Texas A&M University is collecting future research. Colbaugh is asking Nevada Golf Course Superintendents fungi to him at Texas A&M University ter, 17360 Coit Rd., Dallas 75252; telephone 972-231-5362.

Superintendents across the United States to send samples of fairy ring development an identification database for by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) for its scholarship and research fund at Painted Desert Golf Club here on Nov. 11. People may contact Dave Reich at 702-737-0272 for tournament details.

DAR HONORS RYBICKI

PANAMA CITY, Fla. — Ted Rybicki of Panama Country Club has been cited by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) for his distinguished conservation record. The DAR cited his conservation work over the years and his effort in having Panama CC designated, in May 1997, as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary by Audubon International. John Spivak is superintendent at the club. Rybicki has been involved in the preservation of the Florida environment since 1961. Since 1992 he has served on the board of the Bay County Audubon Society and has been chairman of the Panama Country Club Environmental Committee.

N.Y. TURF CONCLAVE PLANNED

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — The New York State Turfgrass Association (NYSTA), in cooperation with Cornell University, will hold its annual Turf and Grounds Exposition, Nov. 10-13, at the OnCenter here. The conference will feature more than 80 business and technical sessions. Speakers will include Bob Alonzi of Winged Foot Golf Club; Joe Hahn of Country Club of Rochester; Dr. Norman Hummel of N.W. Hummel & Co.; Jim Moore of United States Golf Association Green Section; and horticulturists from Hershey Park. For more information call NYSTA at 800-873-8873, 518-783-1229 or write NYSTA, P.O. Box 612, Latham, N.Y. 12110.

MAINTENANCE

FAIRY RING DATABASE SOUGHT

DALLAS — Dr. Phil Colbaugh of Texas A&M University is collecting and cataloging the fungi associated with fairy ring. This will be used to develop an identification database for future research. Colbaugh is asking superintendents across the United States to send samples of fairy ring fung to him at Texas A&M University ter, 17360 Coit Rd., Dallas 75252; telephone 972-231-5362.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

BRIEFS

By DOUGLAS PAGE

Fungicide use on golf courses, long suspected of contaminating into surface- and ground-water runoff, has been given a green light by a Purdue University environmental study.

Four years of research at Purdue's Turfgrass Research Center found that fungicides do not seep into surface-water runoff or leach into ground water as previously feared.

"In terms of golf course superintendents, what we've shown is that they can use the chemicals without fear of huge negative impact on the environment," said Ronald Turco, professor of agronomy and director of Purdue's Environmental Sciences and Engineering Institute. Fungicides, he said, do not present a problem to the environment if they are applied according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

"The reality of any fungicide application to dense turf is that most of the fungicides do not reach the ground," said Turco. "About 90 percent of the fungicide remains on the grass leaf blade, where it is absorbed by the plant within 48 hours."

Continued on page 20

Study gives fungicides 'green light'

Continued on page 21

There are 'standards,' and then there are standards

By RON DODSON

Setting standards for protecting the environment is a challenging process, and no less so for golf courses. Generally, no matter what environmental standards we discuss, some people demand the highest standards; others claim that if standards are set too high, they will not be economically feasible; and then of course, others believe environmental standards are not necessary at all.

Personally, I'm uncomfortable with the word "standard" and particularly "minimum standard." Why shouldn't we try to do the absolute best we can rather than establish the least we can do? But, even more important, how do we measure our environmental "best," and how do we balance economic concerns with environmental concerns?

Continued on page 24