BELTSVILLE, Md. — The National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP), U.S. Golf Association (USGA) and Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) have agreed to cooperate on a trial to evaluate grasses for overseeding Bermudagrass fairways. The trial will be established and evaluated on courses under actual fairway conditions. Similar to the on-site bentgrass and Bermudagrass putting green trials now being performed at 16 sites across the United States, this trial will be limited to commercially available varieties, blends or mixtures and those very close to commercialization. An advisory committee consisting of representatives from universities, the turfgrass seed industry, USGA, GCSAA and NTEP is discussing and refining the details of the project. Ten courses across the South will be chosen, based on their geographical location, proximity to a land-grant university turfgrass research program and willingness of the club and the superintendent to participate. Geographical areas under consideration include Palm Springs, Calif.; Arizona; south Texas; Dallas; Mississippi or Alabama; central Florida; Myrtle Beach, S.C.; Virginia; Atlanta; and St. Louis, Mo.

Trials will be planted this fall and repeated in fall 2000. Each trial will be established and evaluated by a cooperating university turfgrass scientist. The host club will maintain the test area in the same manner as the rest of its fairways.

Data will be collected on establishment rate, turfgrass quality, color, rate or speed of transition from Bermuda to overseeding grass in fall and from overseeding grass to Bermuda in spring.

Data will also be collected on damage from traffic, disease, insects, divoting, frost, etc.

National overseeding test planned

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U.S. Open. Toro is also a corporate partner and has provided back-up equipment for the staff to use as needed.

Kocher is among the top five superintendents/directors in the country in overseeing championships and tournaments. While working for ClubCorp the past 24 years, he has hosted seven Jackie Gleason Inverrary Classics, one Honda Classic, one Tournament Players Championship, three PGA Club Pro’s, one U.S. Women’s Amateur, 14 each of Men’s, Women’s and Senior’s North/South Amateurs, two Tour Championships in 1991-92, and the 1994 U.S. Senior Open Championship.

There will be a double festive celebration next year, at the turn of the century, when Kocher also celebrates his 25th anniversary with ClubCorp.

No. 2 staff, volunteers

Pinehurst Resort & Country Club Course No. 2 maintenance staff:

Mike Briggs, David Ashley, Bill VanDeren, Toby Lee, spray tech Steve Nagy, Steve Keenan, Matt Boyce, Joe Wilson, Scott Pollard, Gerald Lee, Carl McLeod, Leo Jones, Tim Cole, Ken Hopkins, Chuck Britt, Richard Alfred, James Stephens, Floyd Marion, Anne Fountian, Jason Twigg, Steve Lassiter, Glenn Lassiter, foreman Rufus Cole, assistant/club grounds David Clem.

STUDENT INTERNS

Russ Hudson, VPI; Walter Thomas, North Carolina State; Geoff Sanders, West Texas State; Campbell Cox, Clemson; John Lowery, North Carolina State; Jason Bedenbaugh, Clemson; Steve Klosa, Texas A&M; Josh Quinn, Mississippi State; Bart Gregory, Mississippi; Justin Toal, Texas A&M; and international students Patrick Benneroyd, Adam Lenfield, Cory Budden and John Scott.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Superintendents - 24
Certified superintendents - 6
Assistant superintendents - 11
General managers - 1
Industry representatives - 4
Agronomy professors - 2