The New Jacobsen Eclipse 322 Battery Riding Greens Mower

The new Eclipse 322 has been designed according to specific customer feedback and is the most advanced greens mower available for today’s golf industry.

There is no better test of a mower’s durability than day-to-day use, and Jacobsen put the Eclipse 322 to the test under every imaginable condition.

After final field tests throughout 2008 on some of the nation’s leading golf courses, Jacobsen learned that the all-electric Eclipse 322 is the quiet, economic, productive and environmentally friendly mower superintendents are looking for now.

With a simple battery-powered system, the Eclipse 322 reduces noise, maintenance needs and fuel consumption, resulting in lower cost of ownership than traditional hydraulically driven machines.

The mower features electric drive systems using no hydraulic fluid, so the possibility of a potentially damaging fluid leak or spill on the turf is completely eliminated. The Eclipse 322 will also be available in gasoline and diesel hybrid versions.
Spring is Regeneration Time

It was great to see many of you at the GIS in San Diego. Congratulations to Bob Randquist, CGCS of the Boca Rio Golf Club, our newly elected vice president of the GCSAAA. Our Florida reception was once again a big hit. Thanks to Jennifer for finding another unique location for our annual gathering. Thanks to all who attended, and thank you to all of our sponsors. Without your help and support the reception would not be possible.

What a winter! I hope everyone survived the unusually cold weather we’ve had this year. By now, if you overseeded your course, hopefully transition is under way. If you did not overseed, your bermudagrass has no competition and should be coming back and starting to look good.

This spring looks to be different from most. Not only will we be getting our courses ready for the annual member/guest events but many of us also will be replacing cold-damaged landscape plants around our clubhouses.

As I ride the course each morning observing the many white-tailed deer with their fawns, I am reminded that spring is a time of regeneration.

After this long winter season with its extreme cold weather, this could also be a time for us as superintendents to regenerate ourselves. Take moment and look back. Focus on the positive things that were accomplished. Thank your staff and crew for their hard work during those frosty mornings and disrupted schedules.

Now focus on what lies ahead. Let your staff and crew know what the next several months will bring, like course-wide fertilization, aerification, mole cricket control, and member and/or outside events to prepare for. Just like spring training, we need to get our teams excited and ready to go for summer season projects.

Don’t forget to keep a watchful eye on any local city and county meetings concerning fertilizer and other environmental issues like water quality and use. Make sure your members are informed about these meetings as well and how they could affect their lawns and lawn care companies’ ability to maintain their private property.

As always, good luck and success with your chapter’s spring events and activities so we can continue to pursue education, networking with peers and helping fund turf research to make our courses environmentally and economically sustainable in these challenging times.
Warm Spots in a Chilly New Year

The Central Florida GCSA kicked off its New Year by holding the FTGA Turf Research Tournament at the Interlachen CC in Winter Park. Stuart Leventhal, CGCS, and the Interlachen CC have been hosting the event for 22 years. Speakers at the event included Bill Beasley, external vice president of the CFGCSA, Armando Campos, secretary/treasurer of the FTGA, Joel Jackson executive director of the FGCSA.

The principal speaker, Dr. Kevin Kenworthy from UF/IFAS, gave an update on the turfgrass breeding projects funded by the FTGA in cooperation with the FGCSA. The chapter picks up the cost of the lunch and Interlachen donates the golf, so all entry fees went directly to the FTGA Research Foundation to the tune of $2,500.

Three-time winner of the event John Lammrish teamed up with golf pro Dave Ragan III to represent the LPGA International GC and capture Low Gross honors.

The FGCSA Winter Board Meeting was held at the Disney’s Grand

Treasure Coast GCSA’s scholarship awards winners, from left: Tim Cann, TCGCSA president; Justin Allison, Victor Facconti, Jake Connolly, and Chris Gast, scholarship chairman. Photo courtesy of TGCSA.
A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES FOR THEIR SPONSORSHIP OF THE 2010 FGCSA RECEPTION IN SAN DIEGO

San Diego skyline view from the rooftop reception at the Solamar Hotel in the Gas Lamp Quarter.

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE COMPANIES WHO SPONSOR OUR LOCAL AND STATE CHAPTER EVENTS

PLATINUM SPONSORS
- Golf Ventures
- Harrell’s, LLC
- The Kilpatrick Company
- The Toro Company, Wesco Turf, Hector Turf

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- Beard Equipment
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- Cycle Works Supply/GSR Calcium
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- Precision Small Engine Co.
- Ragan Technical Solutions
- Sullivan Electric and Pump
- The Andersons, Inc.
- Tom and Mark Burrows
- International Turfgrass Services
- Upstart Products, Inc.
Superintendent John Lammrish, CGCS, left, and Golf Pro Dave Ragan III from the LPGA International GC teamed up to win the CFGCSA/FTGA Tournament. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Floridian Hotel Conference Center Jan. 22. During the meeting, the board voted to authorize the dual use of the FGCSA and GCSAA logos on official correspondence and e-mails. In 2007 the board authorized the dual logo use on the Florida Green magazine covers. During the research committee report, Kevin Sunderman from the West Coast GCSA presented a $1,500 check for the FGCSA Research Account to kick off the 2010 fundraising year.

In February, around 200 members, suppliers and guests attended the FGCSA Reception at the GIS in San Diego. As expected, overall attendance numbers were down about 7 percent, a definite sign of the times. Normally the FGCSA has around 300 to 350 attendees at our West Coast receptions. Association Manager Jennifer Innes did her homework and found a very competitively priced and unique venue in the rooftop Lounge Six of the Solamar Hotel in the Gas Lamp Quarter just a couple of blocks up from the convention center.

Thanks to the generosity of those attending the reception, we raised $1,060 for the FGCSA Benevolent Fund. Jim Montgomery of Greensmiths, Kevin Sunderman, left, presented a $1,500 check to FGCSA President Bill Kistler for the FGCSA Research Account during the 2010 Winter Board Meeting at Disney. Photo by Joel Jackson.

2010 Calendar of Events

**MAY**
6 – FGCSA Spring Board Meeting & Awards Dinner, Naples
6 – Palm Beach Chapter Meeting, Broken Sound CC
7 – FGCSA/USGA Seminar and Poa Annua G.C. Horn Memorial Tournament, Naples
8 – EGCSA Poa Annua Classic and Luau, Naples Beach Hotel
17 – TCGCSA Blue Pearl Tournament, The Medalist GC, Hobe Sound
19 – UF/IFAS Field Day, G.C. Horn Turf Plots, Citra
19 – West Coast Chapter meeting, Lake Jovita GC
TBA – Suncoast GCSAA Annual Meeting

**JUNE**
5 – Palm Beach GCSA Future of Golf Tournament, The Falls CC
17 – Seven Rivers Annual Meeting & Vendor Appreciation Day
TBA – West Coast Chapter Championship, Old Memorial GC

**JULY**
29 – Palm Beach GCSA Annual Meeting, Polo Club of Boca Raton
30 – 8:00 AM Half Day Crowfoot Seminar
31 – Annual Larry Kamphaus Crowfoot Open
TBA – North Florida Chapter Annual Meeting
TBA – South Floridda Chapter Annual Meeting

**AUGUST**
2 – West Coast Pro/Superintendent Tournament

**SEPTEMBER**
15-17 – FTGA Conference and Show, Caribe Royale Hotel, Lake Buena Vista
TBA – Central Florida Memorial Scholarship Tournament, Lake Nona Club
TBA – Joint Meeting Palm Beach GCSA and South Florida GCSA

**OCTOBER**
TBA – Joint Meeting Palm Beach GCSA and Treasure Coast GCSA, Jupiter Island Club
TBA – South Florida M&E Charity Tournament
TBA – West Coast Bud Quandt Tournament, Tampa Palm G&CC
Unlike traditional herbicides, Celsius™ works with less risk of turf damage, even at high temperatures. Celsius, the newest generation post-emergent herbicide, effectively controls over 100 weeds, including several hard-to-control grasses and broadleaf weeds. Plus, Celsius offers pre-emergent control of germinating weeds – after all, healthy, weed-free turf is the best herbicide available on the market. Celsius delivers superior results in balance with consideration for our environment, because we believe in Protecting Tomorrow, Today. And, as always, you’re Backed by Bayer and all the science and technology that support it. Sustainable weed control from a name you trust.

Celsius.

Weeds vanish without a trace.

Celsius™ A higher degree of weed control.

*Paspalum setaceum* (Thin Paspalum), also called Bull Paspalum, is a warm-season perennial in the family Poaceae, found throughout much of the United States but primarily along the eastern corridor. Thin Paspalum can be identified by its flat, hairy to almost smooth, leaf blades. This weed produces short rhizomes and can form a clump.
Thanks to Jim Montgomery, center, for donating his Benevolent Raffle winnings back to the Benevolent Fund at the FGCSA Reception in San Diego. Pictured with Jim are Mark Henderson, Gulfstream GC, left, and Mike Bonetti, Fertigation Specialists, Inc. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Inc. won the Benevolent Raffle and donated his winnings back to the Fund. We hope to see many more of you at the reception in Orlando next year. Jennifer is already searching for another interesting and convenient location.

Also at this year’s GIS, a couple of our members were recognized with Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards. This program recognizes golf course superintendents and their courses for overall course management excellence in the areas of resource conservation, water quality management, integrated pest management, wildlife/habitat management and education/outreach. In addition, these categories are judged on sustainability, criticality, originality and technology implementation/use.

An independent panel of judges representing national environmental groups, turfgrass experts, university research departments, and members of the golf community selected the 2009 ELGA Florida winners: Chapter Winner - Todd Draffen, TPC Treviso Bay, Naples, Everglades GC; and Merit Winner - R. Shane Wright, CGCS; Vero Beach CC, Treasure Coast GC.

Jeff Strother, president of the Suncoast Chapter told John Peirsol, head of the Lake City Golf & Landscape Operations Program that after the chapter’s Suncoast Scramble tournament March 25, they will be donating $1,000 towards the new LCCC environmental project and a new $1,000 scholarship for a second-year GCO student to be $500 per semester.

The Treasure Coast Chapter recently awarded three scholarships to local students who have excelled within the industry and in the classroom. Each received a check for $1000 to assist in their education. Each student’s application included scholastic achievements and awards, interests, industry work history and an essay stating the student’s career goals. The winners:

- Justin Allison, a student at Indian River State College studying golf course management and an employee at Grand Harbor Country Club in Vero Beach.
- Victor Facelli is a student at Penn State University studying golf course management and has worked at Harbour Ridge Yacht and Country Club in Palm City.
- Jake Connolly is a student at Lake City Community College studying golf course management and has worked at Monarch Country Club in Stuart as well as Harbour Ridge Yacht and Country Club in Palm City.
WHAT ARE THE TEAMUGA TURFGRASS BREEDERS UP TO NOW?

Paul Raymer
Paspalum Breeder
Dr. Raymer continues to work on developing enhanced paspalum cultivars for a range of fine-turf applications. His primary emphasis is on improving salt tolerance and disease resistance as well as turf quality traits. Currently, our Seaisle 1 is in wide use on fairways and roughs, while Seaisle 2000 and Seaisle Supreme have proven themselves as excellent wall-to-wall cultivars. All three have exceptional turf quality and salt tolerance and are among the best paspalum varieties on the market.

Brian Schwartz
Bermudagrass Breeder

Wayne Hanna
Bermudagrass Breeder
Dr. Hanna’s TifSport and TifEagle bermudagrasses are still two of the most popular cultivars available for golf course fairways, roughs, tees and high-end greens. In 2008, Dr. Hanna and a select group of TifEagle grower introduced a new “No-Till TifEagle” program, which can save clubs up to 75% of the cost of conventional greens reconstruction. TifGrand, Dr. Hanna’s new shade-tolerant bermuda, has shown great promise in multiple golf course test locations and will be available in the spring of 2010.

Dr. Schwartz is the newest member of TeamUGA. He’s now responsible for our warm season breeding program in Tifton GA. Since January of 2009, Brian has worked side by side with Dr. Hanna and has been zeroing in on a bermudagrass with enhanced drought stress resistance. So far it has demonstrated the ability to maintain turf quality without water 12 to 14 days longer than present cultivars. Another of Brian’s goals is to improve plant parasitic nematode tolerance, with a special focus on sting nematodes. He will also be initiating a zoysia grass breeding program in 2010 to develop cultivars that are more widely adapted, faster growing and more disease resistant.

To Find Out More About These Outstanding Science-Based Warm Season Cultivars, Visit Us On the Web

Sea Isle Supreme Paspalum
www.seaislesupreme.com

Sea Isle 1 Certified Seaisle Paspalum
www.seaisle1.com

Sea Isle 2000 Certified Paspalum
www.seaisle2000.com

TifSport Certified Bermudagrass
www.tifsport.com

TifGrand The world’s finest upright bermudagrass for shade!
www.tifgrand.com

Tif Eagle for greens
www.tifeagle.com
Hole 16 is the number-one handicap hole on the course. A 549-yard, par five that challenges you from every tee. Photo by Daniel Zelazek

Bring Your 'A' Game and Your Camera to Tampa Palms G&CC
Twenty-three years ago, noted architect Arthur Hills carved out a challenging 7,004-yard course in the wooded wetland wilderness just north of Tampa.

The multi-faceted property, now owned and operated by ClubCorp, Inc., has 25 guest suites in the clubhouse building, ample meeting space for conferences and events, private amenities for its country club members and a golf course that will require your best effort.

The diversity of the facility itself is matched only by the diversity of the teeming wildlife that can be enjoyed while chasing par down the tree lined fairways. I have been to Tampa Palms on several occasions, mostly to cover the West Coast GCSA’s Annual Bud Quandt Tournament. I always come away with photos or sightings of several wildlife species. On my cover story visit in late February I saw critters from a half-dozen 8-to-10-foot alligators to playful otters. Superintendent Bill Kistler said earlier in the day he spied a buck and a doe and a bald eagle. Tampa Palms has been a certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary since 1993.

Because the course was built in a lowland setting, 11 lakes covering 68 acres were excavated to provide enough fill to raise the course above the wetlands. Kistler recounted meeting the architect on the 15th anniversary of Tampa Palms. As they played the course, Kistler said Hills winked as he said, “I knew we had to raise up the fairways because of the wetlands, but I can’t figure out why I didn’t make them wider.”

“He used up every golf ball in his bag and mine by the 16th hole,” Kistler said. But with four sets of tees on every hole, golfers can easily find a yardage that fits their skill level.

Golfing challenges aside, being in a wetland setting has its pros and cons when it comes to turf management.

On the down side, the extreme heat and humidity in the summer keep Kistler and staff on the look out for possible disease outbreaks. “We have been following a fungus control program by Syngenta,” he said. “It is a preventive program for bermuda greens and provides a good guide for understanding conditions and rotating products to provide maximum protection against disease damage.”

Kistler says they also have to be mindful of shade issues from the trees as they mature. “We have been able maintain good light conditions with strategic thinning of tree canopies. Back in 2001, the city of Tampa allowed the removal of 50 trees that were critically impacting several greens,” he said.
On the plus side of the location, because of the naturally organic, heavy soils, when irrigation restrictions — such as the current three days per week watering of greens and tees, and twice per week on fairways and roughs — it is easier to maintain the soil moisture in the turf root zone.

“Since we can only automatically irrigate three times