



vehicle equipped with ROPS. Some supervisors have told me their people would quit if they were required to wear the seat belts.

I have used a heavy-duty truckster as my transportation vehicle in the past. It had plenty of speed if I needed it, and many times I would exchange the bed for a spreader or sprayer in order to complete applications more efficiently. I found that it was easy to change attachments: "Hey Charlie, put the spreader on the Cushman, will you?"

I could fertilize all greens in less than an hour with the spreader attachment and the footprint of the unit was so light that I never saw tracking.

It is hard to beat the economy of sprayer with a centrifugal pump and poly tank, but I prefer a PTO-driven sprayer with mechanical agitation, diaphragm pump and repairable tank. Mechanical agitation helps assure that the chemicals stay mixed and help facilitate pumping the mixture to the last gallon. The diaphragm pump provides higher pressures for spraying trees and is

not likely to be affected by turf paints or silicon-based materials. The repairable tank is nice in case Charlie happens to drop it during a changeover!

Certainly there have been many innovations in golf course utility vehicles over the years. I would urge every superintendent to discuss these improvements and the needs of your course with every equipment sales representative who calls on you. Things are changing quickly and these people take the time to stay abreast of these changes. They know more about your operation and equipment needs than you probably realize.

The fact that they come to you, the manufacturers they represent create these innovations with you in mind and their companies support our industry shows that they are committed and deserving of your time. Education in this relationship goes both ways. If you listen to their recommendations, you will become better versed in this area of your operation even if you do not take their recommendations.



If you provide input, who knows? Maybe they will come out with a dependable safety switch or a unit that can be rinsed properly in less than 45 minutes!

SCOTT WAHLIN, CGCS
The Links At Boynton
Beach

MANAGING A SMALL FLEET

Buying Golf Car Fleet Can Expand Your Utility Vehicle Budget

Our utility vehicle fleet consists of two E-Z-Go GXT 1500s with dump beds; two E-Z-Go GX800s; two Club Car Carry-All IIs and one Club Car Carry-All I.

The two E-Z-Go GXT 1500s are used for hauling sand, gravel, topdressing, concrete and miscellaneous course debris. With their 1500 lb. capacity and 6-ply tires, they are able to take care of most of our heavy-

Improved Speed, Consistency And Overall Playability

Aggressive management practices can compromise the health, quality and playability of traditional bermudagrass varieties. Tifdwarf, Tifgreen, and even some of the new superdwarf varieties become stressed when subjected to reduced mowing height, frequent verticutting, increased topdressing and minimal irrigation. TifEagle, on the other hand, was created to withstand just this kind of abuse. In test after test, TifEagle's quality rated superior to Tifdwarf and other warm-season grasses. Improve the speed, consistency and playability of your greens. Insist on TifEagle.

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Greens Reconstruction

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duty work. We do rent a dump truck for any super heavy duty projects.

One of the GX800's is used full time by our landscape person for all his work. The other (older) one is used for transportation, dragging-in topdressing and miscellaneous light duty jobs.

The two Club Car Carry-Alls are used by the superintendent and cup cutter in the morning or by the person fertilizing greens, tees or other various hand work or irrigation jobs.

We get the use of these vehicles in an agreement with Club Car for buying our golf car fleet. After one year we turn in one vehicle and get a replacement. All of our vehicles have lights because our regular dew-sweeping golfers tee off at the crack of dawn and we have to get out ahead of them, which means working in the dark almost every day.

The Carry-All I is an electric vehicle and is used in the clubhouse area for trash hauling and for hauling range balls from the range picker back to the club-

house. We chose the quiet of electric power so we won't disturb our guests, because this vehicle will be working around the 1st and 10th tees, the range and clubhouse constantly.



We recently purchased a Smithco Spray Star 160 for all spraying needs. We change the nozzle sizes as needed to fit the various applications from greens to fairways.

JOE ONDO, CGCS
Winter Pines GC

MANAGING A LARGE FLEET

Leasing Can Make Sense for Vehicles that See Heavy Use

For our project work we have two Toro Workman 3200s.

Specifications: Made of steel. Gas powered. Load capacity of 4,000 lbs.

Added options:

- Roll bar lights for special-event-preparation work done at night.
- Dump body for ease of hauling and placing materials.
- Toro topdresser attachment for topdressing greens, tees and approaches after aerifying. Selected mounted topdresser versus pull-behind for easier turning and traction.
- Hydraulics used only for the topdresser.

Uses: Transportation for course set-up. Hauling topdressing, project debris and clippings. Pull hand mowers, greens rollers and drag mats.

Lease strategy: These vehicles are leased because they are constantly used in heavy-duty situations due to their payload capacity. Therefore the wear and tear on them after a couple of years would require a great deal of repairs that would not be cost effective if the vehicle were purchased.

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