Water research shows positive results for courses

Continued from page 67

Of 906 database entries for surface water, nitrate was found in 706 instances, an average concentration of 6.5 ppm. Further, in ground-water monitoring for pesticides, Cohen said researchers found 160 detections in 12,214 data entries. "The typical detection limit," he said, is 1 part per billion (ppb), while some detection limits were at 1/10th ppb. Nine of the detections exceed MCLs or HALs. "We have wells next to tees. We have tests from drains under greens, were the most-often detected chemicals in surface water, nitrate was found in 706 entries (0.7 percent) exceeded may not have been from golf course management.

The average concentration was 0.07 to 6.8 ppb, Cohen said, depending on how non-detections were counted. The most frequently detected chemicals in ground water were 2,4-D, fenamiphos/fenamiphos sulfoxide (found in course studies would indicate a significantly reduced impact relative to agriculture.

Cohen intends to make his recommendations to the GCSAA and publish his findings in a peer-reviewed journal as well as in the GCSAA's Golf Course Management.

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