DELHI, N.Y. — The list of golf courses built, in part, to serve as working laboratories for college students is about to grow by one. Joining the likes of University of Georgia and Clemson and Pennsylvania State universities is Delhi College of Technology, which expects a major boost to its two-year turfgrass program with the addition of a golf course.

"We think this will cut down the learning curve and make our students much more marketable," said Joel Smith, director of communications at the State University of New York-Delhi campus. "In the world, you don't have as much time for on-the-job training. Superintendent need graduates who are ready to go to work, work independently and get the job done."

"Originally, turfgrass management was the key program," said John Haight, director of development. "But it has grown since then to include the entire Department of Plant Science, which includes horticulture, golf course operations, landscape architecture and landscape contracting technology. The golf program is directed by Dominic Morales, a professor of horticulture, who was unavailable for comment.

Delhi College joins giants, adds 9 for students

By MARK LESLIE

Reserve superintendent Tim Hiers, "is a great job of overseeding makes you look like a hero — then. But, potentially, you could have a worse transition" back to the main playing surface in the spring.

There are two categories — overseeding of dormant warm-season grasses, and of existent cool-season grasses.

In the North:

Better bents

Think of overseeding as buying insurance. "You never know if it's working or if you need it. But in my opinion, you've got to do it," said Jim Connolly, long-time agronomist for the U.S. Golf Association Green Section's Northeast Region, who now works at JacklinGolf in Idaho.

Cool-season overseeding has been popular in the Eastern part of the country for years, but, "west of Chicago it becomes very unpopular," Connolly said. "I can't say why except that they simply haven't been exposed to it."

Overseeding in the North

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OVERSEEDING: The life-or-death decision for many

By MARK LESLIE

Overseeding. It's one of the great dilemmas of golf course maintenance. Do you or don't you? When? Where? For what purpose? With what turfgrass or mixture? What are the tradeoffs?

"One of the paradoxes in the business," said Collier's

In the South:

Dixieland diversity

Superintendents in Florida, Georgia, Texas, Arizona and Southern California — and to a lesser extent in Mississippi and Louisiana — wrestle with this decision annually. Many have no choice.

Some basics:

• It's simple: When winter arrives, in many places Bermudagrass goes dormant or dies, and cold-tolerant grasses can be seeded over the Bermuda until the weather warms and Bermuda rejuvenates.

They [superintendents] want a manicured turf, and it's come up quick, to be dark green, and to go away when it's supposed to. "One of the paradoxes in the business," said Collier's

HEALTHY FORUM

JUST ADD SLUDGE

VENTURA, Calif. — A University of California-Ventura study indicates that sewage sludge added to yardwaste composts increases the yield and color of perennial ryegrass. The study showed best turfgrass color rating was in a treatment composed of 50 percent yardwaste and 50 percent sewage sludge.

WATER ABUNDANCE INCREASED

GOLETA, Calif. — An advanced wastewater treatment project has been completed here that can supply three million gallons a day of reclaimed water to irrigate golf courses, lawns, parks and other green space. The project was completed by Goleta Sanitary and Water districts, working with the California Environmental Protection Agency's Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board and other state and local agencies. The plant allows the use of reclaimed water and reduces the need for fresh water from the Cachuma Reservoir.

MASSACHUSETTS GUIDE AVAILABLE

WORCESTER, Mass. — The 1994 edition of The Professional Turfgrass Management Guide for Massachusetts is now available from the University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension. The booklet covers turfgrass characteristics, insect, disease, nematode and weed management. Among its features are a comprehensive key to turfgrasses, a list of turfgrass variety characteristics, monitoring techniques, and suggested threshold levels of turfgrass insects. The book costs $7 each and are available from Bulletin Center, Cottage A, Thatcher Way, UMass, Amherst, Mass. 01003.

FROST FIELD DAY CHANGED

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The date for the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation and Ohio State University Turfgrass Research Field Day has been changed to Aug. 17. It will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Ohio State Turfgrass Research Center on Kenny Road.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

RESEARCH UNDER FIRE

BROWER PUTS SPURS TO EPA COLLEAGUES TO IMPROVE PEER REVIEW PROCEDURES

By MARK LESLIE

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is expected by Sept. 30 to have a new peer review policy in place, ending years of hostility with various branches of government and others in the scientific community.

Responding to years of prod from the General Accounting Office (GAO), which has been calling for better scientific peer review procedures and controls, EPA administrator Carol Brower has declared the chore will get done this summer. In the meantime, she demanded that her troops follow the peer review process signed by her predecessor, William Reilly, in the 11th hour of his administration. But the Reilly process is considered far too vague and must be clarified.

Leaders in each division of EPA presented drafts of their peer review plans on July 15, according to Dr. Don Barnes, executive secretary of the EPA's Scientific Advisory Board. A group of scientists within and outside the agency will scrutinize those plans and return them for final revisions which, he said, will be in place by Sept. 30.

Reporting that EPA's science is of "uneven quality," GAO assistant comptroller General Keith F.ultz said in February his office was recommending that Brower "set a schedule for developing, completing and implementing agencywide peer-review procedures."

"Also, the administrator should develop and implement controls that protect against the premature release of documents by external peer reviewers." "No computer, whatever the tradeoffs?" said Collier's

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PASSIONS NEEDED FOR CONSERVATION PANEL

BARNSTABLE, Mass. — Charles Passios, past member of the board of directors and government liaison officer for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), has been appointed to a three-year term on the Barnstable Conservation Committee (BCC). The panel "basically protects the natural resources, deals with wetlands regulations and promulgates town ordinances," Passios said.

The largest town on Cape Cod, Barnstable sits on the Atlantic Coast. Superintendent at Hyannisport (Mass.) Club, Passios is a past president of the Golf Course Managers

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Superintendents, other agronomists level with roller expertise

The following is a list of practical recommendations for roller use, gathered from a survey of U.S. Golf Association agronomists, roller manufacturers and golf course superintendents. The list was presented by Scott Niven, CGCS, at Stanwich Country Club, Greenwich, Conn., at the 1994 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America show.

- The majority of damage caused from rolling is not overuse but operator error. Good training is imperative and operators must be very conscientious.
- There are limits to how much rolling can be tolerated on heavy, high-clay-content soils. Sand-based greens can tolerate regular rolling, but still may show wear effects.
- If your greens weaken in the presence of extra stress, be very careful adding rolling to your greens maintenance program. This added stress could be very detrimental.
- All rollers are not created equal. There are significant differences from one roller to the next. Take the time to study and test a few rollers to assure you purchase the right one for your style of greens and surrounding areas.
- Double-cutting can be eliminated with rolling. But if you cut and roll at the same time, that equals about the same wear and compaction as double-cutting. However, rolling gives you a higher quality finish and more speed than double mowing will or virtually any other practice.
- Top-dressing frequency can be reduced with roller use. Smoothing the surface is taken care of by the roller. This reduces bedknife wear from top dressing as well. Rolling after top dressing also press the material into the turf and reduces bedknife wear for the next few cuts.
- Grooming, Verti-cutting and brushing can be reduced. These processes only need to be done to help eliminate grain as needed, which also helps reduce spike marks from golf shoes.
- Rolling greens after core aerification or Verti-cutting improves can improve putting and speed up recovery time. Rolling newly sodded greens or tees also speeds establishment and improves the finish quality.
- After the greens have dried out in the spring, rolling can do a good job of smoothing the surface prior to the first mowings.

- The most common scenario shows that one day after rolling, 50 percent of the speed gained has been lost. One the second day, 75 percent of the speed is lost. Greens return to normal by day three.
- Superintendents with sand-based greens who roll five or six days per week have invariably raised their heights of cut to some degree. Some wear and yellowing can still be a problem, however.
- The preferred rolling schedules for those with bentgrass greens is either Wednesday/Saturday or Tuesday/Friday.
- Expect to lose cup placements due to a fairly large increase in speed. This can be a real problem on severely undulating greens or small greens where pin placements are already limited.
- No matter what type of roller program you’re on, if the turf becomes weak from drought stress, heat or too much rainfall, you must be willing to discontinue rolling until the turf returns to a healthy condition.
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Cape Cod town appoints Passios

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Association of Cape Cod and past vice president of the New England GCSCA.

He was a director of the GCSAA for three years, two of which he served as government liaison representing the organization in Washington, D.C.

His appointment by the Town Council came about, he said, because of his scientific background and work, which recently included obtaining BCC approval for the restoration maintenance plan for his club, which contains a lot of coastal salt marshes.

He also parlayed a perpetual maintenance agreement for his club with BCC.

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