About the Cover
We set out to create a cover about how to build a better irrigation system. But in the end, we settled on this captivating and majestic image to stand alone on our cover. Yes, the image, photographed by Mike Klemme, features irrigation. But when we asked graphic designer Dan Beedy to superimpose an American flag over the golf flag in the photo, the image took on a completely different meaning. So we let it be. God bless America.

29 Build a Better Irrigation System
Here’s what you need to know before you start laying pipe. Plus: Irrigation companies deny abandoning affordable systems.

By Frank H. Andorka Jr.

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Pat Gradoville, superintendent at Palos Verdes GC in Los Alamitos, Calif., says effective irrigation is as much of an art as a science.