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Gearing up the long-term health of your greens is as easy as making PROFILE™ Porous Ceramics part of your regular topdressing mix. University research and over 3,000 golf courses have proved that PROFILE helps reduce scheduled maintenance by:
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Profile

Race to your PROFILE distributor or call 1-800-207-6457 for all the details.

www.profileproducts.com
Continued from page 60

company. It also retains fertilizers and repels salts. Hydrozone, which can also be used on turfgrass, maintains its strength year after year.

Mull was skeptical of the product but tried it. He mixed Hydrozone with backfill dirt when planting new plants. He added it to the soil of existing trees.

“We put it about 2 inches below the soil surface,” Mull says. “It’s simple to apply.”

Thanks to Hydrozone, the berm around the course is maintaining the plants.

A month later, the plants and trees thrived with new leaf growth. Mull says the viburnums, which dried out before, are especially vibrant.

Because of Hydrozone, Mull is confident the landscape can endure the searing sun and dryness often associated with the southern Florida climate. Mull says the product is pricey, but worth it to prevent thousands of dollars of landscaping from dying, not to mention the cost of the labor used to try to keep it alive. As Mull says, it costs about $200 to replace a tree and about five bucks worth of Hydrozone to keep it alive.

Dethatcher

Sisis introduces a deep dethatcher, the Rotorake 600, which has a 13-horsepower engine, a 24-inch working width and a working depth of 2 inches.

The Rotorake incorporates the Sisis contra-rotation principle, where the reel rotates at high speed against the direction of travel. The blades, therefore, cut upwards continuously throwing material forward rather than pushing it into the surface. The machine is also held to the ground to maintain a regular working depth.

The Rotorake also contributes to aeration. The clean, continuous slits assist water and air absorption through a heavy thatch layer, and integration of top dressings is also improved, according to the company.

For more information, contact 864-261-6218, www.sisis.com or CIRCLE NO. 200

Management book

Ann Arbor Press/Sleeping Bear Press offers Turfgrass Soil Fertility and Chemical Problems: Assessment and Management, a single-source management book to help superintendents overcome fertility management challenges. Written by R.N. Carrow, D.V. Waddington and P.E. Rieke, the book addresses how to establish a sound fertilization program in a problem-solving manner that not only presents detailed scientific principles, but also applies them to practical management.

The book will help superintendents pinpoint the effectiveness of fertilizer programs.

For more information, contact 800-487-2323, www.sleepingbearpress.com or CIRCLE NO. 201

Outdoor furniture

Bristol Bench introduces its Signature Series hardwood furniture, featuring laser-engraved logo branding. Corporate branding enhances the prestige of the Bristol Bench Chadwick-style collection. The company’s laser-engraving technology enables it to reproduce the finest logo details.

Bristol Bench uses quality standards in manufacturing its furniture for a lifetime of outdoor use. Every piece is crafted with mortise and tenon joinery for durability and strength. The company uses only shorea, a teak family hardwood known for its weight, hardness and weatherability.

For information, contact 800-390-6883, www.bristolbench.com or CIRCLE NO. 202

Polymer-coated insecticide

Pursell Technologies says it has gained EPA approval for the first polymer-coated insecticide formulated with its patented PRECISE coating technology, which allows gradual release of pesticides through osmotic diffusion. The PRECISE Acephate Granule has substantial application technology. It works in every stage, either as a preventative application or as a curative control for adult insects.

The product controls fire ant, mole crickets, sod webworms, cutworms, armyworms, chinch bugs and more.

For more information, contact 256-249-6888 or CIRCLE NO. 203

Endwall system

HartmanEW offers an endwall system made of plastic for a variety of drainage situations. The pre-fabricated Hartman endwall system is easy to install and requires virtually no maintenance. It has a hollow base that can be filled on site with various materials.

For more information, contact 412-968-5774, www.hartmanew.com or CIRCLE NO. 204
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At the height of the tourist season in Myrtle Beach, an out-of-towner decided to revisit a golf course he'd enjoyed on a trip to the city years before.

Finally catching the eye of the overworked assistant pro, he said, "You know, it's been over five years since I first came here."

"You'll just have to wait your turn, sir," replied the harried assistant pro. "I can only serve one golfer at a time."
pick up trucks

by Mark Luce

Superintendents need power, bed space and hitches to haul EVERYTHING FROM FERTILIZER TO LUMBER

Grandpa left some sorely needed tools at the other end of his vast farm, but he needed to finish bailing the hay before he could get them. Rather than wait, he turned to me and said, “Mark, take the truck, go down there and get my tools.” I was 10 years old.

I’m still not sure how I made it down there without driving into the ditch, but I did. While riding in that truck with the AM radio playing bad songs, the engine growling and the wind whipping across my barely-over-the-dashboard head, I fell in love with pickup trucks.

Every time I have the opportunity, I twist arms to drive my friends’ trucks, whether they’re under-sized imports, old clunkers or the new breeds of king-cab diesel behemoths that somehow ride as smoothly as compact cars.

Superintendents, however, need power, bed space and hitches to load, haul and pull everything from fertilizer to lumber. Randy Van Fleet, the Superintendent at Merrill Hills CC in Waukesha, Wis., uses a Ford F-150 Lariat SuperCrew for work and pleasure.

“Pickups used to be cumbersome, loud and only used for construction because of their bumpy rides,” Van Fleet says. “In the past five years, trucks became streamlined with smooth rides and functions for everyday use.”

Van Fleet’s choice, the Ford F-150 (supercab or not) leads JD Power and Associates polls for customer satisfaction, is the best-selling truck in America and is hailed as the “Honda Accord of pickups” by the auto editors of Edmunds.com.

That said, there are other viable options for trucks that can do the dirty work during the day and hit the town in style at night. Among them:

Dodge Ram — The heavyweight of the bunch. Big, burly, strong and manly. Most powerful of normal full-size pickups, but not the smoothest ride. These will pull just about anything and just look... well... “bad ass” is probably the best term.

Chevrolet Silverado — Chevy lovers can’t stop telling you that Ford stands for “Fix Or Repair Daily.” Needless to say, their favorite full-size pickup, the Silverado, has the power to get the job done. However, the truck isn’t as stylish as the other models, and it doesn’t sell as well as the Ford F-150.

Toyota Tundra — Yes, it’s an import, but the Tundra received an upgrade and now comes with a V-8. Its king-cab version isn’t as large as the others, but it’s a stylish truck that’s also a workhorse.

Chevy Avalanche (SUV/Pickup) — You’ve seen the funny commercials about how easy it is to switch from an SUV to a pickup, but the question remains: Why would you want to? As an SUV, the Avalanche bed is small (513 square inches). As a pickup, however, the bed is 811 square inches. I just can’t figure out why you would want something nearly as ugly as the Pontiac Aztek, the angular SUV that doubles as a camper.

Remember, we’re not buying the truck for you, so determine your needs (both for work and personal use) and take them for test drives. All these models come with various configurations and sizes, so make sure you find exactly what you need.

Free-lance writer Mark Luce keeps on truckin’ in Shawnee, Kan. You can reach him at mluce@earthlink.net.
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