59th International Golf Course Conference & Show

HOUSTON GCSAA

February 1-8, 1988
George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, Texas

• 30 Seminars • Golf Championships • Trade Show • Annual Meeting

For Conference, Seminar or Exhibitor Information:
1-800/GSA-SUPT or 913/841-2240

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America
1617 St. Andrews Drive
Lawrence, KS 66046-9990
Until now, controlling purple nutsedge in turf was a tall order. No matter what you did to eliminate it, the problem kept popping up.

That's why American Cyanamid developed new IMAGE® herbicide. It's the first post-emergent product that controls purple nutsedge in warm-season grasses. Even when temperatures are at seasonal highs, IMAGE is also effective against other tough-to-stop weeds. That includes wild garlic and wild onion.

What's more, you can use IMAGE herbicide on all warm-season turf species (except Bahiagrass) and all soil types—with no volatilization. And it's compatible with fertilizer as well as other herbicides for tank mixing.

So ask for new IMAGE. The only herbicide for turf that stands up to purple nutsedge.
Only new IMAGE® herbicide effectively controls purple nutsedge in warm-season grasses. And LESCO sells IMAGE. To order or to learn more about this important new herbicide, call (800) 321-5325. We'll send you a free, fact-filled brochure. Or contact your LESCO sales representative.
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.

RICHARD C. BLAKE, C.G.C.S. .......... President
Bocaire Country Club
4989 Bocaire Blvd., Boca Raton, FL 33431 • (305) 997-0408

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

CECIL JOHNSTON ............... Vice President
Avila Golf & Country Club
943 Guisando de Avila, Tampa, FL 33612 • (813) 962-3018

JOEL JACKSON ............ Secretary-Treasurer
Lake Buena Vista Club
6780 Tamarind Circle, Orlando, FL • (305) 828-3664

DAVID LOTTES ................. South Florida
Ft. Lauderdale Country Club • (305) 583-1917

MARK HENDERSON .......... Palm Beach
Atlantis Golf Course • (305) 965-6316

KEVIN DOWNING, C.G.C.S. .. Treasure Coast
Mariner Sands Country Club • (305) 283-7500

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

STEVE CIARDULLO .......... Everglades
Hunters Ridge Country Club, c/o Sand Kastle Realty
3000 A Immokalee Rd., Naples, FL 33942 • (813) 597-4928

TOM COWAN ................. North Florida
Deerwood Country Club • (904) 641-6400

WILLIAM SMITH, C.G.C.S. .... Gulf Coast
Killearn Country Club • (904) 893-2412

CECIL JOHNSTON .............. West Coast
Avila Golf & Country Club • (813) 962-3018

LARRY LIVINGSTON ......... Sun Coast
Gator Creek Golf Club • (813) 922-0833

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. 38 St., Miami, FL 33142 • (305) 633-2571

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message .................................. 8
Letters to the Editor ................................ 10
Bentgrass 101 ..................................... 12
What About Bentgrass Greens in Bermudagrass Territory? .... 16
Watching Your Tees & Q's .......................... 24
Turf Nematicides: An Update ........................ 31
Palm Beach Trade Winds............................ 34
Management on the Edge ............................ 46
Bentgrass in Florida ................................ 55
Editorial ......................................... 76

ABOUT OUR COVER
Houston, Texas, site of the 59th International Golf Course Conference and Show.

DANIEL ZELAZEK
Cover Photography
For reprints or other photographic needs, call Daniel at (305) 746-2123.

Florida Green Reporters

South Florida ............ (305) 563-2229 .......... George Jones
Palm Beach ............. (305) 641-4439 .......... Mike Bailey
Treasure Coast .......... (305) 231-6885 .......... Jim Callaghan
Central Florida ........ (305) 828-3663 .......... Joel Jackson
North Florida .......... (904) 384-8038 .......... Donald Koover, C.G.C.S.
West Coast ............. (813) 867-2111 .......... Charlie Miller
Everglades .............. (813) 768-0892 .......... Norman Carmouche
Sun Coast ............... (813) 792-2943 .......... Jim Svabek
Gulf Coast ............. (904) 932-4222 .......... Charles Brasington

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: 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.
Having trouble getting bentgrass? Try Jamestown Chewings Fescue

It's no secret that bentgrasses are in short supply. It's hard to get enough creeping bentgrass. But there is a solution: Jamestown chewings fescue! After all, chewings fescue has been used on golf courses for over three centuries. And there's none better than Jamestown. It's been proven in tests at the University of Rhode Island and on prominent courses for more than 20 years.

For new greens
Cut your bentgrass needs in half by using a mix which is 50% Jamestown and 50% bentgrass by seed weight. Not only will this match the performance of a solid bent, but will give some added benefits as well. Jamestown establishes quickly and puts the greens into play faster. It will perform as a companion grass for up to 10 years as the bentgrass matures and gradually dominates the turf.

For repairs
Use 3-4 pounds of Jamestown with ½ lb. of bentgrass per 1000 square feet. This mixture has proven very effective in emergency repair of damaged greens.

For winter overseeding
Consider Jamestown as part of a mix for overseeding southern Bermudagrass greens, tees and lawns. Jamestown will enhance turf performance during winter months. So whether it's to help out with a bentgrass shortage, or add benefits to your overseeding program, try Jamestown chewings fescue.

Jamestown chewings fescue played a big part in developing The Links at Spanish Bay in Monterey, CA. Greens: 80% Jamestown, 20% Colonial bentgrass Tees: 100% Jamestown Fairways: Blend of chewings fescue including Jamestown Roughs: Mixture of fescues including Jamestown chewings, Reliant hard, sheep and creeping red.

Lofts Seed Inc. World's largest marketer of turfgrass seed Bound Brook, NJ 08805 (201) 356-8700
Lofts/Great Western, Albany, OR (503) 928-3100 or (800) 547-4063 Sunbelt Seeds, Inc., Norcross, GA (404) 448-9932 or (800) 522-7333
To locate the Lofts' distributor nearest you, call (800) 526-3890 (Eastern U.S.) • (800) 547-4063 (Western U.S.)
President’s Message

Bentgrass — Friend or Foe?

Past President Reed LeFebvre's message states it very accurately, "Bentgrass, next to the lottery, is the biggest gamble in Florida."

The problem experienced at The PGA Tournament and The USGA Amateur Tournament during the months of August and September indicate the fact that serious problems can quickly appear with Bentgrass greens when weather conditions and Mother Nature fail to cooperate.

There have been numerous problems throughout the Southeast with Bentgrass greens this past year and there will probably be more in the future, as we attempt to grow a Northern Bentgrass in the South, throughout the year.

Speaking as a Superintendent, I know that most Superintendents strive for perfection in their job of providing first class playing conditions for their members; and especially for USGA and PGA Tournaments. I am sure that Superintendents everywhere shared the gut-wrenched feeling of frustration that those Superintendents in charge of those tournaments experienced.

Congratulations and respect for those individuals who in spite of adversity carry on the job and see the fight through, keeping their cool and accomplishing their objective. Possibly it is because of working with nature that keeps most Superintendents "real and humble" people. Superintendents know from experience that even the best planned programs can be changed or completely destroyed at the whims of nature.

On October 8, 1987, The Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association sponsored a seminar on Bentgrass at the J.D.M. Golf Club. Tom Burrows and Marie Roberts are to be congratulated on the efficient, very successful planning of this major event, which attracted a large turnout of Golf Course Superintendents and Club Officials.

The speakers, all experts from throughout the US and Florida provided factual information as it relates to turf management for all turf, but more specifically growing Bentgrass in Florida.

I think everyone associated with turf management knows, or should know at this time, that excellent turf conditions do not just happen. Good clubs, in the north, as well as in the south, have a history of consistency in sound cultural management practices and have practiced them over a period of years.

I wonder if some people think that just planting Bentgrass is a "silver bullet" type approach to solving a problem which often relates to poor initial construction, improper soil conditions, drainage problems, etc.

Let us get “real” when we demand playing conditions like the course we played the other day (the one that was properly planned and constructed).

Let us think about proven, factual information that is available to everyone involved in the turf and golf business. The USGA Green Section, Federal and State Extension Services, agronomists, pathologists, soil scientists, plant breeders, entomologists, all offer to us factual information. Yes, we do still have a lot to learn about the causes of soil conditions and plant diseases; but we must listen to the experts and examine the facts before we make decisions about our turf programs.

This issue of The Florida Green is devoted to the bentgrass controversy that has developed in our state. Club officials will find this issue packed with factual, scientific information from the experts, on Bentgrass greens, as well as Bermuda greens and overseeding.

(cont. on page 14)
Do your sand traps look more like the Sahara Desert?

If they do, then you need the Smithco Super Rake,™ the most advanced sand trap raking system on the market today. The Super Rake features an exclusive adjustable hydraulic floating rake which actually follows the trap contours resulting in a perfectly raked trap everytime.

The Super Rake has a 3-wheel drive system with hydraulic motors on each wheel. So you get all the power you need. And the unique attachments make sure you have the equipment you need to get every job done quickly, efficiently and economically. Attachments like an independent cultivator, disc edger, front mounted plow and drag mat. And for golf courses with less severe traps, the Smithco Easy Rider is an effective mechanical drive rake at an economical price. Exclusive 2-year warranty. No one offers a 2-year warranty except Smithco and DeBRA. It's just one more reason why you should consider the Smithco Super Rake.

So don't get trapped by inferior sand trap equipment. Get the Smithco Super Rake. And smooth out your wild deserts.
Dear Dan:

First, congratulations on running away with all of the "Oscars" of our profession.

Receiving these awards does not mean you should now relax. It means you must go forward at a much faster pace. Go, Go, Go! (perhaps beginning as a GCSAA Director???). Irene can handle the Florida Green — Go for it!

The enclosed packet contains the Bentgrass survey summary, the seminar summary, thoughts on Bentgrass — Part II, Dr. Dudeck's letter, and Larry Kieffer's column from Florida Golfweek. We would enjoy hearing your comments and suggestions on Bentgrass — Part II. Note that the seminar summary will appear in the January issue of the Florida Green.

Thanks to you and Irene for being there. Sorry we took so long getting the article to you for the Florida Green.

Marie said she will be faster the next time (somebody has to take the blame!).

Best regards,

Tom Burrows
Director of Education

Dear Dan:

As I usually do when "The Florida Green" comes, I promptly zipped through the Summer 1987 issue to see what was on the minds of my best clientelle, and found most of the issue to be as informative as ever. However, I was dismayed when I found my old "Turf Nematode Control Update" article reprinted nearly 3 years after it was current. If that was a signal that I have not sent you anything for a long time, I got the message, and enclose a new article that you may want to use to correct some of the info in the one printed in the Summer issue. It will be distributed to County Agents in August, so you may also see it in other publications.

As Reed noted in his President's Message, there have been many changes in the chemicals that we have available to manage turf, and the article on p. 55-56 is a perfect illustration of that point. As you can see by comparing the enclosed manuscript with the printed article, three of the six products listed in 1984 are no longer available for turf, one product can be added, and there are some changes in details of use of one of the remaining three: Nemacur 15G, Dasanit 15G, and Mocap E.C. are no longer legal for use on turf; Nemacur 3 has been added for fairway treatment; rates and home lawn use restrictions for Mocap 10G have changed a bit. It is conceivable that the implementation of Endangered Species labelling may effectively eliminate most nematicides from most courses during the next 2-3 years, so this will continue to be a hot and unstable topic for the golf course industry.

I'll try to write you more often if you'll promise not to run any pesticide recommendation articles that are over 18 months (maximum) old.

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. DUNN
Extension Nematologist

Dear Mr. Jones:

I have just been given a copy of the Summer Issue of FLORIDA GREEN and, being the individual pictured on the cover, I wondered if it would be at all possible to obtain the original of this picture.

If you keep these pictures in a permanent file perhaps I could get a copy.

Your consideration of this request will be most appreciated.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Schwenger