Labeled for use on golf courses and sod farms only
Proven effective on thousands of courses and in numerous university trials
Apply at 60 to 80 lbs. per acre for insect control
Concentrated 5% granular formulation

For use on all turfgrass areas
4 to 6 week residual control
Apply at 100 to 200 lbs. per acre to control insects
Distributes evenly through standard rotary spreaders
Larger particle size makes calibration easier

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Mainstay 2G insecticide
Mainstay ™ 2G Joins the Ranks!

New formulation to help win the Battle of the Bugs!

Superintendents now have a choice about what to use to control mole crickets, grubs, chinchbugs, and other important turfgrass pests: LESCO Mainstay 2G and Crusade 5G Granular Insecticides. Both provide excellent control of soil- and surface-feeding insects. Both have the active ingredient fonofos, a proven performer on thousands of warm-season courses and in numerous university trials. And both come in an easy-to-spread granule formulation that demonstrates superior efficacy from tee to green.

Your Choice

Crusade at 60-80 lbs./acre or Mainstay at 100-200 lbs./acre

Both provide four to six weeks residual control, making them among the most cost-effective insecticides on the market today.

Ask your LESCO Sales Representative about your new choice in insect control:

Mainstay 2G
or
Crusade 5G Granular Insecticides.

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Our jobs have gotten tougher and more demanding year after year, and, other than
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Randy Nichols, CGCS, Cherokee Town & Country Club, Dunwoody, Ga., was
elected president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America
(GCSAA) during the association’s recent annual meeting in Anaheim, Calif.

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Jim Svabek is an anomaly in this business. It is rare to find a superintendent with the
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alism, and patience.

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Florida built a 20,000-square-foot golf course putting green at the Fort Lauderdale
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Superintendent Prentiss C. Knotts has developed a system of rating each employee
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Since golf courses are operated on an economic calendar instead of an agronomic
calendar, we need to know what days or even half-days that we can’t have the golf
course for normal operations. To gain that knowledge requires us to do a better job
of communicating.
There's one sure way to turn your tournament-condition tees, greens and fairways into so many acres of rough: ignore Pythium blight. Because, as sure as the sun sets in the west, Pythium will strike. Unless you've protected your turf with the best Pythium prevention on the course today: CHIPCO® ALIETTE® brand fosetyl Al fungicide. CHIPCO® ALIETTE® doesn't just cover turf, it actually gets inside each blade of grass—including the roots—to deliver powerful systemic protection other fungicides just can't match. And it stays on the job for up to 21 days with
IT. AND YOU DEFINITELY CAN’T IGNORE IT.

Each application. You can even use CHIPCO® ALIETTE® to control Pythium and Phytophthora on your high-value ornamentals.

Now, how’s that for convenience and flexibility? Remember, as temperature and humidity rise, so does the likelihood of Pythium tarnishing your hard-earned reputation. This year, strike first with the proven performance of CHIPCO® ALIETTE® brand fungicide.

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Call: 1-800-334-9745. As with any crop protection chemical, always read and follow instructions on the label. CHIPCO and ALIETTE are registered trademarks of Rhone-Poulenc.
As I sit down to write this President’s message, my staff is out cleaning up the debris from the “killer storm” that ripped across the country March 12-13.

My golf course is a mess and looks as bad as it did after Hurricane Andrew, whose eye passed 70 miles south of here. We’ll be cleaning up all week, but I feel extremely fortunate (again) when others so near suffered so much worse — Dan Jones, our Editor Emeritus from Banyan Golf Club, is only two miles from here and he has over 300 trees down and other serious damage from a tornado spawned by the storm. The thermometer is dropping, and by tomorrow night we could reach the first freezing temperatures we’ve had in South Florida in over three years — a fitting finish to a strange and difficult golfing season.

For some superintendents, it may also mark the finish of their employment. Rumors and speculations are circulating about superintendents who may soon lose their jobs because of member unhappiness with course conditions this unusual and unpredictable winter season.

I received a call myself just this morning from the green committee chairman of a nearby club asking for help in finding a new superintendent.

It is unfortunate, unfair and ironic, that we are often the victims of our own professional expertise — our members have come to expect outstanding conditions at all times, believing us capable of circumventing even the powerful force of Mother Nature.

Our jobs have gotten tougher and more demanding year after year, and, other than ourselves, who can we count on to help us meet these challenges and remain among the employed?

The answer? Each other. Your fellow superintendents and other professionals who belong to the various golf and turf-related associations — The Florida GCSA, FTGA, GCSSA, and USGA.

I’ve thought a lot about our professional associations since the GCSAA convention, and the message the membership was sending to the GCSAA Board and staff. Where would we be without these organizations?

Would we still be wearing overalls, working out of a barn, and jealously guarding our trade secrets for our personal job security? Would golf course maintenance have advanced to the high level it is today, without these professional associations pointing the way, providing education, funding research, and forging bonds of friendship and cooperation that last a lifetime?

It is hard for me to imagine a career in turf management without these associations. It is hard for me to imagine superintendents who fail to see the benefits of belonging to these associations.

The leadership of these organizations may move in directions that many members do not support, as demonstrated by the defeat of the GCSAA bylaw proposals, but this does not negate the overall positive contributions of the association. Neither does it negate the fact that everyone owes something to the profession that sustains him.

As we move forward with our professional association programs we need everyone to get involved. There are no free rides out there. If you’re not a member of the FGCSA and FTGA then you should join today. Your support will help our industry to reach new heights and explore new directions for tomorrow’s golf courses. Do your duty and call 1-800-732-6053 and 1-800-882-6721.

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PAR EX GETS TO THE ROOT OF THE MATTER AND NO DEEPER. ALL YEAR 'ROUND.
Anyone who has seen recent newscasts can attest to the horrendous weather which has assaulted our nation. "The Mother of all Storms," as one television station called it, rolled through our state with such fury and devastation that it brought back memories of the wrath of Hurricane Andrew. It will surely be remembered for a long time to come.

I think "the storm of the century" is a fitting end to an already disastrous winter season here in Florida, especially if you were trying to grow turfgrass. It began with the gruesome, depressing days of cloudiness and rain in December which continued into January. This fomented disease and thin turf around all sections of the Sunshine state.

Regardless of what you tried to do, the climatic conditions proved once again that you are at the mercy of Mother Nature. People raised cutting heights, sprayed greens two times per week with fungicide, spiked, top dressed and anything else you can think of to improve on a desperate situation, yet nothing seemed to help.

None of the superintendents I talked to expected to have summer rainstorms, humidity and overcasts skies in the middle of December.

The big problem is that these conditions are perfectly acceptable in the middle of July when all of the golfers are back up north. But when the summer conditions occur while they are down here, and they get exposed to what these conditions do to the turf, then that's a whole different ballgame.

They have come to expect certain conditions during the winter when they are visiting here and any deviation from those conditions is difficult for them to understand.

And from the uproar which was created by mother nature, we find tremendous blame being laid at the feet of the golf course superintendent. Fine, upstanding individuals who just in November were doing a “great” job are now labeled and tagged as benign imbeciles incapable of the simplest tasks. This is an unfair and false accusation but nonetheless accurately reflects the sentiments of members.

The biggest injustice is yet to unfold. This will be the wide dismissal of superintendents this spring. I have no doubt that many of our members will be looking for new employment in a few months. Not because of their incompetence but because of the fickle nature of this business and the “one-upmanship” mentality of the members at the clubs they work for.

At a local superintendents' meeting in March, the talk was all about the weather and the havoc it has created for golf courses. Only two people in the room said they had good greens, all the rest lamented the poor conditions of theirs and the same story was repeated by one after another. The conversation went on for hours with a sharing of ideas and information that might help someone in their situation.

It was heartwarming to experience the camaraderie of the people in the room and I left with a sense of pride to be a member of this association and in better spirits then when I had arrived.

The reason I felt better was I had heard for weeks from my golfers how much better the greens on all of the golf courses around us were. Well, it seems that all of the other superintendents were hearing the same things from their members and that their golf courses were the worst in the area. It seems that the truth of the matter lies somewhere between the two extremes.

From a member's perspective, the notion that "the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence" was a tool they could use to flail away at their superintendent because conditions were not what they "used to be" for this time of year.
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While you’re away from work, some of the darndest things can happen.

I have thought of this situation in light of how I relate to my children. I find myself having higher expectations of my children and requiring more of them than I do of my nephews.

I have a greater sense of pride and set higher standards for their activity and school work. I think members of our clubs view us in a similar light.

They have intense pride in their local clubs and, like me with my children, they have high expectations of the golf course. When these standards aren’t reached, they have a difficult time understanding why, and at times they make hasty judgments as to why the program isn’t working like it should.

And this leads us to where we are today. With the exception of the “Storm of the Century,” the weather has been getting a little better each day. Who knows — with the right weather conditions and given enough time to get the golf courses back to the conditions desired, some of the superintendents who are “on the bubble” may be able to keep their jobs and their lives in place. Let’s hope so.

Until next time, may God bless and keep you safe.

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