World gets smaller with e-mail

The advent of computer e-mail capabilities within the U.S. Golf Association Green Section has brought major strides in solving agronomic problems around the country, according to Jim Moore, director of the USGA Green Section Mid-Continent Region.

"The greatest thing about it to me," Moore said, "is that I feel comfortable saying, 'Anybody can use it for the first time.'"

Until now, TGIF's library has been accessible only through Telnet, an Internet site basically accessible only to academics.

"But once it's on the web that changes the nature of access," Cookingham said. "There is a lot of other material becoming available and, with the web, things can be linked together readily and easily."

The web environment will "alter the nature" of TGIF's material, he added, saying: "TGIF has been text-retrieval. Within web structures, however, those limitations come off and we anticipate more presentation of non-text materials."

Noting that superintendents don't have a good way to inform the general public, USGA Green Section representatives also may want to take a look.

Long-term, Moore wants to try to build a forum with superintendents and USGA staff. The entire Green Section staff, who have been on-line on CompuServe, will have Internet e-mail addresses soon, so inquiries can go directly to them.

Green Section brochures and reprints of Green Section Record articles have been entered into the site.

As Cookingham said: "From the end-user's perspective it's [Internet] much tidier, cleaner, easy to use and easy to understand. And it looks fancier."

"We've been printing and routing the questions people are sending in to the different departments and helping them respond," said web master Knuth. "We're going to look at inputting a guided tour of the [USGA] museum and have all the USGA championships over 100 years," he said. "And there will be live scores during the three Opens. We have handheld computers at the greens. They are punched into a mainframe at our scoring trailer. Within 17 seconds after we get a score at the trailer, the golfer's hole-by-hole score will be on the Internet."

Delhi reports industry support

DELHI, N.Y. — The expanded Delhi College Golf Course will be a showcase for the latest in turfgrass technology, thanks to solid investment by turf industry leaders.

Loft Seed Co. Turf-Seed Inc., Tee-2-Green Corp., Agri-Turf, Seed Research and The Scotts Co. have donated newly developed seed varieties and cultivars for the new back nine at Delhi College Golf Course. The donations have a market value of nearly $20,000, according to Diminc Morales, Delhi College Plant Science Department chairman.

Green Section logs on to cyberworld

Continued from page 15

"It represents the first phase of widespread use of our material. It will mean really serious industry access at a level that I'm comfortable saying, 'Anybody can use it for the first time.'"

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[Launching pad not included.]

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