CONTAINING PROBLEMS

Recycling rinsate saves water and reduces the anxiety associated with clean-up

NEW CHEMISTRY

A GCN special report focuses on new formulations and how they affect superintendents

THE PUBLIC ARENA

Is development in state parks the next public-access frontier, or is it one step too far?

MCNABB EARNS HIGHEST HONOR

Richard McNabb (right) is the latest to earn the prestigious Master Greenkeeper status. For story, see page 15.

COURSE MAINTENANCE

When & Stimpy: Two uses and interpretations

COURSE DEVELOPMENT

Will Masters win jumpstart Coore/Crenshaw? It's that time again: The GCN course listing

COURSE MANAGEMENT

Decision time nears for North American Golf

SUPPLIER BUSINESS

GCSAA pulls further out of Asia-Pacific

GRADUATION REPORT

Trained irrigation techs, mechanics in demand

By Peter Blais

Shovel jockey, Wrench turner.

Not particularly flattering titles for the people who fill the roles of irrigation technician and turf equipment manager. But if educators, course managers and others have their way, shovel jockey and wrench turner could go the way of greenkeeper in the near future.

With superintendents increasingly strapped to their desks by administrative duties, the cry is going out for college-trained irrigation and maintenance equipment specialists who can work with today's high-tech watering and turf maintenance equipment.

"I'll kill for a formally trained irrigation technician," said Ray Davies, head superintendent at Merced (Calif.) Golf & Country Club. "Irrigation is critical. When you look at a well-manicured golf course, it...

Supers turn OSHA regs to their budgetary advantage

By Mark Leslie

While state and federal legislators struggle with weighing the costs and benefits before passing new laws, golf course superintendents may actually save their clubs money following suggestions from safety experts like Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) personnel.

By investing about $1,500 a year for four or five years, his former employer, Mike Robinson Oregon ryegrass growers organize bargaining group

By Hal Phillips

ALBANY, Ore. — Here in the Willamette Valley, the microeconomics of low carry-over inventory and a bumper crop have taken a back seat to the microeconomics of floor prices, overproduction and their affects on the old standby, supply and demand. The result will likely be higher ryegrass prices this fall — maybe as much as 10 cents per pound, according to industry experts.

One reason? Seed growers here have organized the Perennial Ryegrass Bargaining Association (PRBA), which instituted a minimum price of 45 cents a pound in response to the gradual decline in perennial ryegrass prices. The PRBA has reserved the right to raise or lower that figure come August.

Seed dealers, those firms that market seed to golf course superintendents, view this development with mixed feelings. In time of poor supply, floor prices have little relevance. But in the long term, many
Supers looking for more specialties among graduates

Continued from page 1

Management certification program two years ago. Last year, the program graduated seven students. As a group, they received 50 job offers. This year's class graduated 25 students who received more than 60 job offers.

"It's like irrigation," Piersol said. "The equipment is expensive and complicated. A superintendent needs someone who can run an entire shop, not just a wrench turner. Our graduates have been starting from $18,000-$24,000 a year. They're making $25,000-$30,000 in a short time. Experienced turf equipment managers at the larger resorts are making $35,000-$50,000.

Competition is still keen for the traditional entry-level job for turf school graduates — assistant superintendent. But the number of available assistant positions seems to be higher this year. "We had more job offers than we had graduates for the first time in many years," said George Hamilton, agronomy instructor at Pennsylvania State University's turf management school.

Piersol agreed, to an extent. "The market looks good this year for assistants," the Lake City educator said. "This year comes three to five years out when those assistants want to move up. When a position becomes available, you typically see 30 to 100 applicants for a head superintendent job.

"There still seem to be too many schools pumping out too many people who want to be superintendents. Our students are getting the idea. We have 44 third-year students set to graduate from our three-year Golf Course Operations program [where most of the school's assistant superintendents come from]. We have just 34 second-year students."

You have to start pretty early to get the pick of the crop at the orchard.

5:30 a.m. Course Superintendent, Ted Woehrle, couldn't believe it. But shortly after the Workman® arrived at The Orchards Golf Club in Washington, Michigan, his staff started coming in earlier and earlier to get the Workman for the day. "We had other work vehicles," recalled Ted, "but everyone wanted the Workman."

Why's the Workman® vehicle so popular? Turf managers and their crews keep telling us the same story.

"It'll never be outdated. It can do anything."

It's always the first thing we hear: no other work vehicle puts in a harder day. The Workman vehicle's extra-big box must have something to do with that. It can haul 25% more weight and bulk than other work vehicles you're used to. And whether you use our attachments or yours, no other work vehicle can be configured to perform as many different tasks.

"Less back strain after riding it all day."

Take it from those who start and end their days with the Workman vehicle: its smooth ride is second to none. Its standard roll-over protection package and the added stability of four wheels with the maneuverability of three, are other features crews can't say enough about.

"Our mechanics love it."

One mechanic said, "servicing the Workman is a breeze—everything's so easy to get to. Just what we like to hear.

Because that means the