Billy Casper Golf allows us exclusive access to its annual meeting — and shows us how it’s trying to change the industry.

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The Smithco Star Command Spray System saved me 30% in chemical costs.”

– Robert Main, CGCS
Colonial Country Club, Cordova TN

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Behind the Curtain

Billy Casper Golf allows us exclusive access to its annual meeting — and shows us how it’s trying to change the industry.

BY SETH JONES

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When in need

For 10 years, the Wee One Foundation has been helping those in trying times.
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The last major of the year, the 2013 PGA Championship, is coming to Oak Hill for the third time. And Jeff Corcoran, manager of golf courses and grounds, will be ready, thanks in part to John Deere. “Most importantly, the equipment does what we ask it to do. There’s the peace of mind you get from the removal of the hydraulics from the reels. That, along with the relationships you build with the people in the company, it’s been really important for Oak Hill and it’s been a great partnership.”

So while your course may never host a major, you can have the same performance and support Jeff and his crew experience everyday. Call your local John Deere Golf distributor for a demo today.

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Think Pink.

Like clockwork, the color pink flourishes in October as a universal symbol of hope and unity in the fight against breast cancer.

In fact, the folks at Standard Golf are already processing orders for pink flags, flagsticks, cups and tee markers as hundreds of courses around the country prepare for October. But does it really take the fight against breast cancer to recognize and appreciate women on the links? And, why do we wait until the end of the season?

Today, nearly 25 percent of golfers are female. The percentage is increasing. Also, just as a reminder, women drive the country’s economic engine in terms of spending, and millions of them have been impacted by breast cancer one way or another. (If breast cancer hasn’t affected you, count yourself lucky. It’s an awful, insidious disease. That’s why Standard Golf proudly donates a portion of every “Think Pink!” sale item to fight it.)

This year, don’t let the NFL players wearing pink on the first Sunday game in October be your first reminder. Let the women in your life — and on your course — know you not only support the Susan B. Komen Foundation, but also appreciate their active support of your venue. “Think Pink.” It’s not only the right thing, but also the smart thing to do.

Want more information on “Think Pink”? Contact Standard Golf at www.standardgolf.com or call 866-743-9773.
Introducing ‘The Carrier’ by Redexim North America. This three-wheeled power unit is self-propelled and features a 32 HP, rear 540 PTO and hydrostatic drive. The Carrier can be fitted with attachments such as aerators, top dressers, cutters, seeders and artificial turf machines. The Carrier’s large turf tires provide traction and minimize ground compaction. The Redexim Carrier is less money, faster, deeper, wider, and has more options than any unit in the marketplace today.
I saw a headline recently about how dangerous the job of being an embedded journalist is. I chuckled at the thought. Well, sure, it’s dangerous. But those guys chose those jobs. Just like my friend Will, whom I wrote about a few issues ago. He knows the danger of the places he visits, just to take a photo. And then I think of my job. We’re related, you know — the embedded journalist and the editor-in-chief of Golfdom? We might not be brothers, but we’re cousins, twice removed.

“I wanted to learn about the company and specifically about this meeting that was hosting some 150 superintendents from around the country every year, yet I had never heard a thing about it.”

SETH JONES, Editor-in-Chief

The embedded journalist

I saw a headline recently about how dangerous the job of being an embedded journalist is. I chuckled at the thought. Well, sure, it’s dangerous. But those guys chose those jobs. Just like my friend Will, whom I wrote about a few issues ago. He knows the danger of the places he visits, just to take a photo. And then I think of my job. We’re related, you know — the embedded journalist and the editor-in-chief of Golfdom? We might not be brothers, but we’re cousins, twice removed.

I’ve even had to do my own kind of embedded journalism, and I’ve been doing it a lot lately. Except I don’t go to Afghanistan, I go to Augusta. I even traveled internationally last month. I know it’s a tough job, but luckily, England has a lot of pubs.

Some of you may think that I risked life and limb doing this month’s cover story on the Billy Casper Golf Annual Meeting. But the only thing I risked was a sunburn, and maybe alienating some staunch anti-management company readers.

The seeds of this story were first planted over the 4th of July weekend in 2011. I was at the John Deere Classic, playing in a golf scramble. My cart partner was Bryan Stromme, BCG’s director of agronomy for the Midwest region (and that day, the only player from my cart to keep a drive in the fairway.)

We started talking about the travel we had done through the year, and that was when Stromme mentioned to me the BCG Annual Meeting. I wasn’t familiar with it, so I asked him for details. The more I learned, the more impressed I was with what he was describing.

By the end of the round, I asked Bryan if he could get me on the invitation list for the meeting. “I’ll look into it,” he told me.

It took a year-and-a-half, but this February, two weeks after the Golf Industry Show in San Diego, I found myself at the BCG meeting in Tampa, Fla.

Once again, I was an embedded journalist. This time I was deep in management company territory. I knew the dangers. But hey, this is my job.

There was some hand-wringing when the idea of me coming to the meeting was proposed to the upper brass at BCG. What did I want to write about? What was I looking to find out? Could I be trusted?

I told them I was on a fact-finding mission. I wanted to learn about the company and specifically about this meeting that was hosting some 150 superintendents from around the country every year, yet I had never heard a thing about it.

Did I get to open every closed door at Billy Casper Golf? Of course not. This is a business, after all, and they have their methods they want to keep private.

Was every source completely forthcoming with me? I’ll tell you that it seemed that everyone answered my questions. Especially Bryan Bielecki, vice president of agronomy for Billy Casper Golf. I asked him some tough questions, and he shot me straight. I think that’s why he’s in the position he’s in today. I could see working for that guy. He’s a leader, and he’s not afraid to make hard decisions.

So I made it out of the BCG Annual Meeting in one piece. No blood was spilled. I even got a putting lesson from Billy Casper himself (World Golf Hall of Fame, class of 1978.) My putter has been hot ever since.

There’s no telling how many courses Billy Casper Golf, and management companies in general, will add to their portfolios in the next few years. But if you find yourself at BCG’s Annual meeting, from what I could see? It’s not such a dangerous job.

Email Jones at: sjones@northcoastmedia.net.
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CORCORAN AND CREW OVERCOME EARLY CRITICISM AND EARLY RAIN TO HOST A MEMORABLE MAJOR.

BY SETH JONES // Editor-in-Chief

There were plenty of magical moments at the 95th PGA Championship.

From when the tournament began with a thunderclap to when it ended with champion Jason Dufner’s cheeky butt-pat on his wife, this was one heck of a tournament.

“This golf course, Oak Hill, is just a great major championship venue,” Ian Baker-Finch gushed. Keegan Bradley, winner of the 2011 PGA Championship tweeted, “The PGA of America always sets up an amazing course for a major. They deserve more credit than they get.”

This was a 180 from what Tiger Woods was saying a week earlier. He complained during a press conference that the greens lacked grass, and wondered if they could be sped up in time for the PGA.

Corcoran responded to Woods’ complaints, telling the Rochester, N.Y. Democrat and Chronicle, “That was our game plan going into advance week, have them slow. ...We will be ready for the Championship.” And ready it was, despite the occasional shower.

By Sunday, Corcoran was relieved the whole thing was almost over.

“I feel like a weight has been lifted off my shoulders,” Corcoran said Sunday morning. “I’m going to relax... until I have to start thinking about next week’s clean-up.”

CC of Orlando superintendent Kasey Kauff contributed to this story.

//HIRED!

MAGRO COMES ON BOARD AT STEVENS WATER

Carmen Magro has joined Stevens Water Monitoring Systems (Stevens Water) as the company’s vice president of business development and agronomy. Magro brings with him 20 years of agronomy expertise and business leadership. “His experience with several technology companies to implement self-designed models for stress prediction, irrigation/analysis control and overall plant health is of great value,” said Stevens President Scott South.

A former superintendent, Magro directed the Golf Course Turfgrass Management Program and Turfgrass Research Facilities at Penn State University and served as the university’s turfgrass media relations expert. His past experience also includes working as the lead agronomist and director of education at Floratine Products Group and as vice president of agronomy with UgMO Technologies.

//A SUPER ADVENTURE

SUPER STARTS NEW CHARITY

Brian Peters, regional superintendent for Traditional Golf Properties in North Carolina, recently established a non-profit charity called “Adventurers for Special Needs” (AFSN).

The charity takes adventure sports (mountain climbing, kayaking, etc.) and turns them into charity benefits for children and adults with special needs. Peters’ son, Cameron, was born prematurely at 24 weeks. The premature birth left him with impairments and developmental delays.

Today Cameron is progressing well. Peters created the charity to give back to organizations like Frankie Lemmon School in Raleigh, N.C., which helped Cameron overcome his challenges. Learn more about the charity at www.adventurers4specialneeds.com.
Joe Schmo now a GCSAA field staffer

BY SETH JONES // Editor-in-Chief

Chase Rogan, former owner of Pure Turf Consulting and also a former reality TV star on Spike Network’s The Joe Schmo Show (“Joe Schmo is a turfie,” February 2013) was hired last month as the GCSAA’s field staffer for the Mid-Atlantic region.

Rogan’s territory will include Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia and West Virginia. The GCSAA field staff program is designed to “help chapters utilize GCSAA programs and services to a fuller extent,” according to GCSAA.org.

“I’m excited for the new position, and to work everyday to help advance this profession,” Rogan tells Golfdom. “The GCSAA has a lot to offer its members, and I also hope to help chapters learn about the bounty hunter business. But did his stint chasing crooks and parole violators on TV help prepare him for his gig with GCSAA? “Not really — I don’t see how it could have,” Rogan says. “At best it’s a conversation-starter.”

Rogan holds a bachelor’s degree in turfgrass science and a master’s degree in agronomy, both from Penn State University.

ezLOCATOR EXPANDS

ezLocator is developing its nationwide sales organization with the recruitment of key industry sales professionals. The Northeast Region adds David Clinkhammer, Andy Hyjek and Mitch Pizzetti. The Central Region adds Ted Bilan, Tom Conway and Dave Rutz. The Southern Region adds Jim Burke, Bill Ehman and Wally Geesey. The Mid-Atlantic Region adds Ed Turnage and the Western Region adds Bill Jackson. Pat Sellers will cover PGA Tour events.

THEY SAID IT

MIKE THUROW, PRESIDENT AND CEO, SPECTRUM TECHNOLOGIES

On how the soil moisture meter changed his business. (See full story on page 32).

“In my 40 years in the industry, I’ve never seen adoption of a product such as I have with the TDR (300). It’s because the guys at the USGA and the PGA believed in it. Word travels efficiently in this industry.”
//WE'VE GOTTA GO
ST. ANDREWS VOTED NO. 1
The Old Course at St. Andrews has been named the world’s number one course by a unique poll of professional golf course architects from around the globe.

Almost 250 architects voted in the Architects’ Choice Top 100 Golf Courses rankings ballot, carried out by Golf Course Architecture magazine. The Old Course was a comfortable first, followed by Alister MacKenzie's Cypress Point Club (Pebble Beach, Calif.) and Pine Valley (N.J.) GC in third.

Euan Loudon, chief executive of St. Andrews Links, gave a nice tip of the cap to the maintenance crew. “Achieving the top spot in this poll is fitting testimony to the work of the greenkeeping team at the Links. When you see the caliber of the courses from around the world included in the Architects’ Choice Top 100 you can appreciate that a great deal of hard work goes into delivering the Old Course in top condition for the thousands of people who wish to play it every year.”

OOPS...
In July we stated that perennial ryegrass had a production value of $111,000 this year (“Bye bye, rye.”). We should have said it has a production value of $111 million. We regret the error (and must have been smoking a lot of that rye, huh?)

Nice cover story on Streamsong.
Have heard great things about it from our members who have played there.
Looks incredible.

Greg Shaffer
@gtshaffer

Seth,
You did it again. Another hot-button issue for my keyboard.

John Wake, always a gentleman, effusively friendly and yet professional. John was one of the remarkably genuine gentlemen I’ve met through my travels and time working with GCSAA.

I was shocked to learn that we lost John so early and did not realize it was 10 years ago ("No better back-pack,” June). John Wake was truly a lovely man, to use a phrase not in common practice since the 19th century, but so appropriate.

I never write to magazines about anything, ever, until now. Two in a row. Who or what will you bring up next month that hits me between the eyes or in the heart?

Thank you for the tribute to John, it is appreciated by anyone who knew him.

Samuel R. Snyder VII
CGCS-Ret.
Shreve, Ohio

I enjoyed your article and story (“Can’t see the forest for the trees,” Karl Danneberger, July) in the latest Golfdom.

True how neighborhoods can get bogged down with age and overplanting, too.

Gary Deters
@gdeters_turf

A nun rushes into Mother Superior’s office and exclaims that she needs a priest to hear her confession: she had used the lord’s name in vain while playing golf.

Mother Superior has the nun sit and tell her the story. “I was on 18 and I just hit the drive of the day, when a squirrel ran out of the woods and smacked my golf ball.”

Mother Superior asks, “Is that when you used the lord’s name in vain?”

“No,” the nun replies, “then a hawk swooped down and caught the squirrel in his talons and flew off with my ball still in his mouth!”

“Oh my!” Mother Superior shouts, “is that when you used the lord’s name in vain?”

“No, Mother! The hawk flew that squirrel right over the green and the ball dropped from his mouth, on the green, and the ball rolled within 3 feet of the cup!”

To which she immediately replies, “don’t tell me you missed the goddamn putt?”

READER JOKE
AS TOLD BY P.J. McGuire, CGCS, American Country Club Comedians, supplier of golf entertainment. Visit acccomedy.com to learn more.

PHOTO BY: LARRY LAMBRECHT
Don’t Let Pythium Blight Engulf Your Turf
Trust Segway® Fungicide to Fight the Spread of Damaging Pythium Blight

Once Pythium blight invades your turf, it can spread like wildfire. Safeguard your course with Segway® fungicide, a key component of your resistance management program that is proven to be highly-effective against all stages of Pythium disease. When used as a preventative treatment or even after symptoms are present, Segway stops Pythium in its tracks.

Don’t get burned by destructive blight. Use Segway fungicide first in your rotation program — and make up to three applications per season* — for superior, season-long Pythium blight protection. For more information on Segway fungicide, contact your FMC Market Specialist or Authorized FMC Sales Agent.

*Do not apply more than 2.7 fl oz/1000 square feet per year (or 3.0 lb a.i./acre per year). Always read and follow label directions. FMC is a trademark of FMC Corporation. Segway is a trademark of Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha, Ltd. ©2013 FMC Corporation. All rights reserved.
1 Stay off my grass! We saw this sign placed prominently on a soccer pitch in England recently. It’s the truth, you know — you grow it, then people have to mess it all up...

2 Billy and some kid Golfdom EIC Seth Jones (right) got a free putting tip from golf legend Billy Casper (left) at the Billy Casper Golf Annual Meeting. The tip? Seth isn’t telling.

3 A Sunningdale day Murray Long, courses and estate manager at Sunningdale Golf Club near London, gave us a proper tour of the No. 1 non-links golf course in England. Despite the way it looks, he did not show us how to hula.

4 Service right next door While in Ipswich, England, we got a tour of RJ National, the three-hole golf course at Jacobsen’s European headquarters. We wonder if superintendent Jamie Hughes (pictured) gets a special rate on spare parts?

5 Where the MAZAK happens We drove from Minneapolis over to River Falls, Wis., to visit Jim LeTourneau (left), COO of Foley United (with Golfdom publisher Pat Roberts.) The machine behind them is a MAZAK Super Turbo-X 48 MK II. What’s that mean? We’re not sure, but it sounds cool!

6 Why can’t we be friends? It took a cricket match in England to make this photo happen. Toro Irrigation’s Robert Jackson (left) and Robert Green (right) share a friendly moment with Jacobsen’s Adam Slick (center.)

7 Blue crew Did they call each other? Jacobsen’s Ian Mitchell, Seth and Jamie all are dressed eerily similar at the RJ National. And yet no one is wearing orange...?
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Your course is a masterpiece, and Turfcide® ensures it will be admired. That’s why professionals trust us and build their snow mold control program on a Turfcide foundation. Nothing works to protect your masterwork like we do.
About our host

ALAN FERGUSON, head groundsman for St. George’s Park near Burton-Upon-Trent, England, has his roots in golf. He started his career working at the Old Course at St. Andrews. But one glance at his office makes it clear: Ferguson is a sports turf manager through and through these days.

The former head groundsman at Portman Road (home of Ipswich Town FC,) Ferguson now manages the turf at St. George’s Park, the official home of the English national soccer team. The facility has 11 soccer fields — including one that is manicured to be an exact replica of the field at Wembley Stadium — in order to give the team the feeling of their home pitch.

1 CROATIA VERSUS ENGLAND
“Those jerseys are signed by England and Croatia, from 2003, England won 3-1. This was during the rebuilding of Wembley Stadium, so they played the game at Portman Road, where I was the head groundsman. It was the first time an international game was played in Suffolk, England.”

2 READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL
“These helmets are from what they call the International Series — American football games played at Wembley Stadium. I went down to help out and picked these up. That game has become real popular here. By the way, I’ve never seen anything like that. American football is fascinating!”

3 SOME BUBBLY
“That bottle was given to me by the chairman of St. George’s Park upon the grand opening of the park. I drank the champagne and kept the bottle as a memento — I don’t think I’ll be getting too many more bottles of champagne from the chairman in my career.”

4 THE ROYAL SPADE
“That spade was part of a ceremony where we planted the eight millionth tree in the national forest that we are a part of. The Royal Highness Prince William did a few sprinkles, I did the rest. They’re lovely people, easy to talk to, just like you’re sitting there having a cup of coffee. Years ago I met Prince William’s father, he was equally laid back. It’s a real honor to meet the royal family in your professional career.”

INTERVIEW AND PHOTO BY SETH JONES
Proud of your second office? Email us a photo of you in it to sjones@northcoastmedia.net, and we may feature you and your office in an upcoming issue of Golfdom.
Take a good look.
You may never see it again.

Apply less. Achieve more.

Specticle® from Bayer provides effective, long-lasting pre-emergent weed control. Specticle gives you superior control of Poa annua, crabgrass and goosegrass as well as 75 other troublesome grasses and broadleaf weeds. Get ready to achieve more with Specticle. For more information, visit www.BackedbyBayer.com/Specticle.

Specticle G is now available as a spreadable granule.
“From a distance I couldn’t tell exactly what he was doing. But as I got closer, what I saw was truly amazing.”

MARK WOODWARD, Contributing Editor

This month, Woodward gets an assist from Kirby Putt, director of grounds at Arizona Country Club.

‘Grassroots’ ideas are among the best

E very once in a while you run across something that makes you say “Wow, isn’t that cool?” or “Why didn’t I think of that?”

I’ve been in the golf business for more than 40 years now, and I’ve seen a lot of changes and innovations. As my friend Shawn Emerson from Desert Mountain once told me, “The only thing that hasn’t changed over the years in the golf industry is the golfer’s ability.” If you really think about it, everything related to golf course maintenance and management has changed, and for the most part, the changes have been positive.

Recently, while completing a bunker renovation project at the Arizona Country Club in Phoenix, I was introduced to a grassroots idea called the F1 core collector by the director of grounds, Kirby Putt. He was waving me over and laughing as he pulled cores off his greens with this bunker rake attachment. From a distance I couldn’t tell exactly what he was doing. But as I got closer, what I saw was truly amazing.

Kirby by nature is a funny guy, but what I witnessed when I pulled up to the green was a superintendent who was downright giddy. He was quickly and efficiently removing the cores from the greens in a matter of minutes, piling them off to the side of the collars for pickup. Kirby explained, “I have one of three made by James Hill, and I love this machine.”

He also advised me that the F1 will be on the market very soon. In simple terms, Kirby was sitting on a bunker rake with the F1 core collector attached, virtually removing all of the aerification plugs on the entire green in seven to eight minutes. This tool is an incredible time-saving device for what is often a tedious and labor-intensive job.

Later that evening, I paused for a moment and reflected on how many cores I’ve pushed off greens. I also thought about the other innovations great minds have come up with that helped me in my career as a superintendent. I sat down that evening and quickly listed 10 inventions that came to mind:

1. **Bunker machines for raking** It was common to hand-rake bunkers. Another time-saving gem.
2. **Deeptine aerifiers** And how about this tool? Ten-inch holes that have cured many a green or fairway problem, saving many a superintendent’s job.
3. **Growth regulators** Considered the “extra employee” on many grounds crews, these create labor savings and enhance turf.
4. **Wetting agents** Making water wetter for much improved infiltration.
5. **Mechanics lift** You want to make a best friend, buy your mechanic a lift. How many of you laid on the ground, and maybe still do, to repair equipment. Shame on the course who doesn’t own one of these.
6. **Spin grinders** The days of backlapping are over (I know some of you still prefer the old way.)
7. **Hydraulics** Where would we be without hydraulics? There are so many more great inventions and ideas waiting to spring into action. I witnessed one recently that I’m sure will have a place in many a maintenance facility across the country. The F1 core collector might just go on my list of creative innovations to expedite the aerification process and get golfers back onto our courses sooner.

Mark Woodward is president of Mark Woodward and Associates, principal of Damarco Golf, CEO of MasterStep Golf Group and a contributing editor for Golfdom.
Knock Out Multiple Weeds in a Single Round

Only Solitare® Takes on Crabgrass, Sedges and Broadleaf Weeds with No Tank Mixing Required

When multiple weeds gang up on you, there's just one solution you need in your corner: Solitare® herbicide. A powerful MSMA alternative, Solitare is an all-in-one postemergence treatment designed to help you fight crabgrass, sedges and tough broadleaf weeds all with a single, fast-acting application.

Dual-action Solitare controls or suppresses over 60 weeds without the hassle and cost of tank mixing. Underground, Solitare fights seeds and tubers to reduce weed populations this season and next. Solitare is available in a 1-lb jar for one-acre applications and an economical new 4-lb bottle for a reduced cost per acre. For more information, contact your FMC Market Specialist or local FMC Distributor.
My road trips to education sessions so far this year have included the Nutrient Management Symposium, the Central Florida Vendor Expo and the Everglades GCSA Spring Symposium. And they all had me wondering what new or modified turf management practices are on the horizon.

It’s no secret that Florida has been ground zero for EPA’s Numeric Nutrient Criteria, spawned by a court settlement and not the result of open debate of the facts. In the wake of all the angst raised by activists about nutrient pollution of waterways, the University of Florida undertook an eight-year study of nutrient management practices sponsored by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

The most important result was that the summer fertilizer application bans forced people to apply in the spring and fall when plant roots are just renewing growth or shutting down and plants are less effective at absorbing nutrients. Nutrients applied on test plots in the summer months were essentially taken up with little or no leaching at all.

Common sense precautions against applying fertilizers in advance of forecasted heavy rains or too close to water bodies are always in effect.

Another key find was that if you bring in sod you need to find out when the plots were last fertilized. Sod farms keep the plots lean and mean like a lot of “firm and fast” golf courses. But when harvesting the sod for a customer, the farms want it looking good, so they fertilize.

Researchers have found that if a sod farm has fed the turf in a two- to six-week period before harvesting, a lot of the nutrients are transported in that soil layer with the sod. Because of that information, the state may change its model fertilizer ordinance to include a 30- to 60-day waiting period before applying more nutrients.

That makes sense, as new roots must sprout from the stolons before they can take up nutrients.

Fertilizer formulations were another topic that piqued my interest. Over the years we have seen phosphorus fade from most blends. There are times when it is appropriate to apply phosphorous, and we do more soil and tissue testing to determine that need. Recent comments by Auburn University’s Elizabeth Guertal, Ph.D., at the Everglades Symposium indicate we might want to start looking at potassium levels in our blends as well.

Another area gaining research interest is how light intensity and duration affects plant growth efficiency. Pretty soon, “What’s in Your Cart?” might contain a light meter along with the moisture meter. The use of moisture sensors and meters is becoming more commonplace as we have to face concerns over water availability (check out the story on page 40 for details on how popular these meters have become for one company.)

Now the amount of light a plant receives during any given period is being explored as it affects plant transpiration, which affects not only water and nutrient uptake, but also the ability to fight disease and withstand wear. We know turf suffers in the shade, but now simple hazy, cloudy days can limit turf viability.

We are always at the mercy of the weather, but with this new research we might be able to modify some of our inputs or practices to improve plant vigor and make wiser decisions.

One thing I have learned from my travels so far this year is that continuing education is more important than ever in the golf course maintenance industry.

We will always have basic truths when it comes to cultural practices, irrigation management and nutrient requirements, but you can bet there is always going to be room for improvement.

Thanks to advancements in research technology we can unlock more of nature’s secrets and learn to modify our practices to become even better environmental stewards.

Joel Jackson, CGCS-Ret., is director of communications for the Florida GCSA.
Water typically makes up 90% of sprayable solutions, and poor water quality can reduce product performance by up to 20%. Maximize your effectiveness using LI700® with Leci-Tech®.

LI 700 with Leci-Tech
The World’s #1 Selling Adjuvant
• Increases pesticide penetration
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This past winter at the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference and Show, I attended a couple talks on career development led by a human resources director and a respected superintendent. I took quite a bit away from both speakers, but a comment on interview attire from one of the attendees — and the resulting discussion — is what stuck with me.

He relayed the story of an interview he had for a superintendent position. The interviewer had commented on the fact that he wore a suit and said he should have dressed more casually.

The story stuck with me because the same thing happened to me, and, as it turns out, to another guy in the room.

In my case, the interviewer actually said, and I’m not making this up, “You look more like a banker than a superintendent.” I don’t want to imply that he was rude. But he made that comment more than once during the interview.

Nonetheless, I’ve wondered ever since if the fact that I looked “more like a banker” to him factored into his decision to not hire me.

I’m still not really sure what a superintendent is supposed to look like. Maybe I should have shown up in a pair of Carhartt’s that smelled like 2,4-D with a Stimpmeter hanging in the hammer loop and a hose over my shoulder.

I could have opened with a Carl Spackler impression and then randomly alternated between a slight country drawl (to subtly imply that I was raised on a farm) and a Scottish brogue (to subtly imply that I’m descended from Old Tom Morris). That would have covered pretty much all the major stereotypes while leaving a lasting impression of professionalism and mental stability.

In any case, that incident, along with the discussion at the OTF conference, got me thinking about how to handle the same situation in the future. I think most people, me included, would assume a suit is the proper interview attire, unless otherwise told. However, that’s apparently not always the case.

It may not necessarily be a bad idea, but I’ve always been a little uncomfortable asking the contact person with whom I’m setting up the interview how I should dress. On one hand, by asking, you run the risk of coming off as unprofessional or ignorant. On the other hand, you may lose an opportunity because your attire is not exactly what was expected.

The key, as I see it, is to listen carefully to the contact person when you’re setting up the interview. Take note not only of the person’s words, but also of his or her tone.

The importance of both of those things can be easily forgotten when you’re in the midst of trying to coordinate schedules, learn about the interview format and deal with the other miscellaneous details that are involved in setting up an interview.

Nonetheless, listening carefully on that phone call will enable you to more accurately gauge the company’s expectations and give you an idea of how best to approach the interview.

I knew my interview was going to be a one-on-one meeting with the owner, and I got the impression that it wasn’t going to be a highly structured, formal interview. However, attire wasn’t addressed in the phone call, and I chose to go with a suit. Frankly, I’d rather be overdressed than underdressed for something as important as a job interview.

Maybe it cost me an opportunity, I don’t know. I do know that it made me realize the need to listen intently when dealing with potential employers, and to always trust my judgment about their expectations.

And I guess, if all else fails, you could just ask.

Matt Neff (mneff4@yahoo.com) is assistant superintendent at Wedgewood G&CC in Powell, Ohio.
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Behind the Curtain

BY SETH JONES

Billy Casper Golf allows us exclusive access to its annual meeting — and shows us how it’s trying to change the industry.

For three days in February, golf industry professionals from across the country converge on Tampa, Fla. They come from as far as Hawaii and Pennsylvania and just about everywhere in-between. Their job titles include superintendent, golf professional and sales director.

They’re there to learn about the business, network and take classes.

This isn’t the Golf Industry Show. It’s not a regional conference.

Welcome to management company Billy Casper Golf’s Annual Meeting.

To some, the thought of having to attend a management company’s annual meeting would be a horror. Because that would mean that their course was now being operated by a management company.

But to the attendees of the BCG meeting, this is one of the best weeks of the year. Because it’s the biggest reminder that they are a part of a management company — or, as many call it, “a team.”

And they wouldn’t want it any other way.

Schedule change

Virginia-based Billy Casper Golf owns or manages roughly 150 golf courses in 28 states. The company, now 23 years in operation, employs a fair share of turf professionals. But it’s only been recently that those superintendents have truly felt like an integral part of the BCG team.

Six years ago, the superintendents in the company didn’t attend the BCG Annual Meeting. They weren’t invited.

It was at this time that Bryan Bielecki, vice president of agronomy for the company, affected change. He decided that superintendents must attend the national meeting in order to get the credit they deserve, and enhance the business, art and science skills they bring to their properties daily.

“We had that typical struggle with the perception of superintendents within the organization — like in the real world — about what superintendents do,” Bielecki recalls. “The superintendents needed to be exposed to the rest of the organization, and the rest of the organization needed to be exposed to our superintendents, to see they are real professionals.”

Or, as BCG Chairman and CEO Peter Hill

Continued on page 24
The guys who haven’t been to the annual meeting, or haven’t been a part of our team for a long time, they’ll talk about Billy Casper Golf in the third person—it’s ‘you guys,’ even though they’re employees of Billy Casper Golf,” Bielecki says. “Once they’ve had a chance to indulge themselves in the culture, after they get a few regional meetings and a national meeting under their belt, all of a sudden it’s ‘us.’”
Continued from page 22

says, “Superintendents are integral to Billy Casper Golf, furthering its mission to build the best operating platform in the history of golf.”

At first blush, telling a superintendent to prepare for a three-day trip to Florida seems like the move of a person trying to make friends. But if BCG were to make an addition, that meant a subtraction must happen. GCSAA’s annual Golf Industry Show, the biggest turf maintenance event in the industry, would no longer be a trip that BCG would pay for.

“We were in a real tough spot. If we cut out the GIS for all of our superintendents, they might lock us up and throw away the key,” Bielecki recalls thinking. “But if we didn’t get our superintendents exposed to the organization, and vice versa, we risked being stuck in neutral.”

Anatomy of an annual meeting

Much of the BCG annual meeting is about being around fellow members of the BCG family. Region-by-region dinners kick off the first night. Then the meeting gets a proper start with an opening session the following morning. Company namesake and World Golf Hall of Famer Billy Casper and CEO Peter Hill both address the group. Following the opening session, attendees can choose to go on a golf outing, fishing trip or cruise around Tampa Bay.

The next day, classes begin. Courses such as “Revenue Strategies to Grow Your Business” and “Golf Course Ownership Workshop” are offered to all attendees, as well as some turf-specific classes for the superintendents at the event.

“There’s also a lot about running a business, finance classes and growing your career,” says Bryan Stromme, Midwest director of agronomy. “The education is a huge part of the meeting. And it’s not just turf, it covers business, HR classes, contracts and more.”

“We’ll do an agronomy meeting, then you go do a budget meeting, then a reporting meeting,” says Bryan Nuss, superintendent at Jack Frost National GC in Blakeslee, Pa., who has attended five BCG Annual Meetings. “It’s general, but you learn more about the overall aspect of the golf course, not just our department.”

Following the education sessions is the awards ceremony, where top performers are recognized. The morning of the last day features a guest speaker for the group, covering topics such as leadership and creative thinking.

Louis Bischoff, superintendent at the BCG–managed North Course in City Park, New Orleans, savors the Annual Meeting, and is among its biggest advocates. He’s won awards at the event twice — Rookie of the Year and Top Performer.

“There are a ton of great things about the BCG Annual Meeting,” Bischoff says. “People I call friends, people if you’re lucky to see them once, maybe twice a year, and you actually spend time with them at the ‘Annual.’ We all chew the same dirt, it’s interesting to hear stories from others.”

Bischoff hasn’t been to the Golf Industry Show in “quite a few years,” but doesn’t seem to miss it.

“Some of the knowledge that roams around the BCG halls... it’s horrifying, they’re so smart,” he says. “I always feel like I can get accomplished whatever I need to do at the Annual.”

On the contrast, John Spiwak, superintendent at BCG–managed Eastpointe CC in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., doesn’t like missing a show so important to him as the Golf Industry Show. So he attends every year on his own.

“The GIS allows guys to experience things more on their own, put your hands on all the equipment, and get that type of knowledge,” Spiwak says. “Some of it does cross over, but you couldn’t say it’s the same.”
Nuss agrees. “It’s nice to get away, heading to Florida in February is great. It’s two days where you learn a lot in classes and at the golf outing,” he says, adding that the GIS complements the BCG Annual Meeting.

Almost to a superintendent, there’s great value placed on the worthwhileness of the education at the BCG meeting, but Bielecki, maybe surprisingly, says education isn’t the main reason the company has brought superintendents to Florida the past six years.

“What do we hope to get out of it? It’s probably more cultural than anything else,” Bielecki explains. “It’s camaraderie and exposure.”

**Team first**

A team-first attitude is everywhere at the BCG meeting. Some of these superintendents may miss attending the GIS, but they’re also fiercely loyal to their Billy Casper Golf team.

“They use the word a lot; ‘team,’” Spiwak says. “It gives you the feeling that you’re a part of a group that others aren’t. A very positive thing about (the BCG Annual Meeting) is you don’t feel alone after you’ve been to one of those meetings.”

“Being a superintendent, you have your local chapter, and you can rely on those guys... it’s similar to that, just much bigger,” Nuss says of how he feels about BCG. “Instead of local guys you’ve got very smart people all over the country. If you run into any problem, you can easily contact any of them and get a good answer and trust it.”

Bielecki says taking the GIS off everyone’s plate instantly drew some criticism. But he stands by the decision.

“I really believe, still, that it’s the right decision,” he says. “The exposure (BCG superintendents) got to the organization, the exposure that the organization got to them, has really paid dividends for how those superintendents are perceived.”

Bielecki says the goal is to create the Southwest Airlines of the golf course maintenance industry. He wants to create an organizational culture that can attract and retain the best superintendents in the business.

“If you look at the history of Southwest, and the performance of the stock price, employee engagement, employee morale, they’ve far, far outperformed their competitors. We’re trying to create that,” Bielecki says. “We’re not there yet. But the annual meeting is just one component of making sure Billy Casper Golf brings its best game to each property every day. If we can attract and retain the best superintendent professionals in the industry, it makes our jobs a whole lot easier. And it makes the results at our facilities a whole lot better.”

Count Bischoff on board. After 20 years working at private country clubs, he regrets not joining the team sooner.

“I’ll tell you exactly what I told (BCG CEO) Peter Hill my first year... this is the future of golf, the management company,” Bischoff says. “It’s called country club syndrome — that’s my own term for it. Grandma and grandpa might have started the country club, mom and dad grew up in it, they participated, they played. Then they had their children. Their children want to participate and play, but they don’t want to pay. They’re slowly, one by one, dropping off the face of the planet.

“Management groups are the way to go — they’re the way of the future.”

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For 10 years, the Wee One Foundation has been helping those in trying times.

BY JOHN WALSH

Ryan Kopke, golf course superintendent at New Albany (Ohio) Country Club, has been living a nightmare for the past two years.

It started when Kopke’s wife felt pain in her abdomen and subsequently made several trips to the emergency room; but doctors couldn’t determine the cause. After several CT scans and ultrasounds, doctors determined her appendix needed to be removed; but that didn’t stop the pain. So after more tests and scans, they decided to remove her gall bladder.

Still the pain didn’t subside. Only after exploratory surgery did doctors discover that Kopke’s 35-year-old wife, Cara, had a golf-ball-sized tumor in her intestine. The doctors removed the tumor along with 18 inches of her intestine only to determine the cancer had reached stage 4 and metastasized into her lungs.

It’s been crazy for the Kopke family since then. They have to deal not only with chemo treatments but also with the pressures of being new home owners, skyrocketing medical bills and having to take time off of work. On top of that, Cara lost her job at a floral shop because it went bankrupt.

“It was impossible to focus on my job with what was going on with Cara,” Ryan Kopke says. “It was nerve-racking. I took a month’s worth of vacation last year, but thankfully, the amazing people I work with donated 24 vacation days to me and gave me a monetary gift.”

Kopke was stressed out about everything: medical bills (Cara’s drugs alone cost $8,000 every other week), his new home and how his wife’s health would affect their 6-year-old son. It was a lot to deal with.

Joe Enciso, a sales representative for Floratine, knew it, too. That’s why he recommended Kopke
look into the Wee One Foundation. The foundation was developed as a tribute to Wayne Otto — who was superintendent at Ozaukee Country Club in Mequon, Wis., from 1969 to 2002 and died of pancreatic cancer in 2004. The Wee One Foundation aims to help golf course management professionals (or their dependents) who incur overwhelming medical expenses.

“One day in March 2012, I Googled it, and reached out,” Kopke says. “Cara and I wrote a letter and shared our story. Two weeks later a representative from the foundation called to let me know we’d be receiving a one-time monetary gift. I was blown out of the water. I’ve never had anyone be so nice to me.”

Looking out for each other
Since the Wee One Foundation’s inception in 2004, when friends of Otto banded together to assist him financially in his battle against cancer, the foundation’s membership has grown to more than 270 in 17 states. More importantly, the foundation has gifted almost $600,000 to families in Ohio, Arizona, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, North Carolina, Idaho, Minnesota, California and Texas. It raises money through its membership, golf outings (including one at Pine Hills Country Club in Sheboygan, Wis., annually) and sponsorships.

“People in the golf industry have always rallied around sick people for fundraising, but there was nothing permanent or beyond the needs of an individual,” says Luke Cella, executive director of the Wee One Foundation (the name stems from a trip to Scotland, where the caddies were making wagers as golfers stood on the tee and one caddie declared, ‘My money’s on the

Continued on page 28
“I've been a superintendent for more than 20 years and we always seem to have dollar spot issues. I didn’t have those issues this year while using Daconil Action, and I know others did. I’m definitely going to use Daconil Action again.”

Kelly Kressler
Southmoore Golf Course, Bath, PA

Continued from page 27
Recipients don’t have to be members of the foundation to receive funds, which often are turned around quickly. The distribution of funds works through a benevolent committee on a case-by-case basis. The committee, which talks to as many people as possible, has never refused a request. Sixty-one people have been helped since 2006, and 60 percent of those are superintendents. Five people have passed away. When gifts are given, no strings are attached, and recipients aren’t stipulated to pay medical bills.

“WHEN A GIFT HAPPENS, IT REALLY HITS HOME. THE IMPACT OF THE FOUNDATION DOESN’T CLICK UNTIL SOMEONE BENEFITS FROM A GIFT.”

Luke Cella

Continued on page 30

PHOTO CREDIT: LUKE CELLA

“It’d be a wonderful goal to have all local chapters be part of the foundation,” Cella says. The foundation’s membership has grown to 270 in 17 states, and gifted almost $600,000, according to Cella.

PHOTO CREDIT: LUKE CELLA

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PHOTO CREDIT: LUKE CELLA

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tion’s support is through superintendents, which makes it a grass-roots organization, it has had support from suppliers from the start. Those include Becker Underwood, Turf Ventures, Barenbrug Seed, Blue Petroleum and Floratine, which is giving $5,000 a year for the next 10 years.

“Companies don’t want to make a long-term commitment,” Cella says. “We’d like it to grow faster than it does, so every little bit helps.”

The foundation will mark its 10-year anniversary in a rather low-key way — on some of its signage and within its general promotion.

“It will be kept simple because the people involved from the get-go only want to draw attention to the foundation to make sure funds are available to help others,” Cella says. “This is just the beginning to make sure it’s always around and viable for those who might need assistance.”

Thankful and appreciative

For the Kopkes, life has settled a bit. But by no means is their future certain. Ryan Kopke is thankful he works for a facility that practices a family-first mentality. His crew stepped up to pick up the slack after he had to begin tending to his wife. And the club’s general manager and director of golf course maintenance told him not to worry about the golf course and do what he needs to do.

“Everyone has been more than accommodating,” he says.

As for Cara Kopke, she experienced nerve damage in her hands and feet as a result of her first type of chemo and felt like she was walking on pins and needles. She also experienced temperature sensitivity, so anything she ate, drank or touched had to be room temperature. Every two months she has a CT scan to monitor the cancer in her lungs.

After a year of the chemo she had to start a different type of chemo when tumors started growing again. The new, powerful drug knocks her out for days.

After seeing 15 pea- to BB-sized tumors in her lungs, doctors explained surgery and radiation aren’t options because those treatments are too risky. The future is uncertain, but the Kopkes are being as strong as possible in this trying time.

“I’ll tell anyone who wants to know what’s going on,” Ryan Kopke says, adding that no one at New Albay was familiar with the foundation before he found out about it. “Wee One has helped my family during this difficult time in our lives, and we appreciate it.”

John Walsh is a freelance writer based in Cleveland, Ohio.
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Mike Thurow likes pain. Not physical pain, but pain in business. When a group is having a pain with their business, he says he sees that as a business opportunity. So it could be said that Thurow, president and CEO of Spectrum Technologies Inc., enjoys it when superintendents have a pain in the grass. “If a superintendent has a pain, then we will look for the solution,” Thurow says.
For example, the FieldScout TDR 300. Available for about 15 years now, the technology has caught the industry by storm in the last five. The portable tool gives instantaneous readings of root zone soil moisture, allowing turf pros to spot-water only the areas that really need it.

Today the TDR 300 can be seen at golf courses across the country. “It’s the single best tool I’ve bought in the last five years,” says Dan Dinelli, CGCS at North Shore CC in Chicago. That seems to be a common sentiment around the industry, so much so that here at Golfdom we even featured the product on our cover last year.

So it’s no surprise that Thurow has a big grin on his face when he makes his next statement. “In my 40 years in the industry, I’ve never seen adoption of a product such as I have with the TDR,” he says. “It’s because the guys at the USGA and the PGA believed in it. Word travels efficiently in this industry. It’s a network, more so than any other crop segment.”

Thurow says sales of the TDR increased 80 percent from 2010 to 2011, then doubled from 2011 to 2012. He anticipates more success for the product this year. Behind the TDR, turf now accounts for 30 percent of his total business. Previously it accounted for 5 percent of his business.

Golfdom recently visited Spectrum Technologies in the Chicago suburb of Aurora, Ill. We asked one main question: What is the company’s next big idea?

**GreenIndex+**

Available beginning next month is the FieldScout GreenIndex+ for turf applications. The premise is simple: it’s a tool to give an exact reading on how green the grass is.

The value, according to Adam Rusciolelli, vice president of product development for Spectrum Technologies, is it takes the guesswork out of applying nitrogen.

“We’re trying to make color measurements more consistent and objective. The app can assist in making decisions associated with declining greenness. It’s a tool to help keep turf in the optimal range, not over- or under-fertilized,” Rusciolelli says. “Once it’s calibrated any person can go out and take the measurements.”

The equipment includes a small board with three colors, and a smartphone app. The user takes a photo of the board and surrounding turf with the smartphone. The app locks in on the board, and uses those colors as a control. So shadows, sunlight or hazy weather won’t impact the reading of the grass.

The photo then gives the user an objective numeric value as well as an equivalent visual rating for how green the grass is.

“Perfecting the TruFirm

Invented by Matt Pringle, Ph.D., of the USGA, the TruFirm has been utilized to determine ground firmness. The USGA has partnered with Spectrum Technologies to leverage the technology and create a more affordable version of the TrueFirm. Through a licensing agreement, this new TruFirm will include both the USGA and Spectrum Technologies logos on the tool.

“We’ve redesigned it to make it better value for superintendents,” says Jacob Madden, director of marketing at Spectrum Technologies. “The first TruFirm and similar competitive products are more elaborate and expensive.”

The new TruFirm — available this fall — will also include an app that allows users to break down greens in nine segments and save that information for future reference.

**Bluetooth-enabled TDR**

The TDR 300 — the first product mentioned in this article — has been so good for Spectrum Technologies that it shouldn’t be a surprise that the company is looking for ways to improve it.

By giving it the power of Bluetooth, they believe they have.

“Bluetooth is so powerful and affordable. It’s simply a chip,” says Madden. “You can already log the data and download the data, but you can’t automatically shoot that data to a device at this point in time. Bluetooth would simplify this process to save valuable time.”

The target release date for the Bluetooth TDR 300 is the 2014 Golf Industry Show in Orlando.

Would you like to see articles similar to this in the future? If so, what companies would you like to see profiled? Write to us at sjones@northcoastmedia.net or tweet at us @Golfdom.
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Methiozolin is a new herbicide reported to control annual bluegrass in creeping bentgrass putting greens. However, the appropriate application timing and rate to maximize efficacy is still not clear.

The objective of this experiment was to determine the optimum rate and timing of spring applications for annual bluegrass control. The experiment was conducted in Knoxville, Tenn. and West Lafayette, Ind. Individual applications in March, April and May, or programs of March + April, April + May or March + April + May at two methiozolin application rates (0.45 or 0.9 lbs. /acre) were tested. Applications were made at the first of each month in Tennessee and the middle of each month in Indiana. Results from both locations concluded that sequential applications which contained the early spring (March) applications provided the best efficacy.

In Indiana, plots receiving 0.9 lbs./acre methiozolin sequentially applied March + April + May controlled annual bluegrass up to 44 percent, in Tennessee the same treatment provided 99 percent control. A single March application was not effective in Indiana but provided 97 percent control in Tennessee. Tennessee reported up to 40 percent annual bluegrass control with either a single April or May application at 0.9 lbs./acre, but no control was observed in Indiana.

Annual bluegrass was not controlled from the 0.45 lbs./acre applications in Indiana, but in Tennessee the 0.45 lbs./acre rate provided control that was similar to 0.9 lbs./acre. Differences between locations were likely due to different annual bluegrass biotypes at each location, and emphasize the importance of conducting annual bluegrass research at multiple locations. In general, methiozolin proved to be a useful tool for annual bluegrass control in creeping bentgrass greens.

Jon M. Trappe, Aaron J. Patton and Daniel Weisenberger work in the Agronomy Department at Purdue University. Gregory Breeden and James Brosnan work in the Plant Sciences Department at University of Tennessee. Trappe can be reached at jtrappe@purdue.edu.
Secure fungicide and dollar spot control

By Mike Agnew, Ph.D., and Lane Tredway, Ph.D.

Fungicides have been used to control turfgrass diseases since the early 1900s. Up until the late 1960s, fungicides that were developed can be classified as having a multi-site mode of action. Multi-site fungicides, such as chlorothalonil and Mancozeb, are surface protectants (contacts) that disrupt different metabolic processes in the fungal cells (Latin, 2011). With the development of benomyl in 1968 and up to 2012, all fungicides that were introduced into the turfgrass market can be classified as single-site fungicides. These fungicides bind to a specific enzyme or interfere with a single metabolic process within the disease-causing fungus. Most penetrate and translocate in the plant, and many are at risk to the development of fungicide resistance.

In the fall of 2012, Syngenta introduced Secure, the first multi-site fungicide since the registration of Daconil fungicide 2787 in 1966. Secure is a preventive contact fungicide for golf course use that provides control of multiple diseases, including dollar spot, brown patch and leaf spot. The active ingredient in Secure is fluazinam. It is the only turf fungicide in the Pyridinamine chemical class. Classified by the Fungicide Resistance Action Committee (FRAC) in Group 29, fluazinam disrupts the production of energy at multiple metabolic sites within the fungal cell (Anonymous, 2013). This unique class of chemistry, along with its multi-site mode of action, translates to minimal risk of fungicide resistance. Secure fungicide contains 4.17 pounds of active ingredient (fluazinam) per gallon. The use rate for Secure is 0.5 fluid ounces per 1,000 square feet of turf applied on a 14-day interval. This delivers a very efficacious fungicide at a rate that is 58 to 85 percent less active ingredient per acre than any other multi-site fungicide (Anonymous, 2006, 2011, 2012). The product label allows for a maximum number of 12 applications per year, allowing the golf course to have a multi-site fungicide in every application. As with any multi-site contact fungicide, applications should be made preventively.

No known resistance has developed to Secure, making it an excellent partner for products that require the use of a protectant fungicide with a different mode of action.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fungicide²</th>
<th>FRAC Code</th>
<th>Rate (/1000 ft²)</th>
<th>June 29</th>
<th>July 8</th>
<th>July 12</th>
<th>July 26</th>
<th>Aug 10</th>
<th>Aug 18</th>
<th>Aug 26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secure³</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>0.5 fl oz</td>
<td>2.3 p-s</td>
<td>1.8 k-m</td>
<td>0.5 fg</td>
<td>0.0 r</td>
<td>0.0 s</td>
<td>0.0 x</td>
<td>0.0 y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QP Chlorothalonil 720⁴</td>
<td>M5</td>
<td>2.0 fl oz</td>
<td>4.5 m-s</td>
<td>5.5 e-m</td>
<td>4.8 d-g</td>
<td>17.5 i-o</td>
<td>8.8 f-n</td>
<td>26.3 gj</td>
<td>18.5 j-r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banner Maxx 1.3 ME</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.0 fl oz</td>
<td>0.3 rs</td>
<td>1.3 lm</td>
<td>0.0 g</td>
<td>2.0 pr</td>
<td>0.0 s</td>
<td>4.0 tx</td>
<td>4.5 ty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26GT³</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.0 fl oz</td>
<td>0.5 rs</td>
<td>2.3 j-m</td>
<td>1.0 fg</td>
<td>2.3 pr</td>
<td>1.3 q-s</td>
<td>11.8 lv</td>
<td>15.8 k-s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emerald 70WG</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.13 oz</td>
<td>0.3 rs</td>
<td>1.3 lm</td>
<td>0.0 g</td>
<td>0.0 r</td>
<td>0.0 s</td>
<td>1.0 vx</td>
<td>0.5 xy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untreated</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days After Application</td>
<td></td>
<td>61.5 a</td>
<td>38.0 a</td>
<td>30.8 a</td>
<td>101.0 a</td>
<td>32.5 a</td>
<td>70.0 a</td>
<td>73.8 a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Values are means of four replicates. Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different according to Waller-Duncan k-ratio t-test (k=100).
² Fungicides were applied on May 24, June 7, June 21, July 5, July 19, August 2 and August 16.
³ Treatments were applied in 1 gallon of water/1,000 sq. ft., whereas all other treatments were applied using 2 gallons of water/1,000 sq. ft.
economically important disease on golf course turf. This disease will infect many turfgrass species, but especially creeping bentgrass and annual bluegrass greens, tees and fairways (Latin, 2011). Dollar spot causes sunken, circular patches that measure up to 2 inches in diameter on golf greens and several inches on higher mown turf. Under severe disease conditions, these spots can coalesce, forming irregularly shaped areas.

The dollar spot pathogen survives unfavorable periods as mycelium in plants and as stroma on the leaf surface. The fungus is easily disseminated from plant to plant by mowing and water. When weather conditions favor the fungus, the mycelium will colonize the foliage. These conditions include warm days, high humidity, cool nights and intense dews. Cultural practices such as morning dew removal, minimizing irrigation frequency and applying adequate nitrogen can help reduce dollar spot development, but preventive fungicide applications remain an essential practice for golf course tees, fairways and greens.

While there are many fungicides available for the control of dollar spot, annual application limits and fungicide resistance have created a need for more options. The development of a new fungicide for the control of dollar spot should be accompanied by determination of the optimum application techniques for disease control.

Secure fungicide has been evaluated in dollar spot efficacy trials to compare it to other multi-site fungicides; determine optimal water carrier volume; evaluate its efficacy when applied through different types of nozzles; and demonstrate its effectiveness on DMI-resistant dollar spot.

### TABLE 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fungicide²</th>
<th>FRAC Code</th>
<th>Application Interval (days)</th>
<th>Rate (1/1000 ft²)</th>
<th>Number of lesion center / plot¹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>July 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secure 29</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0.5 fl oz</td>
<td>0.3 d</td>
<td>0.0 g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secure 29</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>0.5 fl oz</td>
<td>0.0 d</td>
<td>27.5 d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untreated</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>112.5 a</td>
<td>158.5 a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days After Application (14/21)</td>
<td>10/10</td>
<td>7/21</td>
<td>2/8</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Values are means of four replicates. Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different.
² Fungicide applications were initiated on May 18th and applied on either a 14- or 21-day spray interval.

### TABLE 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Location¹</th>
<th>Application Date</th>
<th>Rating Date (2012)</th>
<th>Water Carrier Volume</th>
<th>Untreated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Penn State University Park, PA</td>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>August 8</td>
<td>0.0²</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Connecticut Storrs, CT</td>
<td>July 18</td>
<td>July 29</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellwood Golf Course Pottstown, PA</td>
<td>August 13</td>
<td>August 20</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Cooperators are Dr. John Kaminski, Penn State University, University Park, PA; Dr. John Inguagiato, University of Connecticut; Mike Fidanza, Ph.D., Penn State University, Reading, PA.
² Data indicates the number of dollar spot infection centers.

### FIGURE 1

Impact of water carrier volume on the efficacy of Secure — Penn State, University Park 2012.

Secure fungicide has been evaluated in dollar spot efficacy trials to compare it to other multi-site fungicides; determine optimal water carrier volume; evaluate its efficacy when applied through different types of nozzles; and demonstrate its effectiveness on DMI-resistant dollar spot.
EFFICACY TRIALS

Secure fungicide has proven to be a very effective dollar spot control product. It has performed equal to or better than other dollar spot fungicides. The effectiveness of Secure was demonstrated in a trial conducted by Bruce Clarke, Ph.D., of Rutgers University. The trial was conducted in 2011 at Hort Farm II located in North Brunswick, N.J. on ‘Crenshaw’ creeping bentgrass (Agrostis stolonifera L.) mowed at a height of 0.375 inches. Test plots measured 3 feet by 5 feet and were replicated 4 times. Secure, Chlorothalonil 720 (chlorothalonil) and 26GT (iprodione) were applied in a water volume of 1.0 gal/1,000 square feet and Banner Maxx II (propiconazole) and Emerald (boscalid) were applied in a water volume of 2.0 gal/1,000 square feet. Secure provided nearly 100 percent control for the duration of the trial (Table 1), and it provided significantly better dollar spot control than the untreated plots on all dates. When compared to Chlorothalonil 720 and 26GT, Secure provided significantly better dollar spot control on 4 and 2 rating dates, respectively. Dollar spot control was equal to Banner Maxx II and Emerald, both excellent dollar spot control fungicides. Secure and Chlorothalonil 720 only act on the surface of the plant as a contact fungicide while the other fungicides penetrate the plant to protection from inside the plant.

Another example of Secure’s ability to control dollar spot is shown in a trial conducted by John Inguagiato, Ph.D., of the University of Connecticut. The trial was conducted in 2012 at the Plant Science Research and Education Facility in Storrs, Conn., on “Putter” creeping bentgrass mowed at 0.5 inches. Fungicides were applied in a water volume of 1.0 gal/1,000 square feet. Secure applied on a 14-day spray interval provided greater than 98 percent control (Table 2) despite very severe dollar spot pressure. Secure applied on a 21-day spray interval provided a significant reduction in dollar spot incidence, but this reduction was not agronomically acceptable on 3 of the 7 rating dates. This demonstrated that a more consistent level of control is achieved with a 14-day spray interval.

WATER CARRIER VOLUME

Secure fungicide was tested at three locations to compare its effectiveness when sprayed in different water carrier volumes. The sites included Storrs, Conn.; University Park, Pa.; and Pottstown, Pa. All sites were mowed at 0.5 inches. The Storrs and University Park trials were initiated prior to any disease infection, whereas the Pottstown trial was applied post infection. Secure was applied in a water volume of either 1.0 or 2.0 gal/1,000 square feet. Trials were conducted on creeping bentgrass mowed at 0.5 inches. There were no differences in the dollar spot efficacy of Secure when applied at either water volume (Table 3). This demonstrates the versatility of Secure in controlling dollar spot.
spot. Figure 1 demonstrates the effective control of dollar spot by Secure in both water carrier volumes.

NOZZLES AND WATER DROPLET SIZE
Mike Fidanza, Ph.D., of Penn State University, evaluated Secure when applied through six different nozzles that emitted six different droplet sizes. The test site was a creeping bentgrass driving range that was maintained at a height of 0.5 inches. Secure was applied at a rate of 0.5 fl oz per 1,000 sq. ft. to turf that had active dollar spot. The nozzle types and droplet sizes are described in Table 4. The application of Secure through nozzles with droplet sizes in the 177 to 428 micron range provided the best dollar spot control. Secure applied through a nozzle that emitted a droplet size greater than 428 microns or less than 177 microns failed to provide adequate disease control.

RESISTANCE
Secure is ideal for inclusion in programs designed to minimize disease resistance to single-site fungicides when used as a tank-mix partner or alternated in a disease management program. Fungicide resistance commonly develops due to the repeated use of single-site mode of action fungicides. No known resistance has developed to Secure, making it an excellent partner for products that require the use of a protectant fungicide with a different mode of action. In lab studies, Secure fungicide has demonstrated excellent control of dollar spot (Sclerotinia homoeocarpa) strains that are insensitive to DMI fungicides (Figure 2).

Steve McDonald of Turfgrass Disease Solutions (Spring City, Penn.), conducted a curative dollar spot control trial on a golf course fairway with known resistance to benzimidazole and DMI fungicides (Table 5). On October 22, turfgrass treated with Secure had significantly less dollar spot, when compared to the untreated control. Generally, plots treated with Secure had the least amount of dollar spot when compared to all other treatments.

Secure is a novel fungicide that offers the superintendent a valuable tool for the control of dollar spot and other diseases. It allows for the application of a multi-site dollar spot fungicide in every application.

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References
The dog days of summer are upon us, and it seems a little odd to be thinking about snow mold when you can’t stop sweating. Alas, Mother Nature relentlessly bulldozes onto the next season whether we’re ready or not. And to make sure we in the turf industry are ready for winter, it’s time for many of us to begin preparations to protect our turf from snow mold.

Those in temperate climates with significant snowfall know just how important snow mold diseases can be. It doesn’t matter whether it’s gray snow mold (*Typhula incarnata*) in places with snow cover greater than 60 continuous days; speckled snow mold (*Typhula ishikariensis*) in areas with snow cover greater than 90 days; or even Microdochium patch (*Microdochium nivale*) in cool and wet conditions; snow mold can be a devastating disease for turfgrass managers (Figures 1, 2, and 3).

Snow mold diseases are particularly important diseases to manage because you usually only get one shot at it. It’s one thing if you cut back on a dollar spot or brown patch management program, for if the disease breaks through you can curatively apply a fungicide and usually be back to normal in two weeks. Not so with snow mold.

If money is tight and you cut back on your snow mold management program after hearing forecasts of a mild winter, but instead receive a shellacking from Old Man Winter, well then you’re pretty much buried as deep as your turf is under snow. To add insult to injury, snow mold diseases can be particularly damaging to a golf course facility’s bottom line for two primary reasons.

First, the symptoms occur in the spring as golfers are at their most rabid to get out of the house and play golf. Second, if a cool spring persists that prevents rapid turf recovery, snow mold damage can be observed well into June. That can send golfers scrambling to neighboring courses for weeks or even months, drive down revenues at your course, and may have you polishing up your resume.

Fortunately, there are a multitude of options for effectively and affordably managing snow molds. But rather unfortunately, there are so many options that choosing the right one can be overwhelming. In a search for clarity, many superintendents will contact me for recommendations, though I always disappoint them with my answer: “It depends.”

“Well what does it depend on?” they often respond. The variation in disease pressure, course expectations, and financial capacity between courses renders an effective fungicide recommendation impossible without further information. The fungicide program I recommend for a private country club in Minneapolis is not likely to be the same program I recommend for a 9-hole municipal golf course in northern Wisconsin.

**WHAT DOES THE RESEARCH SAY?**

Even after receiving all the pertinent information, it’s difficult to recommend a single fungicide for snow mold
control because there are many effective options. One place to turn for help is university research, which is an independent means for determining what products are going to be effective. Several different universities across the country conduct fungicide research on snow mold, and here at the University of Wisconsin we have conducted snow mold fungicide efficacy trials at golf courses in Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan for years. The full list of all of our snow mold efficacy reports over the years, along with treatment pictures, can be found on the Research page of the Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab’s website (www.tdl.wisc.edu/Research.php).

When looking at our trial results over the years the treatments generally can be separated into three groups: (1) those treatments that manage snow mold extremely well even under heavy disease pressures; (2) those treatments that significantly reduce snow mold severity but oftentimes allow some disease to develop; and (3) those that do not effectively manage snow mold.

As evidenced in research conducted during the winters of 2010-2011 (Figure 4) and 2012-2013 (Figure 5), those treatments most effective at managing snow mold often contain three or even four active ingredients. These active ingredients often are a mixture of different physical modes of action (contact, penetrant, etc.) and chemical modes of action (strobilurin, DMI, etc.). This mix provides the best opportunity for your treatment to survive exposure to the harsh winter elements over a period of two, three or four months or longer.

Which treatments have proven to be the most effective under heavy snow mold pressure? Based only on our own research here at Wisconsin, products that have consistently performed well over a number of years under heavy pressure include Instrata (chlorothalonil+propiconazole+fludioxonil),

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Interface (iprodione+trifloxystrobin) + Triton FLO(triticonazole), Insignia SC(pyraclostrobin) + Trinity (triticonazole), Torque (tebuconazole) + 26/36 (iprodione+thiophanatemethyl), and Quali-Pro TM/C (chlorothalonil+thiophanatemethyl) + QP Ipro (iprodione) + QP Propiconazole (propiconazole). You will probably notice that each one of these treatments includes at least three active ingredients, and some contain four. You will also probably notice that Syngenta, BASF, Bayer, NuFarm, and Quali-Pro are all represented in this list. That is not coincidental; each company has treatments that can effectively manage snow mold. How do you choose among these, you may ask? That will likely depend on the program’s cost and who you’re most comfortable working with. But the point is clear: You have options when choosing an effective snow mold fungicide.

TIMES ARE TIGHT, ARE THERE ANY LOWER-COST OPTIONS?

While the products listed above are certainly effective, they also can be costly. That is especially true when considering protecting acres of fairways. Based on an analysis I completed in 2011, protecting 30 acres of fairways with the treatments listed in the previous section can cost anywhere from $8,500 to over $15,000.

But what if your course doesn’t require disease-free fairways every spring? Or what if snow mold pressure at your location is generally pretty light? Are there lower cost options that may not completely control snow mold but still provide some level of protection?

Fortunately, the answer is yes. Using the results obtained from our research over the years, there are several options for affordable snow mold reduction (Figure 6). All six of the treatments listed in Figure 6 were below $10,000 for 30 acres of coverage in 2011 prices. Torque and Trinity were just more than $3,000 for 30 acres, and Turfcide 400(PCNB) was closer to $1,000. It’s important to note that fungicide prices vary considerably due to a number of factors and that these prices are from 2011. But it still gives a general picture of affordable yet effective options. It’s also important to note that these treatments aren’t likely to give you complete snow mold control.
All the treatments shown in Figure 6 reduced snow mold to less than 10 percent, an acceptable level on many fairways. However, if you’re looking for much less than 10 percent snow mold control, I would recommend a more diverse mixture of compounds similar to those listed in Figures 4 or 5. It’s also important to note that this analysis was only done on treatments that were included in our research at Wisconsin, and there are several other compounds (not to mention generic fungicides) not included in our research that can provide an affordable reduction in snow mold severity at your course.

THE INTANGIBLES

It should be pretty clear by now that options for effective snow mold management are plentiful. That reality has led superintendents to look at aspects in addition to disease control to help them make their decisions. Since many products are priced competitively, the other intangible that can help sway a purchaser’s decision is turf color. That is certainly nothing new to the turf fungicide market, as fungicides promoting improved turf color, health and stress tolerance are heavily marketed for summer fungicide applications. More recently, however, superintendents have been looking toward their snow mold fungicide applications to improve the color of the golf course coming out of snow melt the following spring.

Bayer’s Stressgard pigments long have been a part of fungicides geared toward summer diseases but are now also included in products such as Interface that are primarily intended for snow mold. Other pigments such as Foursome by Quali-Pro and PAR by Harrell’s also have been included in snow mold research here at Wisconsin the past few years, and the turf is significantly greener the following spring. Civitas (mineral oil), which includes the green pigment Harmonizer, has not

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provided acceptable snow mold control in most of our trials at Wisconsin but has provided exceptional green color the following spring (Figure 7). This green color fades rapidly as the turf comes out of dormancy, but superintendents looking for any advantage they can get in difficult early spring conditions may find the brief green-up beneficial.

THE FINAL WORD

If options are what you crave in life, then choosing a snow mold fungicide program should leave you drooling. Too many effective options exist for me to list just a few, and what may work well for one facility may not quite fit with another facility for a number of reasons. The best recommendation I can give is to use the research provided by university efficacy trials to determine what products are effective in conditions similar to yours. Take these products and discuss pricing and other intangibles with a sales or technical representative you’re comfortable with, and come up with a plan for effective and affordable management of snow mold at your course. Then sit back and rest easy for the winter…unless ice starts to form.

Author’s note: Listing of specific products in this article is based on research conducted at the University of Wisconsin and is not intended to be an endorsement of the product or of the manufacturer.

Paul Koch, Ph.D., is a research scientist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Contact him at plkoch@wisc.edu.

Efficacy of lower-cost options for control of speckled snow mold (Typhula ishikariensis) at (A) Sentryworld GC in Stevens Point, WI in 2010-2011 and (B) Wawonowin CC in Champion, MI in 2012-2013. Fungicide rate in fluid ounces per 1,000 ft² is in parentheses.

Civitas combined with Harmonizer, in addition to several other turf pigments and pigmented turf fungicides, applied in the fall can produce dramatically “greener” turf the following spring compared to non-treated turf. This photo was taken five months after the application on March 15th, 2012, in Madison, WI.
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A special summer job

For many high school and college students, having a summer job helped pay for school, a car or just a night out. Unfortunately, most students who had a job this past summer had little beyond pay to add to one’s résumé. Those who worked on a golf course maintenance crew, however, were able to add the experience to their résumés, and it spoke volumes about their character. What did it say? Here are a few things that come to mind:

1. “I work hard.” When I have visited golf courses, students working on the crew are able to save quite a bit of money because they often don’t have time to spend it. It’s common for staff to work over 50 hours a week. And in some cases, especially around tournaments, a 100-hour week is not uncommon. When an employer looks at a prospective employee who has worked on a golf course, it should immediately register that the applicant is not afraid to work and does what it takes to get the job done.

2. “I’m dependable.” If you are employed on a golf course, showing up late usually means being fired. It is the same thing when a company or golf course asks if a prospective employee shows up on time to class. Dependability speaks to a student’s enthusiasm and interest in the job.

3. “I pay attention to detail.” A student is exposed daily to the importance of the small things that go into the presentation of a golf course. For example, the importance of mowing straight lines, whether on greens or fairways; how equipment is cleaned and stored after use; or raking a bunker properly.

4. “I’m responsible.” Students are required to operate technically advanced equipment, including mowing equipment ranging from $7,000 to $70,000 in value. For a potential employer, that speaks to an employee’s willingness to learn, adapt and take responsibility.

5. “I communicate effectively.” Students are continually questioned by golfers about what they are doing and why. How many times across all the golf courses in the United States do golfers ask, “Digging for worms?” when someone is trying to fix an irrigation leak? An employee has to be able to address questions in a friendly tone and concise manner (even if they don’t feel like it) so not to offend the golfer and slow the pace of play. For many golfers the only contact they have with course officials is through a question or comment to a grounds staff person.

This is just a small list of attributes that an employer could surmise from a potential employee who has worked on a golf course. I am sure many of you could add to the list.

If I were a potential employer, in any line of business, wading through a stack of résumés, an applicant who had successfully worked on a golf course maintenance crew would stand out. That experience would tell me that the applicant could handle hard work and long hours. That experience would tell me more about the character of the applicant than grade point average or outside activities.

So to all of you who are working on a golf course maintenance staff this summer, don’t think about how hot and tired you are or the long hours that kept you away from social activities. Rather, think about what all you have learned and how you can apply it to your future.

Karl Danneberger, Ph.D., Golfdom’s science editor and a professor at The Ohio State University, can be reached at danneberger.1@osu.edu.
All things water and irrigation

After a long, hot summer during which your irrigation system has been tested, it’s time to assess all things related to water and irrigation. Do the assessment now. The evidence — turfgrass performance — is right in front of you, and the experiences of summer are still fresh in your mind.

TURFGRASS PERFORMANCE
Did the turfgrass meet the demands of golfers? Did the irrigation management help achieve the performance criteria established for the golf course? Identify wet and dry areas. Devote time to figure out why these areas were wet or dry and formulate a plan to correct these shortcomings this fall.

Check the distribution of water to make sure it is as uniform as possible. Conduct a catch-can analysis so you have data to help plan your actions. The uniformity data also can be used to make an effective case for irrigation system upgrades.

IRRIGATION SUPPLY
Now is the time to assess the reliability of your irrigation supply and ensure you received the volume of water you expected. Talk with your water provider to understand their situation. At the end of the summer, your water provider will have the best handle on the current situation and can offer thoughts on the water supply for next year.

Get your water tested by a reputable testing lab. In late summer, water quality is generally at its worst, due to the low volume of water in rivers, streams, lakes and reservoirs. Low volume means that salts are most concentrated, so now is the best time to test water.

Have you identified a back-up water supply in case something unforeseen happens to the primary water supply? While this is easier said than done, it is critical that you have a back-up supply or a large amount of water storage capacity onsite to get you through an emergency.

Routine, preventive maintenance on your pump station is always a good idea. So is a thorough inspection of your irrigation system. Make sure every sprinkler head is level, free of obstructions and performing at its best. Do it now, before fall settles in and your attention will have to be devoted to other projects.

Did you record water use during the irrigation season? In some locations recording water use is a requirement. If it is not a requirement, you should still record water use on a daily basis so you can become a more efficient water user. Also, hard data to support your claims about water use is invaluable. Without data, it is just your word against theirs.

PRIORITY WATER USE
Do you have a written priority system for which areas of the golf course will be watered and which will not? If you don’t have an established written priority system, prepare it now while you can show the leaders of the golf club what the turf looks and plays like near the end of the period when the irrigation system is used the most. Seeing turf conditions will make developing the policy easier.

If you have a written priority system for water use, was it effective? Did the highest priority areas receive all the water needed? How did the golf course play? Make changes to the water priority policy now while all the golfers can see the impact of the previous policy and the value of the changes.

While cooler weather and football might be on your mind, use the results of the 2013 irrigation season that are right in front of you to make improvements for 2014.

“In late summer, water quality is generally at its worst, due to the low volume of water in rivers, streams, lakes and reservoirs.”
X MARKS THE DOLLAR SPOT
Golfers don’t care what it is, they just know it looks bad.

**Ken Moun // Contributing Editor**

**TIPS FROM DR. DANNEBERGER**
- Cultural practices to reduce disease severity center on soil/leaf moisture and nitrogen fertility. Prolonged periods of wetness when temperatures are favorable are conducive for disease symptoms.
- To reduce disease severity try practices that help reduce leaf wetness, including dew removal through a light morning syringe or whipping or dragging the turf. This would be especially helpful on the days fairway mowing is not done.
- For greens, rolling after mowing has been reported to reduce the incidence of dollar spot.

**NEW PRODUCT HIGHLIGHTS // DOLLAR SPOT CONTROL**

**Secure**
SYNGENTA Designed to be the ideal rotation partner with Daconil Action fungicide, the multi-site mode of action in Secure helps deliver season-long protection against the toughest turf diseases. Now, systemic fungicides no longer replace superintendents’ contact applications, but rather compliment for inside-out protection.

The only registered fungicide for turf in FRAC group 29, Secure contains the active ingredient fluazinam. It has no known resistance and as a multi-site contact, it has a low risk of future resistance.

Secure also controls 10 additional turf diseases.
greencastonline.com/Secure

**Curalan EG**
BASF’S Curalan EG offers economical, effective dollar spot control in cool- and warm-season turfgrasses with strong preventative protection and long residual results and significant cost savings compared to many other fungicides.

It controls dollar spot and eight other diseases including brown patch, leaf spot and melting out. It is safe to use on all cool- and warm-season grasses at any stage of growth. It also makes an excellent tank-mix partner with strobilurins.
betterturf.basf.us

**Eagle**
One application of DOW AGRO EAGLE will deliver up to 21 days of disease control. So, whether you apply it on a 14-, 21- or 28-day spray schedule, it allows maintenance staffs to make the most of their time by providing long-term disease protection when it’s needed most.

Dow Agro recommends using Eagle in a tank mix or treatment rotation strategy with other broad-spectrum fungicides to provide maximum control of a wide variety of diseases.
dowagro.com/turf/

**Fungicide IX**
ANDERSON’S combines chloroneb and thiophanate-methyl to prevent and control dollar spot, gray snow mold, pink snow mold, Pythium Blight, brown patch and copper spot.

Suitable for use on all putting green turf and other turfgrasses, including bentgrass, bluegrass, bermudagrass, fescue, ryegrass and St. Augustinegrass, it provides fast-acting, sustained disease control through root and foliage uptake, resulting in less susceptibility of product to weather and maintenance conditions.

andersonspro.com

**Triton 70 WDG**
Chipco Triton 70 WDG from BAYER is a water-dispersible granular product containing the active ingredient triticonazole that provides broad-spectrum, systemic, residual disease control of key turf diseases, such as dollar spot, anthracnose and brown patch.

When applied as a preventative treatment the new fungicide product has provided excellent results in research trials conducted at both universities and golf courses, on both residential and commercial turf.

backedbybayer.com

**Daconil Action**
SYNGENTA’S Daconil Action contains the most utilized active ingredient in turf: chlorothalonil. But it adds acibenzolar-s-methyl — a turf protein booster. This has no direct effect against pathogenic fungi and bacteria, instead it triggers the natural defense re-

DOLLAR SPOT IS A WIDESPREAD AND DESTRUCTIVE TURFGRASS DISEASE caused by Sclerotinia homoeocarp-paw that can be found year-round in the United States. It is known to attack most turfgrass species including annual bluegrass, bentgrasses, fescues, Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, bermudagrasses, zoysiagrasses, centipedegrass and St. Augustinegrass. Here are just a few products to help you fight back against it.

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DOLLAR SPOT CONTROL

CONTINUED ONLINE
For more listings of top Dollar Spot Control products, go to golfdom.com/DollarSpot

sponse or activating production of pathogenesis-related proteins, like a vaccination.

The protein boost awakens the turf’s resistance to biotic and abiotic stresses like drought. This internal response within the plant enhances its defense system against certain fungal and bacterial disease attacks. While the chlorothalonil provides excellent protection as a multi-site fungicide on the plant surface, acibenzolar-S-methyl achieves broad plant coverage.

greencastonline.com

7. 3336 CLEARY offers its 3336 fungicide in a number of versions, including flowable, wettable powder and granular. They also offer a greens grade, sand core granular product specifically formulated for greens and tees on golf courses.

The latest addition to the line is a collaboration with The Andersons, Inc. a co-marketed, 3336 G with The Andersons patented DG Lite technology. The product is marketed under the Cleary brand and is distributed through The Andersons, Inc. and Cleary Chemicals LLC. clearychemical.com

8. Emerald Emerald from BASF can effectively control dollar spot that has developed resistance to other fungicides. When used as directed it provides dollar spot control for up to 28 days in virtually every major turf species, and in every region, of the U.S.

The active ingredient boscalid deprives the fungal cells of energy, disrupting fungal growth and development. Because the mode and site of action differ from other fungicides used to control dollar spot, it can effectively control pathogens that have developed resistance to other fungicides.
betterturf.basf.us

9. Tourney VALENT’S Tourney is one of the most active fungicides on the market for effective control of a spectrum of tough diseases, including dollar spot, anthracnose, brown patch, summer patch, take-all patch, fairy ring, necrotic ring spot, gray leaf spot, snow mold and other patch diseases.

For early season dollar spot control and early application, it reduces the primary inoculum level of the dollar spot pathogen, which delays the development of an epidemic until midsummer. valent.com/professional/golfcourse

10. Enclave QUALI-PRO’S Enclave, featuring quad-control technology, controls major turf and ornamental diseases, including dollar spot, brown patch, anthracnose and snow mold. It provides control at the point of contact as well as systemically. Its synergistic formulation prevents and controls disease through multi-site activity.

quali-pro.com
1. Annuity
Annuity (FLRS) Turf-Type Annual Ryegrass offers faster establishment and better transition in spring/summer according to SEED RESEARCH OF OREGON. It has a finer leaf texture and darker green color than other turf-type annual ryegrasses. Can be combined with perennial and transitional ryegrasses for winter overseeding.
sroseed.com

2. Hollywood
Hollywood bermudagrass from JACKLIN SEED, although it has a limited seed availability, its fine leaf texture, dark green color, especially winter color in the southwest, quick spring green-up make it ideal for a wide range of applications.
jacklin.com

3. North Shore SLT
North Shore SLT bermudagrass from ROSE AGRI-SEED will be available this fall and offers excellent drought, heat, salt and wear resistance with a medium-fine leaf texture and medium-dark green color. It greens up early in the spring and offers excellent fall color retention. Best in full sun.
pureseed.com

4. Pure Select
Pure Select creeping bentgrass from TEE-2-GREEN CORP. will be available this fall in limited quantities. Thanks to its dense and aggressive growth habit, it recovers quickly from wear. Has exceptional resistance to brown patch, dollar spot, microdochium patch, fusarium patch, leaf spot and anthracnose.
tee-2-green.com

5. TransFix
TransFix (46-09 IR-SAS) transitional ryegrass from SEED RESEARCH OF OREGON is available this fall. It has a darker green and finer textured variety compared to perennial ryegrass. Its improved germination in low soil temperatures, fast germination and establishment, make it a superior nursery grass or for quick repairs.
sroseed.com

6. Transist 2600
Transist 2600 transitional ryegrass from PICKSEED offers rapid germination and establishment making it a good fast-starting turf cover over dormant bermudagrass. Much darker green and finer texture than other intermediates and annuals. Excellent tolerance to high salt levels.
pickseed.com

7. Artesia & Waterworks
Artesia and Waterworks Kentucky bluegrass from TURF MERCHANTS is available after the 2013 harvest. Qualified a drought tolerant by the Turfgrass Water Conservation Alliance. Compact American type bluegrass with dark color and medium texture.
turfmerchants.com

8 Amazing A+
Amazing A+ (IS-PR 463) perennial ryegrass from AMPAC SEED CO. offers superior overall turf quality, dark green genetic color, salt tolerance, improved spring green-up, dense upright growth, improved disease resistance including exceptional gray leaf spot resistance.
ampacseed.com

9. Green Supreme
AMPAC’S Green Supreme perennial ryegrass offers excellent spring green-up and traffic tolerance with dense upright growth habit. It is salt and drought tolerant.
ampacseed.com

10. Wicked
Wicked perennial ryegrass from PICKSEED will germinate in salt levels as high as 12,000 ppm while offering excellent disease resistance and specific resistance to gray leaf spot. It greens up early in the spring, with good summer persistence and heat resistance.
pickseed.com

11. Blade Runner II
PICKSEED’S Blade Runner II (PSG 85QR) tall fescue has improved spreading via rapid tillering and rhizome production. It will germinate in salt levels up to 14,000 ppm, has broad geographical adaptation and excellent resistance to heat and drought stress.
pickseed.com

12. ATF1258 & ATF1376
PENNINGTON’S ATF1258 and ATF1376 tall fescues are both qualified as drought tolerant by the Turfgrass Water Conservation Alliance. And they offer very good brown patch resistance and very good turf quality with good genetic color.
penningtonseed.com

13. Sea Fire
Available this fall, COLUMBIA SEEDS’ Sea Fire slender creeping red fescue is tolerant of salt, heat and drought with improved mowability.
columbiaseeds.com

CONTINUED ONLINE
For more listings of top seeds, go to golfdom.com/Seed
1. Carrier

**REDEXIM CHARTERHOUSE**

Unveils the Carrier, a multi-functional tool designed to handle a variety of hard working implements, such as spreaders, topdressers, deep-tine aerators, seeders, verti-cutters and sod cutters. The Carrier’s large tires increase traction and minimize ground compaction. Redexim says the Carrier is faster, deeper and wider with more options than any other product on the market. With a 31-hp Briggs & Stratton engine, the machine can lift over 1,000 pounds.

[Redexim.com](http://Redexim.com)

2. WRF & WGR

**LELY**

The WFR and WGR spreaders are land-wheel driven and utilize the same patented ejector disc technology as all PTO units. A unique wheel gear system lets the tires drive independently for uniform application, even on turns. A hopper capacity of 800 pounds and forward speed of 4.5 mph gives effective spreading. This trailed broadcast spreader can also do an excellent job for spreading sand (topdressing) or salt (snow and ice). For sand/salt, a special ejector disc with short spoons gives a spreading width of up to 18 feet.


3. WideSpin 1550

With **TURFCO’S** patented WideSpin technology, the new WideSpin 1550 is easily adjustable for maximum control — belt speed, spinner speed, spinner angle and metering gate. And specially designed twin spinners provide a consistent spread, from superlight to heavy, and everything in between. The new controller allows employees to calculate rates while also giving them a wider range of rates to choose from. A superintendent can lock in their favorite rates using the controller’s four presets.

[Turfco.com](http://Turfco.com)

4. Pro Series Spyker

**SEAGO International**

The 560-12020 Pro Series Spyker Spreader from Seago International has a 120 pound capacity with a stainless steel frame. The enclosed metal gears of the spreader have a lifetime warranty. The spreader has a patented split-shaft design for easy calibration, as well as a positive on/off system with no cables. With an extension hopper, the capacity of the spreader can be increased.

[seagointernational.com/](http://seagointernational.com/)

CONTINUED ONLINE

For more listings of topdressers and spreaders, go to [golfdom.com](http://golfdom.com).
Bryan Nuss


Ever had any cool celebrity encounters at the course? We met Tony Hawk the first year we were in construction. We had the Jeep Jamboree here. It was right next to the golf course. He was a really cool guy.

You’re a fan of extreme sports, right? Me and my friends used to race motorcross. But once we started having kids that stopped. I still watch the races on the weekends.

Do you still have a motorcycle? I just sold it last year. I had a Honda CR450. Jack Frost has a track right here. We would ride all the time.

Ever have any bad wrecks? I banged my head a couple times, but nothing major. As you get older, to try and ride like the way you used to ride? You just can’t do it anymore. I do miss it, but I don’t miss being sore and beat up all the time.

Are you a fan of any other sports? Besides motorcross I watch football. Rutgers football and the Oakland Raiders. I grew up in Philly, and honestly, I like the Raiders because everyone around Philly hates them. I always like to go with the opposite team of what everyone likes.

Have you been trying anything new out on the golf course lately? We’ve been using Velocity in Weed Wands — it’s a stick with a little sponge tip. I picked this up from another superintendent. We’re a newer course, so we don’t have a lot of Poa. We go walk the greens every once in a while and just dab it out. It works great.

Who has the best nickname on the crew? “The Pocono Prowler.” That’s our mechanic, Jeff. We bust on him, the girls in the pro shop always say that they think he’s looking at them. We always bust on him and he says, “I’m not looking at them, they’re all too young for me!”

That’s a great nickname. I just hope he doesn’t mind seeing it in the magazine. It’s OK, he already knows he’s the Pocono Prowler!

As interviewed by Seth Jones, July 31, 2013.
All the benefits of CIVITAS in an easy-to-use, pre-mixed formulation.*

Now it’s even easier to empower turf to reach its full potential. CIVITAS ONE provides effective disease control and insect suppression, while helping to maximize turf quality, wear resistance and appearance. Plus, it enhances plant efficiencies meaning less inputs are required to achieve picture perfect turf. CIVITAS ONE is the Total Turf Health Solution.

**For all of this and more visit civitasturf.com**

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* Conditions apply. See website for program details.

Note: CIVITAS brand captures both CIVITAS mineral oil – Isoparaffin & Harmonizer 2 pack system – and CIVITAS ONE products.

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Interface® is a versatile plant health solution that works throughout the year. When turf disease problems arise, treating them has been the norm. Now you can control disease and also get stronger, healthier turf. Interface® is a versatile option that delivers broad-spectrum control of diseases like dollar spot, snow mold, brown patch and leaf spot and also strengthens turf. Interface with StressGard™ Formulation Technology is fully supported with labeled plant health claims for even greater assurance. It can be applied throughout the year, especially as part of a DMI rotation or with an existing PGR program. Learn more at backedbybayer.com/interface.

1% of StressGard™ product sales will support Healthy Turf Healthy Tomorrow. backedbybayer.com/healthy-turf