Iowa golf/ag alliance influencing policy

By MARK LESLIE

The award is presented to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of turfgrass and equipment management. Members see group as model for others from the mowed agribusines as well as the Iowa Golf Course Superintendents Association, Professional Lawn Care and Sod Producers associations and various other turf managers.

Efforts in various states around the country to affect legislation through lobbyists have been few and generally ineffective. Asked if the IaAEC-AAI effort could serve as a model for the industry in other states, alliance Executive Secretary Mona Rae Bond replied simply: "Absolutely."

Fort Dodge Country Club superintendent Dennis Watters, the IaAEC president from 1995 to 1997, said: "I think you have to look at it on a state-by-state basis. We're in a hot bed of agriculture here."

In Iowa's case, he said, "We needed a vehicle to pull together everybody who had the same concerns: to ensure we

N.C. State prof starts studies to help Asians

By MARK LESLIE

RALEIGH, N.C. — Citing the absence of scientific information on turfgrass pests in Asia, an American professor has undertaken what he hopes will be the first of many studies to help golf course superintendents in that region.

"If we can show some success with this research, on future projects I hope there will be people standing in line saying they will help," said Dr. Rick Brandenburg, a turf entomologist at North Carolina State University here.

"The time commitment is actually very small."

The research is needed for many pests because what is known in the United States can not always be extrapolated for use in Asia, according to Brandenburg, who discovered this fact on a trip to Singapore this spring.

His pioneering program targets the number-one pest in many Asian countries: the mole cricket. Some 25 superintendents in Hong Kong, The Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, China and Indonesia are sending mole crickets from their courses to Brandenburg.

Matchmaker, matchmaker

Two GCSAA ex-presidents team in jobs search firm

By MARK LESLIE

LOS ANGELES — Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Past President Bruce Williams has joined another former president, Jerry Faubel, adding a West Coast presence to Faubel's Executive Golf Search Inc.

Faubel first formed the "headhunting" company with famed course architect Robert Trent Jones Sr. and Michigan State University Prof. Ken Payne in the early 1990s. Payne died in 1994 and Jones has retired, leaving Faubel running the company solo.

"Over the years, I've been involved in helping a number of superintendents find jobs that would be a good fit for them," Williams said. "Retiring from the GCSAA board allowed me the opportunity to spend my spare time in other activities. This was the perfect match for me."

Saying that he and Payne had hoped Williams would join them after proceeding through the GCSAA chairs, Faubel added: "We thought Bruce would be an excellent partner. All of a sudden he moves [from Chicago] to the West Coast and