tion of interactive graphics and faster Flow Optimizer processing. The software has been upgraded to Windows 32-bit standards and is compatible with all Genesis field controllers currently in use. Designed to accommodate all management styles, Genesis III can be utilized as a basic control program or "ramped up" to achieve more sophisticated water-management objectives. Interactive graphics now give superintendents the ability to view every hole on the course on screen. The graphic overview identifies "control zones" for irrigation programming changes.

For more information, contact 800-248-6561, www.hunterindustries.com or CIRCLE NO. 203

Topdressers, aerators
Redexim Charterhouse offers its new line of topdressers. Models 1010 and 15210 are dual-mode topdressers functioning as drop spreaders using a rotary brush or, thanks to optional twin-spinning disks, as broadcast spreaders. The smaller unit, model 1010, is a trailed unit with four pivoting wheels and a capacity of 35.3 cubic feet. Model 1520, the largest topdresser in the line, offers 70.6 cubic-feet capacity and a drop spreader width of five feet.

The company also offers a new line of core aerators, called Verti-Core. The aerators are available in three sizes: 4.2 feet, 5.6 feet and 6.9 feet.

For more information, contact 570-602-3058, www.redexim.com or CIRCLE NO. 204

Expanded fungicide label
Chipco Professional Products from Aventis Environmental Science has expanded the label of Chipco Signature fungicide — the first significant label change since the product's introduction in 1997. The new label includes recommendations for the control of anthracnose and bentgrass deadspot, as well as new tankmix partners.

For more information, contact 800-438-5837 or CIRCLE NO. 205

Sediment control
North American Green offers SedimentSTOP Biodegradable Filtration System, a sediment control product designed to significantly reduce soil loss caused by stormwater runoff. The product is 100 percent biodegradable and traps soil particles while allowing runoff water to pass through.

For more information, contact 812-867-6632, www.nagreen.com or CIRCLE NO. 206

Soil Probe
Spectrum Technologies offers the new Field Scout TDR 300 soil moisture probe, a portable tool that helps users to gather information at several points across the field for a more comprehensive and accurate assessment of irrigation needs.

The Field Scout features and LCD display of soil moisture in two different modes. The volumetric water content mode indicates the percentage of water in the soil at the sampling depth. The relative water content mode does the same but reports the result relative to user-defined wet and dry soil set points.

For more information, contact 800-248-8873, www.specmeters.com or CIRCLE NO. 207

Take out Dollar Spot with Curalan EG.

Seeing spots? Curalan EG erases Dollar Spot and other eyesores better than any other fungicide today. A single application gives you up to 28 days of protection — almost four times longer than other treatments. Which means greater value. And definitely fewer spots. To find the distributor nearest you, log on to our Web site.

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The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California recently honored its award winners at the 2002 GCSANC Annual Meeting. Certified superintendent Robert Costa, who is vice president of golf course management for the Lombardo Group, was named Superintendent of the Year. Denis Kerr of The Golf Club at Quail Lodge in Carmel, Calif., won the award for Excellence in Turfgrass. Certified superintendent Joseph Rodriguez of Rossmoor (Calif.) GC won the George Santana Distinguished Service Award for his long-time commitment and service to the association. The Affiliate Merit Award was presented to company representative and affiliate member Rex Gentry, of H.V. Carter Co., in Livermore, Calif.

The Ohio Turfgrass Foundation established the Williams Leadership Endowment through the GCSAA Foundation. The endowment is intended to support continuing education for superintendents interested in pursing leadership roles in golf course management at the local or national level.

The Ohio Turfgrass Foundation elected its 2002 slate of officers. They include Mark Heinlein, president of The Motz Group, Cleveland, as president; John Mowat, golf sales director for Century Equipment Co., Toledo, Ohio, as vice president; George Furrer, market sales representative for Lesco, Strongsville, Ohio, as treasurer; and Glen Pettengler, Green Velvet Sod Farms, Bellbrook, Ohio, as a member of the board of directors.

The American Society of Golf Course Architects awarded its 2002 Donald Ross Award to Byron Nelson.

Jeffrey Rutherford was named senior vice president and chief financial officer of Lesco.

Ron Horton was named director of golf at Heritage Rance Golf & CC in Fairview, Texas, by Western Golf Property. The company also appointed Kimberly Keehlik as its director of sales and marketing.

Todd Perkins joined Growth Products as a technical sales representative. Perkins represents the company in Florida.

Aquatrols announced the hire of Mica Franklin as a research agronomist.

The Golf Course Builders Association of America elected six new directors. The new directors include: Ellen Davis, Greensmox; Sam Sakocius of SAJO Golf; Rob Stambaugh, Quality Golf; Bob Steele of SEMA Golf; Dennis Wagner of Rain Bird Corp.; and James York of York Bridge Concepts. The association also elected the following members to assist new president Phil Garcia in his duties: Tommy Sasser, Wetz Golf International, president-elect; Willie Slingerland, Flowtronex PSI, secretary; and Steve Christman of Eagle Golf and Landscape Products, treasurer.

BASF appointed Gerald E. Husemann as senior sales specialist for its turf and ornamental group.

Fellow superintendents were recently certified: Steve Jatzat, Lost Dunes GC, Bridgman, Mich.; Sean Van Hoos, Kenton County GC, Independence, Ky.; Glenn White, Campbell’s Scottish Highlands, Salem, N.H.; Paul Winterbottom, Quail Point GC, Medford, Ore.; Michael Creech, Northampton Valley CC, Richboro, Pa.; and Andrew Sexton, recipient from Nebraska.

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A golfer's drive lands on an anthill. Rather than move the ball, he decides to hit it where it lies. He takes a mighty swing—clouds of dirt and sand and ants explode into the air. But the golf ball sits in the same spot.

Two ants have survived. One dazed ant says to the other, "Whoa! What are we going to do?"
The other ant says, "I don't know about you, pal, but I'm going to get on the ball!"

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Golfdom's Joke of the month

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country leisure

LEISURE IS NOT A PRIVILEGE FOR CITY DWELLERS ONLY. WE COUNTRY FOLK HAVE A FEW PASTIMES OF OUR OWN

by Mark Luce

when asking about leisure issues, people frequently assume the word “leisure” equals urbanity, ignoring those of us who perfected the art of country-time leisure.

Adolescent summers on a working farm on the plains of central Kansas afforded me countless opportunities to witness (and practice) a handful of activities mostly overlooked by urban sophisticates who believe blue cocktails make a bold statement.

Country revel begins with the simple pastime of porch sitting. The first step — placing one’s backside on a chair and doing absolutely nothing — should present little challenge for most. The degree of difficulty, though, comes with choosing the proper equipment.

“Cussin’ Paul Rohrer,” as my grandmother called him, lived down the road piece. On our visits to our grandparents, we’d see him clad in overalls, plopped in a rusty kitchen chair with a spectacular array of items in front of him. By turns, Cussin’ Paul would have within reach a transistor radio, farm implement magazines, Coors, a pocket knife, a pellet gun, a listless canine, slinky felines and a pile of weathered sticks.

Cussin’ Paul, it must be stated, was a professional, and beginners should log plenty of practice time before attempting his breathtaking eight-item approach.

Whittling, a largely forgotten pastime, routinely shaves away several hours, as well as giving adding artistry to your downtime. Ol’ Jess, another neighbor who was as wizened as Cussin’ Paul was foul-mouthed, constantly carried his whittling into Nickerson Farms for the daily morning and afternoon coffee klatches hosted by my grandfather. Jess, a wizard with his knife, sculpted figures that eerily captured the angst of Norwegian painter and woodcarver Eduard Munch, whose paintings (including his most famous, The Scream) often dealt with issues like death and melancholia.

Despite the joys of whittling, no activity combines practicality with leisure quite as much as watching weather. Grandpa was the master of keeping his eye keen and his tongue ready with a witty weather aphorism.

Besides the classic, “Evening red and morning gray help the farmer on his way; evening gray and morning red bring down rain upon his head,” grandad was particularly partial to the truism, “Ring around the moon, rain by noon. Ring around the sun, rain before night is done.”

While the science behind such home-spun wisdom may be shaky, grandpa was often correct. Weather, my grandfather used to explain, will always be the great equalizer.

As a subject, weather remains the sure-fire entree into conversation with a stranger. Moreover, rapt attention to the weather encourages individuals to be prepared.

Most importantly, however, thorough knowledge of weather, and the ability to blather incessantly about it, serves as a shimmering shield in those social occasions when boorish souls verbally assault you.

So for those of you misguided souls who believe leisure can only be found in cities, I recommend you try some of our country-time leisure activities. You may find them a nice break from your frenzied city life.

Mark Luce, a country boy from way back, is a free-lance writer based in Kansas City, Mo.
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