Panel on disabled scheduled for GCSAA Conference and Show

By Bob Spiwak

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has scheduled a round table discussion, entitled "The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Golf," for its February convention in Anaheim, Calif.

Set for 2:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 6, the panel will include Greg Jones, president of The Association of Disabled American Golfers; Jerry Coldiron, superintendent at Lassing Pointe Golf Course in Kentucky; and Peggy Greenwell of the U.S. Department of Justice.

According to Cynthia Kelly Smith, government relations counsel for GCSAA, several other participants have been invited.

Smith said that she gets a call each week from a superintendent somewhere about the ADA.

The GCSAA convention program notes, "This government relations program will feature a panel of experts discussing the ADA and its impact on golf...compliance issues, advice on handling complaints and the status of the government's draft golf access guidelines are a few of the topics that will be covered in this interactive, topical session."

Smith noted that the ADA involves not only superintendents, but architects, the rules of golf, and the way golf is played.

"More superintendents need to be aware (of ADA ramifications) and they need answers," he said. "We are hoping to work with the disabled community and we all agree this [forum] will be a good way."

Biologicals and biorationals are emerging

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chloronicotinyls imidadoprid, is very effective as a broad-spectrum, long-residual insecticide.

- The halofenozide Mach 2, a molt-accelerating compound, gives excellent control of white grubs, billbugs and beetles.

The synergism between the Cruiser nematode and Merit (used at 1/10th the recommended rate) provides 100-percent control of Japanese beetle grubs, Grewal said.

Grewal warned that fipronal had an adverse effect on the natural population of nematodes.

The OSU professor said more work needs to be done in a number of areas, especially on fungi and bacteria biologicals as well as to develop products to control white grubs.

"We need to try to understand the naturally occurring biocontrols that are already there and easy to establish. They save water, the environment, money and much more," Grewal said.

Rieke: Are your roots in sand?

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a micronutrient package.

He suggested that superintendents look at soil-ratio tests. Calcium (Ca) should have a 60- to 85-percent saturation in soil test reports, magnesium (Mg) 8 to 12 percent and potassium (K) 5 to 8 percent.

The ratios, Rieke said, should be less than 6.5:1 for Ca:Mg; less than 13:1 for Ca:K; and less than 2:1 for Mg:K.

"Are we overfertilizing?" Rieke asked. "Maybe we are.

He said granular fertilizer should be applied to sand greens in the spring and fall, including some slow-release material; and the turf should be mowed early during prime playing season, using mostly soluble fertilizer with sprays through the irrigation system.

Finally, he said superintendents should "do all you can to get oxygen into the soil," adding that is an important factor that has been overlooked.

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