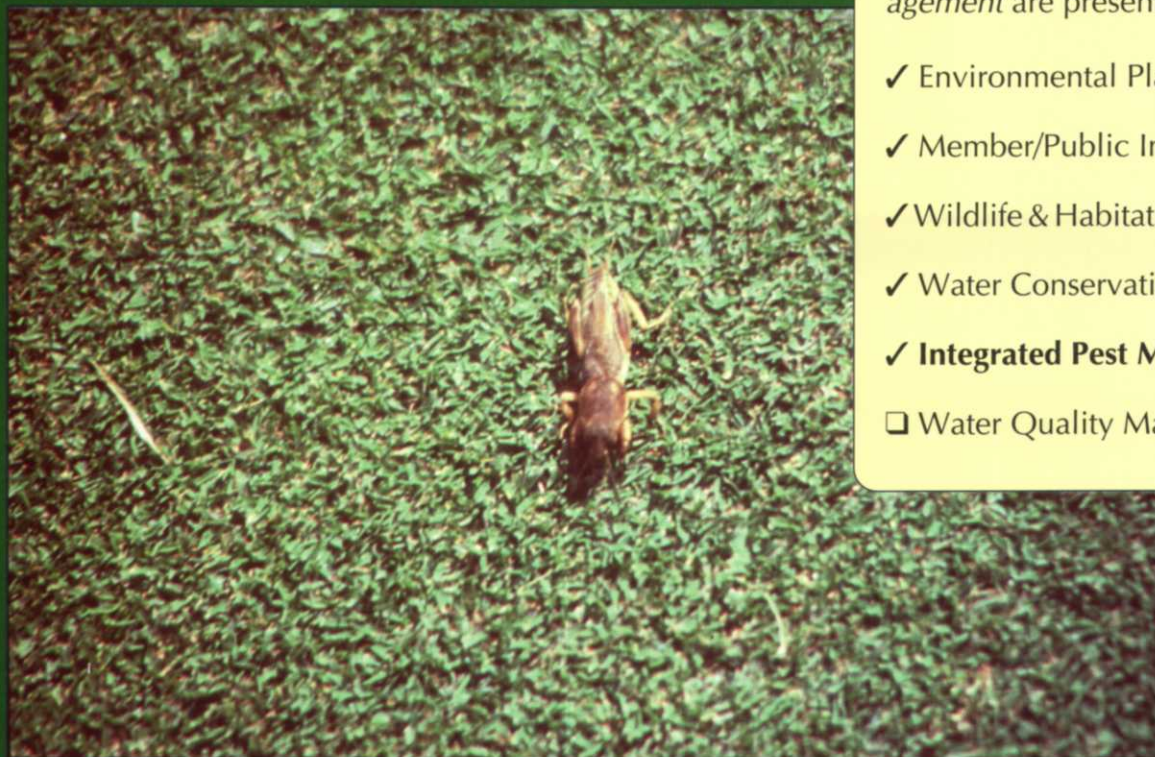


Integrated Pest Management



ACSP: Part V

In Part 5 of this series on the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, ideas for fulfilling the *Integrated Pest Management* are presented.

- ✓ Environmental Planning
- ✓ Member/Public Involvement
- ✓ Wildlife & Habitat Management
- ✓ Water Conservation
- ✓ **Integrated Pest Management**
- ☐ Water Quality Management

IPM - Your Key to the Future

BY TOM BENEFIELD, CGCS

Integrated Pest Management — IPM for short — is the golf course maintenance buzz phrase of the nineties. While some groups are just now catching on to this method of controlling pests, we in the golf industry can be proud that we have been pioneering these practices for a long time.

IPM doesn't mean that you eliminate chemical treatments. Rather it means that you use a variety of methods, scouting, and control agents to minimize damage to the turf to an acceptable level. That level of acceptance will vary from course to course and budget to budget. The wholesale application of chemicals is not only a poor management practice, but it is also a tremendous waste of money.

Biological pest-specific products are the new-

est control agents in expanding IPM practices. Biologicals don't always work as fast as the old synthetic chemicals, but they can be just as effective and certainly more environmentally friendly when they are applied correctly. The greatest obstacle to overcome when using biologicals is the old "instant fix" or "immediate results" mind set. Dr. Vargas of Michigan State told me that successful pest suppression only comes from putting out large numbers or colonies of biologicals frequently, at night, and with water.

As we look to the next century which is quickly closing in on us, researchers are giving us hope for new solutions to old problems. I think it safe to say that there are biologicals in your future. As you can see from the following articles, the future is "now" for some of us.