Competition in Columbus brings out the best in supers

By MARK LESLIE

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Truth be told, you need only turn around and you can play another great golf course in this city. Five of the country's top 100 courses, according to one poll, operate here. So how do the superintendents — and the clubs they work for — respond in the face of such stiff competition. Thrive or die?

"I don't want to sound boastful, but I don't think you can go anywhere in the country and find golf courses as well conditioned as we have right here," said Mark Yoder, superintendent at private Scioto Country Club in the near west end of Columbus. "Frequently, guests come in and say, 'They're playing' The Golf Club yesterday, Scioto today, Muirfield tomorrow, then Double Eagle...'"

Indeed, Golf Magazine's latest top 100 poll, released in October, ranks Muirfield Village Golf Club in nearby Dublin 20th in the United States, The Golf Club in neighboring New Albany 20th, Scioto 29th, Double Eagle in the suburb of Galena 41st and the public-access Ohio State University Scarlet Course a few blocks from Scioto 81st. The five superintendents are comrades-yet-competitors-in-arms.

"We're all proud to be on those 'best-of' lists," said Terry Buchen, superintendent at the ultra-exclusive, ultra-condi.....
Good news travels fast. Especially when it comes from internationally recognized professionals.

That's why demanding superintendents worldwide are using and endorsing the creeping bentgrasses *Providence (SR 1019), SR 1020, or Dominant™* (a blend of the two).

Of course, that doesn't come as any surprise to us. Because we've spent the past several years developing and testing our cultivars on golf courses and at universities with incredible results.

The unanimous conclusion? Every aspect of our bentgrasses is superior to all other commercially available varieties. Color. Texture. Density. Disease resistance. Heat and drought tolerance. What's equally important is our bentgrasses' performance under varied golf course conditions. From America to Australia, our cultivars consistently produce beautiful, fine-textured greens with true putting quality and reduced maintenance. And outstanding fairway turf with less thatch and excellent wear tolerance. These features are important to superintendents, gollers, architects, and greens committees alike.

Don't just take our word for it. Contact your nearest Bentgrass Marketing Group member today for more information and university test results and be prepared to put your course on the map.

*Providence and SR 1020 are protected under the U.S. Plant Variety Protection Act.

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TPCs commit to come under Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary umbrella

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**TPCs fit in that category.**

The certification program established a clear set of guidelines, said Cal Roth, the TPC network's national director of golf course maintenance operations.

"Just joining the program gave us ideas and concepts and encouraged us to do what we already were doing. Through the certification program, we have been able to further enhance the environmental aspects of our properties."

**History's heroes**

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the leading agronomic science organizations in the U.S. and the various phases of applied turf management, the Greenkeepers Society of America (now the GCSAA) in particular. Furthermore, it enables scientists to meet on an unbiased common ground for the purpose of integrating their research activities and harmonizing the future development of the national turf program in all its phases.

For the first time, turf achieved recognition as an important national entity. Nine years later, turfgrass and environmental research programs at our universities and ag experiment stations. The USGA turfgrass and environmental research programs cannot support these institutions alone.

In the 1931 Golfers Yearbook, Monteleth wrote: "No one seriously believes that the golfer's ideal of turf will ever be fully realized, for as the present generation of golfers with modern conception of golf turf passes on to its reward of fairways and one-putting greens on the flawless courses of the Great Beyond, new golfers will no doubt reflect what we have had for only a few years ago, and the same marked improvement can reasonably be expected in the future. Progress, however, can only be made if in direct proportion to the finding and dissemination of new information, new methods and unfailing interest."

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