Are the seasons getting longer?
Superintendents in the transition zones say 'Yes'

By Mark Leslie

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laying seasons are getting longer in some areas of the country, causing turfgrass damage of which many superintendents are not even aware.

"It's the leading creeping bentgrass in the world today," said Tee-2-Green President Bill Rose, whose company produces Penncross, "and it's the preferred bentgrass seed for golf course greens."

Penncross has been on the marketplace for over 30 years. It is a winter hardy, cool season grass that can maintain itself through the winter in most areas of the country. It is also known for its uniformity and lack of variegation, which is an important factor for superintendents who want to maintain a consistent appearance on their courses.

USGA reports on nationwide university research
Turfgrass safer than farmland, research studies confirm

By Mark Leslie

Major university studies around the country are verifying the belief that turfgrass is a vast improvement to agricultural land in pesticide and fertilizer leaching, and researchers are even comparing differences between grasses in runoff studies.

The U.S. Goll Association Green Section's newly released Environmental Research Summary notes these findings along with many others in its review of USGA-funded research projects. The booklet reports results after the second year of the three-year studies.

Objectives of the overall project are to understand the effect of turfgrass pest management and fertilization on water quality and the environment; evaluate valid alternative methods of pest control to be used in integrated turf management systems; and determine continued on page 22

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Ten years ago we had 40,000 rounds a year. Now we're at 55,000.

- Bill Neus

Flunting BORAX ON WARPATH
CINCINNATI, Ohio - Turfgrass as we know it today is due mainly to the efforts of a group of superintendents who have worked tirelessly to develop a more efficient and sustainable form of agriculture. By creating new varieties of grasses, they have been able to increase the productivity of the land and reduce the need for harmful chemicals.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

RECICLING PESTICIDE CONTAINERS
COLUMBUS, Ohio - Ohio State University institute a pesticide container recycling program at its Turfgrass Research Field Day here Aug. 17. Superintendents could drop off their clean, empty pesticide containers, which Grower Service Co. will grind, granulating them for further processing. Eventually, they will be made into new containers or be put to other safe uses.

The program was supported by OSU Extension, the Ohio Department of Agriculture and Ohio AgriBusiness Association.

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From staff reports
Ten years and $5 million after it was undertaken, new and better grasses that survive on less water and lower maintenance have been developed through the Turfgrass Research Program initiated in 1982 by the U.S. Golf Association (USGA) Green Section and Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. So the USGA Executive Committee has committed its support for another five years, according to Jim Snow, Green Section national director.

Some 40 research projects improved knowledge about water-use rates of various turfgrasses and how these grasses react to moisture stress; introduced new grasses that use less water and pesticides; and forwarded understanding of maintenance practices.

Snow said: "Through the efforts of the individual turfgrass scientists and their support staff, many significant..."