Walter Weeks, Mark Mahannah, Stanley Kendust, C. C. Shaw, and myself.

On July 10th, 1939, we met at the Orange Brook Golf Club with Harry Moore as host. At this meeting, three Directors were elected to serve on the Board of Directors with the three officers. These Directors were: R. F. Lawrence, B. A. Yoder, and Mark Mahannah.

The new Association continued to have regular meetings each month at clubs from Miami to Palm Beach, picking up a few new members. The format of the meetings varied somewhat, but generally the business meeting was followed by a "round table" discussion and then lunch and golf.

To be continued

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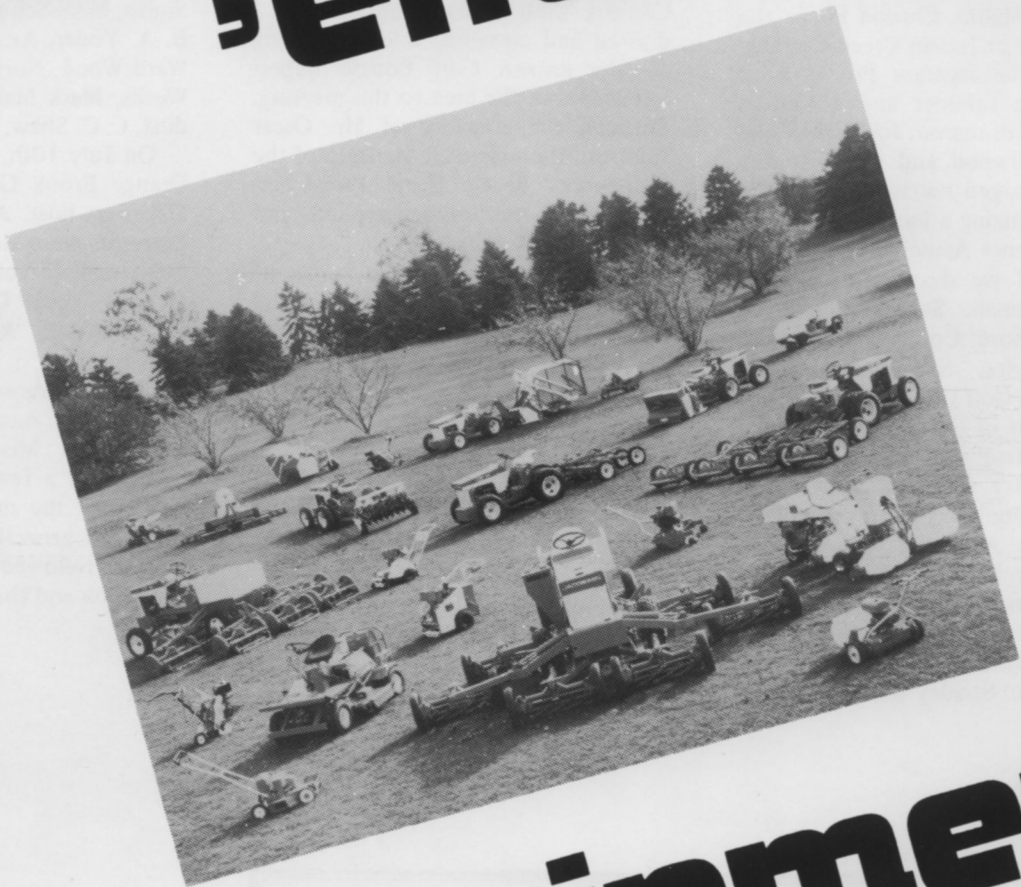
Answer

(Can You Top This?)

Vandals filled the cup with fuel oil, scattered it around, and ignited it. It made a very colorful flow in the dark, and the dead grass tops became a topic of conversation for every player.

(If you can top this with an unusual problem that occurred on your course, send it in and it will be published).

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