PERFECT PONDS

We were in London (what a fun — yet pretentious — way to start a paragraph) last year when we were accosted for being in the American golf business. “You over manage your courses so much!” we were told. “You even dye your ponds!” We didn’t see that coming as the key to American golf’s over management, but we didn’t mind admitting that, yes… a beautiful, healthy pond is something we admire. And these products help accomplish that.

1. Aqua-T Pond Bacteria
Manage the health of your water features naturally and effectively with ECOLOGEL’S Aqua-T Pond Bacteria. This product offers a combination of specific strains of bacteria and bacterial enzymes that reduce sludge, control foul odors and digest the excess nutrients, which may cause problematic algae growth. These naturally occurring soil and water bacteria work to clean the entire water column and sludge layer by digesting organic waters and contaminants. Aqua-T is not an algacide; therefore it can be used in recreational and irrigation ponds where water quality is an issue. This includes ponds receiving effluent water. This product is available in half-pound, water-soluble bags. Aqua-T makes pond treatment safe and easy. ecologel.com

2. Algae Control System
The RAIN BIRD Algae Control System (ACS) is an environmentally safe algae control system that uses state-of-the-art ultrasonic technology to eliminate algae without harming other aquatic life such as plants or fish. The ACS transducer, submerged just beneath the surface, is programmed to generate ultrasonic waves that inhibit the growth and spread of algae. The Algae Control System requires no EPA certification and reduces application and maintenance costs associated with chemical applications. Results can be seen in as few as three to four weeks. rainbird.com

3. SeClear Algaecide and Water Quality Enhancer
SECLEAR is the first algaecide and water quality enhancer in one, designed to replace routine algacide programs. SeClear provides effective control of a broad-range of algae species while reducing in-water phosphorous levels with each application. The result is longer lasting control, improved water quality and aesthetics with reduced maintenance through time. sepro.com

4. U.S. Aqua Vac
A pond cleaning company, U.S. AQUA VAC has state of the art equipment and trained personnel that will remove the muck, sludge, silt and sediment from your waterway. Their nationwide service can be done while your golf course is open without interruption to players. U.S. Aqua Vac will also remove cattails and weeds from your waterways, as well as do special shoreline restoration. They can be contacted for a free estimate at 866-989-MUCK (6825). usaquavac.com

CONTINUED ONLINE
For more listings of pond protection products, go to golfdom.com/category/products
1. Profile solid metal sprinkler nozzles

The Profile solid metal sprinkler nozzles are designed to improve irrigation distribution uniformity rates (DU) on tees and greens, while saving water. Consistent DU rates can translate to healthier, greener turf and the elimination of dry patches and donuts. Featuring solid brass construction with stainless steel outlets, Profile nozzles replace plastic nozzles, which may be clogged or eroded after years of use. These UNDERHILL INTERNATIONAL nozzles can be retrofitted to plastic OEM nozzles with 1 1/4" and 1 1/2" inlets. Replacement sets include full-circle, mid-range and close-in coverage.

underhill.com

2. Infinity Series golf sprinkler

The TORO CO.’s Infinity Series golf sprinklers boast new features and benefits. The key benefit of the Infinity Series is the innovative Smart Access feature that allows crews quick and easy access to internal components, including solenoids, pilot valves, 2-wire control modules and wire splices — all without digging, to provide significant labor savings. The Smart Access compartment provides system protection by isolating all electrical components, such as wire splices, from soil moisture to prevent ground shorts and repairs. The INF34/54 and INF35/55 models provide dual trajectory adjustment selections of 15 or 25 degrees. The INF35-6/55-6 is available with the TruJectory feature that allows users to adjust the main nozzle trajectory from the top of the sprinkler, and easily fine-tune radius and spray heights from seven to 30 degrees in one degree increments.

toro.com

TIPS FROM DR. FRANK

Dr. Kevin Frank at Michigan State University recommends irrigation sensors to monitor the amount of water required for a green or fairway. But he cautions — even just for monitoring water needs — proper placement of the sensors is vital. “If you get to the point where you use sensors to control and not just monitor irrigation, keep in mind that placement is a key issue.” (Continued, page 50)

CONTINUED ONLINE

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TIPS FROM DR. FRANK
(Continued from page 48) "If your sensor sits at three inches deep and the root zone extends down only 2.5 inches, your data are meaningless to the turf," he says. Also, remember that the system may slightly over-water to get the water level where it needs to be on a particular green, Frank says.

1. BunkerBlaster
The BunkerBlaster is the most effective tool to help control flooded bunkers on your golf course. This DARLEY product connects to most standard bunker rakers and immediately helps to reduce time, labor and equipment cost. One operator can efficiently clear the most saturated bunker in a few minutes. A high or low profile nozzle allows the end user flexibility when deciding where to discharge the water. Pumping at 300 gallons per minute, The BunkerBlaster is a perfect tool for any golf course with water in its bunkers.

darley.com

2. POGO Turf and Soil Insight Tool
The STEVENS WATER MONITORING SYSTEMS POGO Turf and Soil Insight Tool is fast becoming a staple in superintendents’ programs around the world, the company says. The ultimately portable POGO quickly and easily measures moisture, salinity and temperature precisely in the mat zone and uppermost soil region. It wirelessly utilizes a powerful app on any Apple or Android device (mobile phone, iPod touch, iPad, Android tablet, etc.) with no calibration required so that the user can be confident he or she is making decisions based on relative information over time. The POGO streams real time collected information to the POGO Turf Pro cloud analytical and mapping system where tournament logs, daily trends, variations across a property, mapping and charting among other analytical features are easily done from any Internet connection. This allows for on-the-fly information in the hands of the superintendent to make valuable decisions quickly and decisively. Taking less than two minutes to log an average size putting green, the POGO is fast becoming the superintendent’s most trusted resource.

POGOTurfPro.com

Who’s Worthy of the Herb Graffis Businessperson of the Year Award?

The Herb Graffis Businessperson of the Year award is named in honor of Golfdom’s founder, World Golf Hall of Fame member Herb Graffis. Graffis was one of the first people to look at golf as a business when he founded Golfdom in 1927.

2014 Winner » Jim Rattigan

2013 Winner Wayne Kappelman

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Jon Lobenstein, Director of Agronomy, Montgomery County Golf, Potomac, MD

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