Harvard Graduate School of Design offers special study in golf course development

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — The Harvard Graduate School of Design has invited golf consultant Jim McLoughlin to present a mid-June course of study on the general subject of Golf Course Development. The curriculum will be developed and presented through McLoughlin's two firms, The McLoughlin Group, a golf consulting firm, and Double Eagle Enterprises, a golf development company.

The course is designed for present and future developers, counselors to developers, investors and government regulators/planners. It will address defining feasibility studies, minimum site-requirements, regulations and approvals, model business plans, the critical importance of master-site planning, public and private financing, construction parameters, sample model schedules and summary reasons why projects fail.

MSU before moving on to another American school, he said.

Rogers and other American educators spoke at a 1989 turf show in Tokyo. Delegates were so impressed that 35 of them later traveled to MSU for a one-day seminar, Rogers said.

Americans have been imported to fill the agronomic gap in Japan. However, they are generally drawn to the higher-paying construction jobs rather than the lower-paying, daily-maintenance positions.

Golf course superintendent is not a high-profile job in Japan. It is not viewed as a specialty, said Dennis Vogt, Dye Designs International's director of maintenance. The pay scale is low compared to other occupations, Vogt added.

"I don't see the situation changing much. The Japanese superintendent will get better as he works with Americans, gains experience, makes trips abroad and attends seminars. But few Americans will work there as day-to-day superintendents," he said.

The situation is even worse in a country like Thailand, Fream noted. The pay is generally low, around $600 per month. That is not attractive to Americans nor enough to encourage native Thais to seek more education.

Turf schools

Continued from page 44

"But for the most part, education continues to come from the outside," Watson said.

Even fewer educational opportunities are available in Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and the rest of Southeast Asia, Watson said. Americans continue to dominate the construction and better-paying daily maintenance positions in those countries as well.

Pennsylvania State University turfgrass management graduates can be found on construction sites in Asia, according to George Hamilton, program coordinator.

Occasionally they work on construction projects where they meet local people interested in turf studies. Often they refer them to Penn State and some end up attending it.

The latest 'word' in bentgrass is PennLinks.

Paul Latshaw is spreading the word.

"I know PennLinks to be the finest creeping bentgrass available. I know it's been time-tested on the North Course greens here at Wilmington Country Club since fall of 1984. "I know PennLinks has an extensive root system, heat tolerance, and requires very little grooming or verticutting because of its upright growth. "The upright growth habit convinced me to overseed the fairways at Wilmington. I know time will prove I made the right choice. And I like that, too. "PennLinks. Spread the word."