Join us for the

**61st INTERNATIONAL GOLF COURSE CONFERENCE & SHOW**

February 19-26, 1990
Orange County Convention/Civic Center
Orlando, Florida

- TRADE SHOW
- GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP
- GCSAA ANNUAL MEETING
- EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

For conference, seminar or exhibitor information:
800/472-7878 or 913/841-2240
1617 St. Andrews Drive
Lawrence, Kansas 66047-1707

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Zelazek's covers make it easy to compile wish list of Florida courses to visit

Dear Mr. Jones:
Each time I receive my latest copy of The Florida Green, I plan to write and commend you on the fine job you have done over the years in developing this unique magazine. Well, better late than never.

I have particularly enjoyed the outstanding cover photographs by Daniel Zelazek. Saving the covers of each issue has been an easy way for us to compile a wish list of golf courses for our next Florida vacation.

I certainly hope all future plans are to continue with this long practice of excellence in cover photography. Perhaps you should also consider a second large photo as a golf course centerfold. We would certainly enjoy seeing twice as many of these quality photographs by Mr. Zelazek.

The development of the type and depth of the articles over the years and the more recent addition of the credits for the inside photographs have been excellent steps in the development of this fine magazine.

The best to you all in the future.

K. Mitchell
San Francisco

Wedge article on pine tree decline prompts follow-up study by forest pathologist

Dear Mr. Jones:

The article by David Wedge concerning the pine tree decline syndrome which appeared in the summer edition of The Florida Green was an important review of this problem. Mr. Wedge described the two major causes of decline in golf course construction shock and alkaline water irrigation, which allow this problem to persist.

Since the publication of the early research which Mr. Wedge mentioned, I have continued to test chemical solutions for low-pressure, microinjection into declining pines.

One series of injections into chlorotic pines at a golf course in Bradenton has shown very encouraging results. Injections performed early last March into 120 trees allowed almost all trees to improve in foliar color and demonstrate production of new foliage. Three trees in an advanced state of decline had died by early August, but the remaining trees maintained the improved color.

I'll continue to monitor these trees through March, 1990, when a one-year evaluation will be made.

If there are additional golf course superintendents who may want to sponsor additional research trials at their courses, I would be pleased to hear from them.

Roger S. Webb
Extension Forest Pathologist
University of Florida
Gainesville

Thanks for your years of service

Dear Dan & Irene:

It’s unfortunate that in all the time I’ve known you, I’ve never had the pleasure of meeting you. Both Don and I have enjoyed working with you on The Florida Green and are sad to know you are leaving it.

You have done a fabulous job and should leave knowing you are appreciated by everyone!

I marvel at your ability to get everything accomplished. You must love high pressure! Good luck in the future.

Maureen & Don Kooyer
Jacksonville

Letters always welcome

Letters to the editor are welcome on all topics related to the art of golf course management in Florida. Preference will be given to those dealing with golf course superintendents. Letters will be edited for grammar, style, brevity and clarity. Address letters to The Florida Green, Janlark Communications, Inc., P.O. Box 336, Auburndale, FL 33823.
YOUR IRRIGATION CONTROL SYSTEM SHOULD GIVE YOU MORE OPTIONS

Rainbird has a control system to give you all the options you're looking for. With the Rainbird Maxi System IV, you've got the flexibility and control you need to use your irrigation system as an effective, energy saving, water management tool, and you'll get the service and support of Boynton Pump & Irrigation Supply that’s second to none.

Call Boynton Pump & Irrigation Supply for a demonstration of Rainbird's Maxi System IV and Rainbird's complete line of golf course controllers, valves and rotors.
Perhaps it's time to look back across the Pond, where superintendents have been nurturing the game of golf for centuries. Maybe they have been ahead of the game all along while we have been digging our own graves.

Can you remember watching the British Open on television this year? Can you remember how brown the golf course appeared?

I remember asking my green committee chairman the next day what he thought about the conditions and he quickly responded, "Deplorable!"

That adjective sounds a little harsh, but let's face it: courses in America are commonly wall-to-wall green and kept in impeccable condition.

Perhaps a little too impeccable.

Maybe our Scottish forefathers are ahead of the game, while we are out there digging our own graves. Just how long can we continue to overproduce?

Let's be honest. American golf courses are maintained too well and everyone's at fault. We as superintendents strive to make our golf courses better every year. When will we reach our limit? What about American golfers? Are they getting spoiled? We hear them complain about those things we do for our own good like aerifying, top dressing, verticutting and so on.

Those Scotsmen do far less and are far better off. And I mean no disrespect: they've got this business figured out far better than we do.

Many American golfers travel from place to place, playing each golf course at its peak level of maintenance. Our members travel from north to south, expecting perfection at each stop along the way. Member-guest tournaments compound the problem.

If the course down the road has something special, you can sure bet that your members will have you doing the same thing in the very near future.

And what about touring pros?

Is there such a thing as a silver spoon? Is the American touring pro spoiled? We hear of foreign pros playing more competitively because they are more familiar with normal world conditions. Again, are we spoiling our pros with fast greens, tight fairways and so on.

It's got so bad that now we hear TV commentators discussing "roll of the fairways!"

Where is it going to end? Even the commentators are spoiled. Sure, they give us a lot of respect and credit when they compliment the golf courses, but the point is, they are calling attention to the very best-conditioned courses in the world.

Is this whole golf business heading in the right direction? Have you ever really thought about what golf will be like in the year 2010? I'm not talking about laser golf with high-tech clubs; I'm talking about the green stuff we play on. We dream of drought-tolerant, heat-resistant, special grasses that we haven't even seen yet. In reality, things might be completely different from what we now envision.

First, let's assume money always will be available to support the top-level clubs. Twenty years from now, money might not even be an issue anywhere.

Instead, the issues might be water
Blaze a Trail ... in Concrete!

The Concrete Path Paver: The latest technology in concrete golf cart paths.

Now you can benefit from the many advantages of concrete paths and sidewalks. Southern Concrete Pavers, the innovators in concrete path installation, offer the latest technology at incredibly low cost with the U.S. patent approved Concrete Path Paver.

Southern Concrete Pavers offers paving services throughout Florida and beyond, with equipment sales anywhere outside the State of Florida.

Concrete Advantages:
- Paths available in 4-12 ft. widths
- Permanent and maintenance free
- LOW COST—in most cases, even less than asphalt!

State-of-the-Art Equipment
- Extremely portable
- Very few moving parts—little if any down time
- Form free—greatly reduces labor cost
- Minimal hand work—usually only requires brooming and scoring
- Speedy installation—up to 2,000 linear ft. per day
- The Concrete Path Paver can be purchased in widths from 4-12 ft.
- This unique machine has received a patent from the U.S. Patent Office, #4, 878 778
- Order Now! Machines can be delivered in approx. 4 weeks

Borrow our videotape and see for yourself.

*Dealer inquiries welcome.

Call or FAX today for free estimate or more information.
(904) 746-1797
FAX (904) 746-1831

Southern Concrete Pavers, Inc.
3210 W. Woodthrush St. • Lecanto, FL 32661
availability and banned chemicals. Golfers may have to adapt to brown, dry turf, weeds, and insect damage.

In 20 years, we might be irrigating greens and tees just three times a week and fairways only once a week. Perhaps by then man will have consumed or polluted so much of his fresh water sources that the precious remainder will not be available for golf courses at any price.

Lush, wall-to-wall green may be a distant memory.

You’ve heard of organic gardening. What would it be like to manage a golf course the organic way? That’s right; no pesticides of any sort! Environmentalists and government regulations will have virtually eliminated all the current pesticides except those which are so safe as to be ineffective.

If for no reason other than political reality, the current restricted pesticides that combat nematodes and mole crickets will be long gone and these insect pests will abound in numbers we have not yet seen. (The Rules of Golf may even permit a golfer to knock down mole cricket mounds in his line.)

And as for weeds, they will be prevalent everywhere. The current herbicides on the market will be long gone. We could contemplate pulling weeds by hand, but labor costs make clean golf courses prohibitively expensive. It will be easier just to let the weeds grow because, after all, everybody will have them.

As a matter of fact, we might even play winter rules and roll the ball onto a clump of weeds because at least they offer a better lie than sand.

What about these new so-called low-maintenance golf courses that architects currently are creating with abrupt mounds, huge bunkers, and excessive fields of love grass? Somebody out there is going to get rich modifying all these modern monuments to the way they should have been constructed in the first place.

On the other hand, maybe we can prepare for the future now, since the change is inevitable and superintendents will be virtually powerless in its wake. Pesticides will be banned no matter how many lobbyists we employ. Golfers are going to have to accept that fact.

Those Scottish chaps have not nurtured the game of golf for centuries by accident. They have something to teach us. Perhaps the way back to the future lies on the other side of the Big Pond.
On any list of world class bents Cobra will be there.

Cobra, the very fine textured creeping bentgrass, which is now considered one of the world's finest, was developed jointly by Rutgers University and International Seeds, Inc.

Cobra thrives when cut at 6/32 inch and normally requires less mowing, verticutting and brushing and produces measurably less thatch.

On a golf green built to USGA specifications at Griffin, Georgia, Cobra's color was rated superior to that of Penncross in March, May, August and October and better than that of Penneagle in March, August and October.

In the matter of color, shoot density and cover Cobra was judged comparable to Penncross and Penn eagle.

In a North Carolina State trial Cobra's turf quality was rated superior to that of Penncross and Penn eagle.

At the same time Cobra proved to be superior to Penncross in dry root weight and had better resistance to dollar spot.

Cobra is winter-hardy, heat tolerant, disease and drought-resistant and, while vigorous, is not as aggressive as Penncross.

Cobra is a product of

"Seed – the Gift of Life" ™

INTERNATIONAL SEEDS, INC.
Halsey, Oregon USA
Editing the chapter magazine gives a superintendent something to do in his spare time

Tom Mascaro and I sat at the table in his office, deciding how to fill up the 16 pages of *The South Florida Green*. Tom said we would use a two-column format with 62-pica columns and 6-point letters with 36-point titles. It all sounded Greek to me. Then Tom asked me if I would consider being the editor.

Wow! Me?

Ignorance is bliss. It was December 1975.

The telephone rings. It is 8 p.m., Sunday evening, Dec. 3, 1989, and Larry Kieffer wants to know if we should hold *The Florida Green* to 86 pages or increase it to 94. We have received 47.5 pages of advertising for the Winter issue, and our policy is 50 percent editorial and 50 percent advertising.

On Monday evening, I call Daniel Zelazek at work (he works the night shift at Pratt Whitney Aircraft) to inform him that we are ready to take the cover picture of our golf team in Orlando.

“Didn’t I tell you my wife is having a baby any day now and I can’t go anywhere?” says Daniel.

I assure him he forgot to tell me as my heart flutters. I hurriedly call Larry and inform him of the situation.

“You’ll have to find a photographer in Orlando,” I say.

Tuesday, Irene calls Ralph Baxter at Hector Turf and tells him we will need Cheshire labels for the mailing house used by our new printer. Ralph says he has never heard of Cheshire labels and will have to talk to his computer department.

Wednesday, our largest advertising client calls three days after our ad deadline and wants to run an additional two-page ad. We reluctantly accept the ad.

We call Larry, who says he has just spent three hours on the flow chart (the diagram that shows where each ad and story will go) and is almost halfway finished. We tell him about the ad and he mutters something about deadlines.

Thursday, Dick Long — our printer for 12 years — calls and says he needs some money. (Sixty days after printing the Fall issue, our bill is only half paid.) I quickly look in the checkbook, but I already know what I will see. Too many receivables. I tell him I will bring it to him the following week. All the way to South Miami!

Larry calls back and says that his cover photographer has backed out. I tell him to keep looking.

Yes, Tom, I will accept the editorship. It will be exciting and give me something to do in my spare time. Now if I can get Max Brown to write a quarterly column. And maybe Irene to type the articles. I can probably get Harry McCartha to do the...
Get Another Benefit From Poa trivialis...

DARKER COLOR

More and more professionals are using Poa trivialis for its many benefits. With Laser you can also get the darker color you've been looking for.

LASER Keeps Greens in Play

Overseeding with Laser Poa trivialis has a big advantage over ryegrass. You won't hear golfers complain about poor putting greens during the fall grow-in period like you do with ryegrass. Laser can be cut close immediately after germination, unlike perennial ryes that need to become established first. With Laser there's no waiting. That means uninterrupted play on your greens after fall overseeding.

Advantages of Winter Overseeding with LASER Poa trivialis

- Darker color
- Germinates quickly
- Can be cut close immediately after overseeding
- Improves putting surfaces compared to greens overseeded with 100% perennial ryegrass.
- Retains dark green color in winter
- Tolerates cold weather
- Provides a smooth spring transition
- Performs well in damp soil
- Tolerates shade

Use LASER

Use Laser alone. Or blend it with perennial rye and chewings fescue for a smooth putting turf. Either way, you'll get all the benefits of Poa trivialis...and a much darker color.

NOTE: Laser Poa trivialis is included as a component of Marvelgreen + Laser and Marvelgreen Classic winter overseeding mixtures.

Lofts Seed Inc.
World's largest marketer of turfgrass seed
Bound Brook, NJ 08805
(201) 356-8700 • (800) 526-3890