There are three words in the golf course language that are often poorly stated and downgrade a professionally oriented turf industry. They are: “Greenskeeper,” “Dirt,” and “The Barn.” The “Golf Course Superintendent,” “Soil,” and “The Golf Course Maintenance Building Complex,” are far more appropriate and specifically define their true definitions.

When was the last time you went down to “the barn” and found some cows and chickens roaming around? Instead, one finds a building that often has been designed by an architect with much thought and input also designed by the course superintendent. Buildings nowadays are encompassing clean organized offices with secretarial quarters, employee lounges complete with microwaves, mens and ladies restroom facilities with showers and locker rooms, not to mention the aspects of the function of maintaining and storing of golf course maintenance equipment. The shop areas are usually wide open with high rising garage doors to allow easy access and good cross air ventilation. Interior floors are designed with concave slopes with drains to allow thorough hosing down of the shop floor. Shop repair areas are much reminiscent of an auto dealership, complete with hydraulic lifts and parts inventory to self sufficiently operate nearly all major repairs. Irrigation rooms are ever so increasing, with the storage of all the needed parts and tools for repairs and they are kept within a designated work bench area. Storage of much respected and restricted chemicals are contained behind metal, locked doors. Fertilizer storage rooms are common sights with designed soil bins to accommodate various sands and soils. A central location of the building from throughout the project allows more efficient travel time. Buildings should be well marked for easy service and deliveries, and yes, since the maintenance building is what supports the great looking golf course — why not make “the barn” look great too!

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Boca Greens interior reveals office, lunch room, time clock area along with unique practice putting green.

Boca Greens soil bins individually partitioned with roof overhand and high rising garage doors for easy entry.

Atlantis C.C. Supt. Office with golf pictures and golf artifacts that depicts a clean organized office.

Jim Watkins of C.C. of FL. possesses an elaborate inhouse soil laboratory capable of many useful tests.

Boca Groves Lunch Room: everything from the kitchen sink to microwave oven, magazine rack, and full length window.

Boca Groves shop repair area utilizes a hydraulic lift to the max, as fairway unit access is greatly increased.

Del Aire's parts room is stocked for major repairs and organized with labeled bins and good inventory control.

Del Aire's organized shop area. Note elaborate preventative maint. program on wall revealing pertinent info.
Fertilization during the fall and winter months probably has as great of an effect on the success of our golf course during the season as any other single maintenance program. At this time of the year there may not be a chance to "catch up" once behind on a fertilization program. Due to the distinct possibility of several heavy frosts between December 15 & March 1, the turf must enter this period in top nutritional condition. For this reason most superintendents in this area consider September, October and November as key months in preparation for the winter season.

In general, fertilization of fairways is increased to \( \frac{1}{lb/1000} \) or more of N during the months of September, October and November. Some sample programs include:

1) Larry Weber, Palm Aire Country Club — \( \frac{1}{2} \) lb. N/1000 from 16-4-16 with 4 units IBDU & minors in September and six weeks later 1 lb. N from 16-4-8 containing minors.

2) Hugh Bebout, Sara Bay Country Club — one or more applications of a chemical fertilizer followed by one or more applications of an organic fertilizer. Hugh feels that an organic fertilizer will tend to stay in the root zone enabling the roots to stay warmer during the middle of winter or dormant period.

3) Mac Bough, Longboat Key Club — one application of 8-1-3/kerb at 1 lb N/1000 during September followed in October by application of 5-10-15 at 1 lb N/1000. 4) Allen Hanchey, Meadows Country Club — September application of granular 16-4-8/minors if a specific need to bring nutrition back into balance as a result of soil test or use liquid injection system 12-0-6. In general apply 1 lb N/1000 per month thru season. In general, potassium levels are obviously increased.

For greens, fertilization is also at a rate of 1 lb. N/1000 per month. Weber alternates application of 9-3-6 containing sulfur coated urea and 8-1-8 containing IBDU approximately every two weeks, whereas Bough uses straight IBDU once per month supplemented by foliar applications of ferrous ammonium sulphate and potassium nitrate.

Although methods and materials used certainly will differ from course to course, the objective of fall fertilization is certainly to have the turf in top nutritional condition for the season.

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