LESCO meets your fertilizer demands

As a fertilizer buyer, you demand selection, quality, convenience and value. LESCO meets those demands.

Choose from a super selection of quality fertilizers including the popular sulfur-coated formulations for fairways; specialized products for the close-cut turf on greens and tees; a selection of sprayable, water soluble and liquid fertilizers; plus specialty nursery fertilizers for your trees, shrubs and landscape beds. If we don’t have what you want, we’ll custom blend to your specifications.

LESCO manufactures its fertilizers under strict quality control guidelines. You’ll see the results in the beauty and response of your turf and ornamentals.

Beyond quality and service, you also get convenience. LESCO delivers fertilizer the way you want it delivered. Bags or bulk, liquid or granular, you tell us. And because we don’t think you should have to bring the crew off the course when a shipment arrives, we’ll unload the product for you.

That kind of service — coupled with on-time delivery from our Sebring, Florida manufacturing plant — is tough to beat. Just as tough to beat is the value you get with LESCO.

Call today. Let’s discuss selection, quality, convenience and value. LESCO is ready to meet your fertilizer demands.

Another step forward

LESCO prides itself on service. The LESCO Truck and the convenience it offers is by now a familiar sight to Florida superintendents. Seven trucks are presently calling on golf courses throughout the state.

Now we’ve taken another step. We’ve put together an experienced team of fertilizer specialists designed to supplement the already excellent service provided by the trucks. This team of fertilizer specialists offers many years of turf knowledge and expertise.

We think the combination of the LESCO Truck and the fertilizer specialist is a winner. It’s our way of offering the best possible service to Florida superintendents.

Call toll free. (800) 321-5325
The Florida Green
The Official Bulletin of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association
Florida Green Phone: Days — (305) 793-2497

Officers and Directors for Florida G.C.S.A.

TOM BURROWS ........................................ President
Turtle Creek Club
Club Circle Dr., Tequesta, FL 33458 • (305) 746-8911

DON DELANEY, C.G.C.S. .................. Past President
Isla Del Sol, Inc.
6025 Sun Blvd., St. Petersburg, FL 33715 • (813) 866-0313

REED LEFEBVRE .............................. Vice President
Plant City Golf & Country Club
3102 Coronet Rd., Plant City, FL 33566 • (813) 752-1524

RICHARD C. BLAKE, C.G.C.S. Secretary-Treasurer
Quail Ridge Country Club
3715 Golf Road, Boynton Beach, FL 33436 • (305) 737-2889

LES BROWN ......................... South Florida
La Gorce Country Club (305) 866-1923

STEVE PEARSON ............... Palm Beach
Boca Grove Plantation (305) 487-1800

KEVIN DOWNING .................... Treasure Coast
Mariner Sands Country Club (305) 283-7500

JOE ONDO ....................... Central Florida
Winter Pines Golf Club (305) 671-1651

CLINT SMALLRIDGE ................. Everglades
Royal Poinciana Golf Club (813) 261-4919

JOHN HAYDEN, C.G.C.S. ............ North Florida
San Jose Country Club (904) 733-3564

CHARLES RETTEW, C.G.C.S. ........ Gulf Coast
U.S. NAS Recreation Department (904) 452-5555, Ext. 2454

JOHN LUPER ............................ West Coast
Bardmoor Country Club (813) 392-1234, Ext. 232

GARY SMITHER ..................... Sun Coast
Tournament Players Club at Prestancia (813) 923-3104

DAN JONES, C.G.C.S. .... Florida Green Editor
Banyan Golf Club
9059 Ranch Rd., West Palm Beach, FL 33411 • (305) 793-0069

DICK LONG .............................. Printer
Printing Services, Inc.
3249 N.W. 38th St., Miami, FL 33142 • (305) 633-2571

TIM HIERS ..................... Florida Green Assistant Editor
John’s Island Club
1 John’s Island Drive, Vero Beach, FL 32960 • (305) 231-2114

TABLE OF CONTENTS
President's Message ...................... 8
Letters to the Editor .................... 10
The Game and the
Golf Course Superintendent ........... 12
The Future of Golf Tournaments ....... 18
Groom the Bent .......................... 20
West Coast Buccaneeers ............... 21
South Florida Sunshine ............... 24
The Gator Growls ...................... 28
High Ridge Country Club .......... 33
South Florida Divots .................. 38
A Word About Native Plants .......... 41
“Off the Wall” Helpful Hints ......... 42
Golf Turf News ....................... 46
G.C.S.A.A. Golf Tournament ....... 48
Palm Beach Trade Winds ........... 49
It’s a Good Tool ..................... 54
Up with the Stimpmeter ............ 59
Editorial ................................ 64

NOTICE: All correspondence concerning business matters, circulation, editorial and advertising should be addressed to the Editor, P.O. Box 5958, Lake Worth, Fla. 33466. Opinions expressed by writers in by-lined editorials are not necessarily those of this publication. “The Florida Green” is published quarterly: the 1st of January, April, July, October. Closing date for advertising and copy is 45 days prior to publication. Not copyrighted. Please credit the author and “The Florida Green.” All advertising and circulation matters should be addressed to Irene Jones, Assistant to the Editor, at the above address or telephone (305) 793-2497.
These Special Places Rate Special Fertilizers...

PAR EX®
Professional Products.

The grass and grounds of these famous places are just as important as the structure or complex itself. That’s why knowledgeable turf superintendents insist on specially formulated PAR EX Professional Products.

IBDU releases nitrogen slowly, earlier in the spring, evenly through the summer, and carries nitrogen response later into the fall.

Famous places like the park surrounding the St. Louis Arch, Deere & Company Corporate Headquarters and 53 of the nation’s top 100 golf courses* are currently using PAR EX Professional Products. These include Muirfield Village Golf Club, Jack Nicklaus’ home course, as well as most of the other courses he has designed.

Shouldn’t you consider PAR EX with IBDU for your special place? Contact a PAR EX distributor and let him recommend a PAR EX program just for your grounds.

PAR EX and IBDU are products of Estech, Inc. Professional Products Division, P.O. Box 512, Winter Haven, FL 33882-0512.

*As listed by Golf Digest Magazine

PAR EX with IBDU®

PAR EX and IBDU are registered trademarks of Estech, Inc.

See us in Booth 2324
at the GCSAA Conference
in San Francisco
President's Message

The purpose of the FGCSA is “To Promote Turf Management as it pertains to the Golf Course Superintendent and to unify the Golf Course Superintendents of the State of Florida”.

**Equal Representation:** Each local FGCSA chapter has a representative from their chapter who serves on the FGCSA Board of Directors. Each local has a say as to how the FGCSA is run.

**GCSAA, FTGA, and USGA** - These organizations perform research and product evaluation with monies provided for by the FGCSA. The U of F staff of agronomists, pathologists, nematologists, etc. are forever ready to assist us in problem areas or come to speak at our local educational meetings.

Drs. Augustine and Peacock serve the FGCSA as advisory members.

Dr. E. V. Burt, retired U of F agronomist, is now performing special requested assignments for the FGCSA. Current projects include assistance on the “Right to Know” Law and he is available to perform small workshops for employee on-the-job training.

**Environmental Affairs** - FGCSA members are active members of the Florida Agricultural Council, IFAS Advisory Committee, FTGA Legislative Committee, and Water Management District Committees. You, as an FGCSA member, are well represented and are kept constantly informed of “What’s Happening”!

**Florida Green** - Our quarterly, national award-winning turf publication is sent to over 2500 superintendents, professionals, club presidents and managers throughout Florida. In addition to providing educational material, it is an outstanding public relations tool for you, the golf course superintendent.

**Green Sheet** - Our bimonthly communications letter provides FGCSA members with current, up-to-date news items about “What’s Happening” in our nine local chapters plus regional and national news items.

**Membership Directory** - This annual publication is sent to all FGCSA members at the beginning of each year. It contains an up-to-date roster of all FGCSA members plus membership applications to the GCSAA, FTGA and FGCSA. Also, it includes our By-laws, association history, committee roster and Code of Ethics.

**Our Executive Secretary** - Marie Roberts assists all officers, directors, past presidents and committee chairmen in performing committee affairs more effectively.

**The FGCSA Public Relations Committee** this year will be assisted by FGCSA Past President, Paul Turcotte. He will concentrate public relations to several areas: 1) state-wide television promotion of golf maintenance and superintendents, 2) superintendent promotion at all major golf tournaments, 3) promote the use of our slide presentation depicting today’s golf course superintendent, and 4) produce a packaged public relations program for use by all FGCSA chapters.
Fund Raising for Research and Product Evaluation. In 1985, the combined efforts of all FGCSA chapters produced over $23,000. Funds went to Bermudagrass decline, nematode and mole cricket research. In 1986, we have set our goal to double this amount.

Education - Available for you in 1986, the FGCSA Education Committee will produce a full day management seminar at the FTGA regional Turf Conference and two 1/2 day management seminars at the Poa Classic and Crowfoot Open. All seminars offer GCSAA CEU credits. Also, the Education Committee will offer suggestions for local chapter education.

An Employment Referral Service format to benefit Golf Course Superintendents and Assistants looking for positions and clubs looking for Superintendents and Assistants was recently approved by our FGCSA Board of Directors and is now available. For more information, contact our FGCSA secretary, Marie Roberts.

Golf - Our Golf Committee continues to encourage all FGCSA members to establish a USGA handicap.

Ethics - Our existing Code of Ethics will soon be re-evaluated and perhaps be made more clearly defined.

Membership Services - Now available through the FGCSA office are 1) Membership Certificate and Membership Card, 2) FGCSA shirt, 3) FGCSA desk folder, 4) FGCSA portfolio, 5) FGCSA blue blazer, 6) FGCSA crest, 7) FGCSA golf shoe bag, and 8) certificate plaque. A Benevolent Fund for FGCSA membership is in the making.

A Membership Drive is on to get some of the 400 non-members in the state of Florida. Our current membership is now at 340 Superintendents and 110 Assistant Superintendents.

FGCSA Distinguished Service Award - A prestigious form of recognition of a deserving FGCSA Superintendent has been established. The yearly award will be presented to a member who has performed outstanding achievements as a golf course superintendent and has given his time unselfishly in promoting golf course management and unification of the Florida Golf Course Superintendent.

FGCSA Certification Committee is available to assist any member to gain GCSAA certification.

FGCSA Emissary is Past President Paul Turcotte. Paul will try to visit local meetings of all nine chapters to answer any questions pertaining to any of the functions of the FGCSA.

FGCSA Auditor is the firm of Ingram, Leslie and Wagner, C.P.A.

Membership Dues were increased in 1986 from $10 to $40/year. Many of the items discussed above are a direct result of this increase.

If you are not now a member of your local chapter, join now! Become an FGCSA member so that you may take advantage of all that is offered.
Letters to the Editor

Dear Dan:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you and Irene for devoting much of the summer issue of FLORIDA GREEN in helping FTGA promote our recent Conference and Show.

I was particularly impressed with the way Irene combined information from several sources into one smooth flowing, easily-read article. The coverage and publicity given to us from the articles, ads, and editorial were significant in increasing the attendance as well as “getting the word out.”

Again, Dan, thanks for your help in support of FTGA and continued success as editor of FLORIDA GREEN.

Sincerely,
William E. Nass, Editor
FLORIDA TURF DIGEST

Dear Dan:

Congratulations! Your newsletter has been selected a winner in the 1985 GCSAA Chapter Newsletter Contest.

A news release will be distributed soon to affiliated chapters and news media giving official, public notification of the contest results. An article will also be published in the January issue of Golf Course Management on the winning newsletters and the contest details.

You will be recognized for your outstanding work during the Opening Session of the 57th International Golf Course Conference and Show in San Francisco. I hope you can be present. Please notify Bill Shelton, GCSAA Media Relations Manager, of your intentions regarding attendance. You will then be notified of the details of the presentation.

You should be proud of this accomplishment. A lot of hard work and time is required to publish a newsletter — especially a winning newsletter.

Hope to see you in San Francisco.

Cordially,

James M. Taylor, Sr., CGCS
Chairman, Communications/Awards Committee

Dear Dan:

As you can obviously notice from the stationery, I am once again a golf course superintendent. It all happened very fast; I saw the job listed in the G.C.S.A.A. referral service, sent my resume in, went to two interviews, and in a two week period became the golf course supt.

However, the main reason for this letter is to tell you how exceptional the Fall 1985 issue of “The Florida Green” was. One of the sentences on the last page expressed it very well, “How do we top this issue?” I keep asking myself that question, but then your next issue comes out and answers it. Since I am in Kansas City and my family is in Peoria trying to sell our house, I left the issue with my wife. I told her to read about San Francisco because everything she wanted to know about the town was covered. You and your staff did not miss anything; plus you still had space to cover excellent topics like two-way radios.

I would appreciate it if you could change my mailing address to Blue Hills C.C., 777 W. Burning Tree Drive, Kansas City, MO. 64145. I am looking forward to seeing you in San Francisco.

Respectfully,

Dave Fearis
C.G.C.S.

Mr. Dan Jones, CGCS
Banyan Golf Club
9059 Ranch Road
W. Palm Beach, FL 33411

Dear Dan:

I really was impressed with the cover on your fall issue of The Florida Green and your pre-conference coverage inside. It all reminded me to remind you that we are looking forward to your conference article in our April issue.

Sincerely,

Eldon Miller
Editor & Publisher
Club Management Magazine