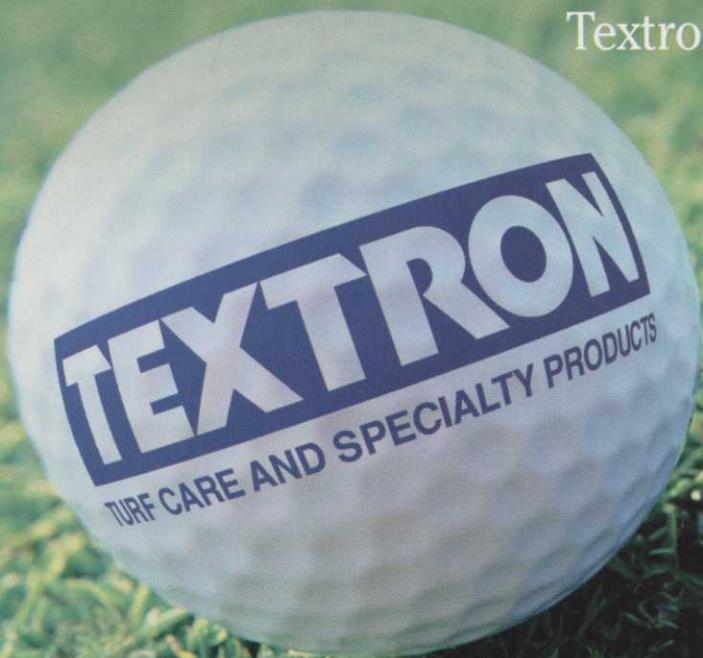


Golfdom's Hole of the Month

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Most people see the Hole of the Month as a beautiful picture. You see all the hard work that makes it possible. Our vision is to make your job just a little easier by providing equipment with the performance and durability you can count on, day in and day out.



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CUSHMAN JACOBSEN RANSOMES RYAN

Dazzling But Demanding

Cradled between sandy dune ridges, framed by windswept sea oats and lapped by the gentle Atlantic surf, the par-5 18th hole at Wild Dunes Links is described as “a combination of Scotland and the Caribbean.” It is also acclaimed by golf magazines as the “greatest finishing hole east of Pebble Beach” and “the ultimate in seaside golf in America.”

Located on the northeast tip of Isle of Palms near Charleston, S.C., the Tom Fazio-designed Wild Dunes Links is part of a luxurious island resort that includes two golf courses and more than two miles of Atlantic Ocean beach.

When you play 18 at Wild Dunes, which opened in 1980, you'll experience the ever-changing personality of the South Carolina low country — from inland forests of live oaks and palmetto palms to marshfront holes bordered by tidal creeks, aquatic grasses and wading birds; and from ancient dunes 30 feet to 40 feet tall to oceanfront beaches laid flat and smooth by waves.

The drama builds until the golfer comes face to face with the sand and surf at Wild Dunes' finishing holes. The 17th, a straight-away par 4, sits so close to the Atlantic Ocean that even a moderately hooked tee shot will find the beach. But it's the 18th hole that gives pause to most golfers.

A dogleg right that hugs the beach from tee to green, the 18th begins with a tee shot to a broad fairway with nothing but deep blue sea in the background. Depending on wind conditions, the green can be easily reached in two with a bold drive that cuts the dogleg. Or it may take a true three shots for those who want to play it safe.

Regardless, the dunes, sea oats, Spanish bayonets, wax myrtles and other native plants lining both sides of the 18th make it a hole that rewards both strategic planning and accurate execution. Unfortunately for golfers, it punishes anything less.



Hole o

■ Hole #18, Wild Dunes Links



f the Month

Golfdom

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Golfdom's Hole of the Month
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Green Goods

An assortment of environmentally friendly products to use on the golf course



▲ Fertilizer

J.R. Simplot Co. offers SuperTurf, a fertilizer engineered to deliver results commonly associated with controlled-release fertilizers for about the same cost as quick-release blends, the company says. SuperTurf combines Best's Turf Supreme (manufactured by J.R. Simplot), a homogenous N-P-K fertilizer used west of the Rockies, with Polyon polymer- and TriKote polymer/sulfur-coated urea prills to produce a 55 percent controlled-release, 25-5-5 product.

For more information, contact J.R. Simplot at 800/992-6066, www.best-fertilizer.com or
CIRCLE NO. 208

Super fine organic fertilizer

Griffin Industries' Nature Safe Natural & Organic Fertilizers offers a super fine particle available in 8-3-5 premium grade fertilizer.

For more information, contact 800/252-4727, www.naturesafe.com or
CIRCLE NO. 209

Microbial inoculants

Green-Release offers Bio A and Bio B Plus, which are microbial soil inoculants. Bio A contains a blend of five species of living microorganisms that are beneficial in soil and on plant foliage, the company says.

Bio B Plus contains a blend of three species of bacterial spores that mature into vegetative bacteria when diluted with water. Once in the vegetative form, the organisms are beneficial

in soil and on plant foliage, according to the company.

For more information, contact Green-Release at 800/788-9886 or
CIRCLE NO. 210

Extracts

Plantwise Biostimulant Co. offers 3D, a blend of fortified seaweed extracts, humic acid extracts and iron and micro nutrients designed to work with fertilizer programs. 3D contains many plant hormones, nutrients and amino acids that combine to enhance the natural processes within the plants, according to the company.

For more information, contact 800/334-4962, www.plant-wise.com or
CIRCLE NO. 211



▲ Injection application

Terra Industries introduces its Prescription Injection application services in Florida. It's an environmentally focused patented process of injecting fertilizer and pesticide formulations into soil quickly and effectively. Users can apply liquid and granular simultaneously, reduce pesticide volatility, eliminate photodegradation, prevent runoff and eliminate spray drift. Terra is planning to expand the application to other areas.

For more information, contact 712/277-1340, www.terraindustries.com or
CIRCLE NO. 212

Biostimulants

PBI/Gordon Corp. introduces two biostimulants: Focus Turf Biostimulant is

formulated to enhance the vigor and stress tolerance of turf exposed to intensive use or maintained at the high quality level required on golf courses; and Launch Biostimulant is designed for application where seeding, sodding and sprigging are used to establish or renovate turf.

For more information, contact 800/821-7925, www.pbigordon.com or
CIRCLE NO. 213

Plant protectant

Floratine Products Group introduces Floradox, a synergistic biological approach to enhancing Acquired Systemic Resistance (ASR), which is plants' natural defense system from pathogens. When pathogens attack, plants respond with ASR to protect undamaged tissues and recover from damage inflicted by the disease or pest. The Floradox system strengthens turf's natural ASR response by eliciting and sustaining its activity on a consistent basis, according to the company.

For more information, contact 901/853-2898, www.floratine.com or
CIRCLE NO. 214

Biodegradable hydraulic fluids

Alco's EcoLube series of biodegradable hydraulic fluids was developed as an alternative to mineral oil-based hydraulic fluids. EcoLube is environmentally safe while providing performance that meets or exceeds the specification requirements of vane pump tests, according to the company. It contains no heavy metals and is non-toxic, meaning accidental spills are non-hazardous.

For more information, contact 800/786-2526, www.alcooil.com or
CIRCLE NO. 215

Coated fertilizers

Pursell Technologies offers Polyon, a patented polymer coating process designed to help fertilizers protect the environment. Polyon-coated fertilizers

have a tough, crack-resistant membrane that reacts to only one environmental factor: soil temperature. This means that nutrients are only released as the turf or plant material needs it, reducing the possibility of ground-water contamination, the company says.

For more information, contact 205/249-6888, www.polyon.com or
CIRCLE NO. 216



▲ Soil conditioner

Profile Professional Soil Conditioners are designed to improve the structure of dry, sandy soils so they can grow healthy plants and turf. Each particle helps soil hold water, oxygen and nutrients, according to the company.

For more information, contact 800/207-6457 or
CIRCLE NO. 217

Pond, lake cleaner

Plant Health Care offers Pond Saver, a super-concentrated microbial product to clean, clarify and deodorize ponds and lakes. It contains a blend of 17 Bacillus bacterial strains that biodegrade nutrients, organic matter and hydrocarbons in water to reduce algae, scum, sludge and foul odors.

For more information, contact PHC at 800/421-9051, www.planthealthcare.com or
CIRCLE NO. 218



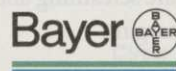
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Circle No 105

Sorry Kermit, but you don't have a monopoly on the subject of being green. Today's superintendents must address four or five definitions of "green" to be successful — or to even keep their jobs.

In a perfect world, a responsible superintendent's definition of a green golf course would probably be a healthy golf course — one that would perform profitably, be beneficial to the environment and meet the needs of the people who play the game. The world isn't perfect and green comes in many hues.

To the golf purists, green often means lush, soft turf with little or no roll. They want courses that are lean and mean. A little brown here and there doesn't bother them. But getting golfers to adopt that philosophy is next to impossible for a number of all the wrong reasons.

For example, resort operators and developers are selling a look or selling real estate. They want verdant fields of dreams. But you can't sell playing conditions in a brochure only with manicured green landscapes and golf courses. It can be the land of overwatering and overfertilization.

Conversely, being green to an environmental activist means being friendly to the environment. Green isn't even a color to them — it's a state of mind. We already have enough of the citizenry that perceives golf as being unfriendly.

Audubon International and the Center for Resource Management have made a superficial dent in that thinking with the Cooperative Sanctuary Program and the Golf and The Environment conferences. But we have a long way to go to get buy-in by the grassroots population.

To the owners and operators of the 16,000 golf courses across the United States, green is the color of money. Golf is big business. The pursuit of par is not always a holy crusade with reverent homage to old traditions, but often just a business plan to achieve a return on investment.

Trying to balance performance, profit and perception is the sticky wicket superintendents face in today's golf world. One day golfers are complaining about playing conditions, and the next day they're concerned about the guy in the moon suit spraying something on the greens. Meanwhile the owners are screaming about the budget and the profit margin.

It Ain't Easy Being Green, But It's Worth the Pain

BY JOEL JACKSON



TRYING TO BALANCE
PERFORMANCE,
PROFIT AND
PERCEPTION IS THE
STICKY WICKET YOU
FACE IN TODAY'S
GOLF WORLD

Television complicates the picture even more. The networks, including The Golf Channel, should do a better job of discussing the reality of tournament conditions. Quite frankly, I'm not unhappy that Pinehurst had a transition hiccup in its preparations for the U.S. Open in June. Like so many everyday golf courses, Pinehurst had a tough time with its overseeded collars around the greens.

Those blemishes didn't affect play, but they were cosmetically noticeable to the viewers. Since everyone knows Pinehurst has been preparing for the Open for years, it would have been a great time for the announcers to admit to the viewing public that Mother Nature often wins these battles with turf conditions.

Superimposed on all of this is the government's bureaucratic steamroller in the form of "politicians" in the EPA. If regulatory agencies were administered by business people and scientists instead of political appointees, maybe common sense and reason would prevail. Recently, EPA's science in the Clean Air Act implementation was successfully challenged in the courts. The Food Quality Protection Act may also be headed to that forum for debate.

The real answer to the question of being green is to utilize the best aspects of all of the above definitions. Golf doesn't need to become an industry like commercial fishing, which depletes its own resources.

Prudence and preservation combined with enthusiasm and education can keep golf green and superintendents successful, even if it ain't easy.

Joel Jackson, CGCS, retired from Disney's golf division in 1997, and is now director of communications for the Florida GCSA.