"We don't make the turf, we make it better" is more than just a slogan. It's a promise at the heart of everything we do. From researchers developing new compounds for the future to dedicated reps ready to help you today, everyone bearing the BASF brand works to provide you with effective solutions that deliver superior turf everyone on your course will appreciate.

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We Don't Make The Turf. We Make It Better.™

The Chemical Company
At 33, Eric Greytok prepares to host his second U.S. Open, this time at storied — and sometimes unforgiving — Winged Foot Golf Club.

BY THOMAS SKERNIVITZ

About the cover
Connecticut-based photographer George Ruhe took this portrait of Eric Greytok.

Water Tight
Colorado golf courses face complex rules and regulations dating back many years when it comes to irrigation privileges.
By Anthony Pioppi

Safekeeping
Florida superintendent Chuck Calhoun has implemented a strict program to keep his employees out of the danger zone.
By Larry Aylward

Chuck Calhoun makes a point about safety.

News with a hook
10 Region Crawling With Six-Legged Creatures

Turfgrass Trends
This month Golfdom's practical research digest for turf managers discusses how mowing practices can reduce runoff from turf. See pages 43-54.

Online Exclusive
Read this story only at www.golfdom.com/onlineexclusive:

A Cup of Tips: Superintendents Erick Holm and James Bade offer suggestions on how to cut a mean cup.
Tank-mix new Rhapsody® with a reduced rate of your current fungicide for more effective disease control and greener, healthier turf.

Keep greens greener, fairways fairer with new Rhapsody fungicide. Rhapsody controls a broad spectrum of bacterial and fungal diseases — including Brown Patch, Anthracnose and Dollar Spot — and helps keep your turf looking, as well as playing, great.

Rhapsody also offers unsurpassed safety for use around water, wildlife and workers. The active ingredient, a patented strain of Bacillus subtilis, produces an array of lipopeptides, powerful natural biochemicals that work together to destroy the spores of disease pathogens without harming non-target organisms.

Its unique biochemistry arms Rhapsody with a multi-site mode of action, providing effective disease control and a valuable resistance management tool. From greens to tee boxes, fairways to roughs — keep it green and growing strong with Rhapsody in your fungicide program.
0.15G ProSect™ Granular Insecticide on DG Pro®

Controls insects within days of the initial application!

- Can be safely used on golf courses, around foundations of homes and buildings, and several other locations
- DG Pro® dispersible carrier delivers the active ingredient where it is most effective
- 0.05 lb. Al/acre rate for control of chinch bugs, sod webworms, cutworms, army worms, and others as listed

Contact your Andersons Golf Products distributor or territory manager, or call Customer Service at 800-253-5296

www.AndersonsGolfProducts.com
**New** Reservoir DG from Helena will let loose a Hydro-Revolution on your turf – in a dry granular form! And you’ll see the revolution in vastly increased irrigation efficiency, and significantly lower irrigation costs!

With timely applications of Reservoir DG, water usage can be reduced by 20 to 60 percent! On a golf course, that can be a lot of gallons. And you’ll also see lower expenses for irrigation-related costs, such as electricity and equipment wear and tear.

When Reservoir DG is present and “active” in the soil, it improves water infiltration and water-holding capacity. It also reduces water lost to evapo-transpiration.

The result: Shorter irrigation cycles, which reduces total water volume used.

Find out how you can reduce your irrigation expense with Reservoir DG. For more information, contact your local Helena representative.

- Increases irrigation efficiency, reducing water usage by 20 to 40 percent
- Convenient “greens grade” dry granular product
- Can be spot applied to problem areas
- Improves water infiltration & water holding capacity of soil during its “active” phase
- Remains active for 3 - 5 weeks
- Lowers expenses for irrigation-related costs
- Reduces leaching of nutrients and pesticides
- Bio-degrades into natural materials
- Easy to apply

Reservoir DG can easily be applied to greens without interfering with play.

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Always read and follow label directions. © 2006 Helena Holding Company.
lace yourself in an illegal immigrant’s tattered shoes for awhile. Take a walk in them and imagine that you’re living and working in this country. How does it feel?

I bet you’re scared. I bet you’re lonely, too. And I bet you’re wondering where your life will lead you.

Truth is, you can’t put yourself in an illegal immigrant’s shoes. As much as you would like to empathize with him, you have no idea what he’s going through.

If you employ Mexicans and Hispanics on your maintenance crew, you’ve probably been watching the immigration debate with a keen interest. There are roughly 12 million illegal immigrants, about half of them Mexicans, believed to be living and working in the United States. No doubt some of them are working on golf course maintenance crews. I wonder how many superintendents realize they’re employing illegal immigrants?

If they don’t know, they had better find out. The GOP-led House of Representatives has already passed a bill that would not only make it a felony to be an illegal immigrant, but make it a felony to offer aid to an illegal immigrant. Pretty harsh, huh?

Consider this bill for a moment, though, and imagine that it’s the law. Would you turn in a hard-working Mexican, who also happened to be an illegal immigrant, to save your own behind?

This bill puts the onus on employers to come clean — or else. Must our government leaders resort to such a threatening means?

There’s no doubt our country is in need of immigration reform. Improvements must be made to better detect who’s coming into the country and why. But our lawmakers must remember this is also a human-rights issue, not just a numbers issue. Illegal immigrants may not wear silk ties, but many of them bear purposeful souls.

Most of these illegal immigrants come to America to escape poverty and are in search for better lives. When I say better, I don’t mean riches. These people immigrate to the United States to make a meager $8 an hour. But that’s a much more livable wage than the $2 an hour they would make in their home countries.

In the last several years, many golf course superintendents have hired immigrants, mostly from Mexico and other Hispanic countries, to work on their maintenance crews. Many superintendents work through the nation’s H-2B visa program to secure documented seasonal workers.

I’ve never met a superintendent who didn’t rave about Mexican and Hispanic employees’ work ethics. I’ve also heard many superintendents say they are thankful for Mexican and Hispanic workers because they’re willing to do jobs that many Americans aren’t — like get up at 5 a.m. on Saturday and go rake bunkers and whack weeds for several hours.

The golf course maintenance industry owes these people its support. This is no time for the industry to turn its back on them.

Again, the nation needs to do something to get a handle on illegal immigration. We need to improve security at our borders as a safety precaution from terrorism. But let’s not criminalize all of the the illegal immigrants who came here to escape poverty in the process. Let’s give them a chance at legalization while they’re here. They came here out of hope. Let’s not take that away from them.

So don’t support the insensitive bill passed by the House. Please support a mandate that is more compassionate. Let’s let the illegal immigrants know that we understand their plight and want to assist them.

We may not be able to walk a mile in their shoes, but we can sure walk with them.

Contact Larry Aylward, editor in chief of Golfdom, at 216-706-3737 or laylward@questec.com.
TALPIRID® The industry's first & only proven mole bait.

Moles can be one of the most destructive and costly pests golf superintendents face... indiscriminately damaging greens, fairways and tee boxes. The result of more than 4 years of groundbreaking research, TALPIRID can help regain control where no viable options previously existed.

"Great job---thank you for finally researching and producing a great product that by far, is the best product on the market for mole elimination!!"
- Robert M. Donofrio, Shadow Lake G.C.

"It really does work."
- James Longhi, Longhi's Golf

TALPIRID is easy to apply and economical to use. For more information, contact your Turf & Ornamental distributor or Bell Laboratories directly at talpirid@belllabs.com.
The Big Picture
THE NUMBERS THAT SHAPE YOUR BUSINESS

Golf Rounds Played
The percentages below represent the difference in number of rounds played in March 2006 compared to the number of rounds played in March 2005.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>MARCH</th>
<th>Y.T.D.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New England</td>
<td>242.4%</td>
<td>248.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Atlantic</td>
<td>51.9%</td>
<td>56.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East North Central</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West North Central</td>
<td>-15.3%</td>
<td>-3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Atlantic</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East South Central</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West South Central</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain</td>
<td>-8.2%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific</td>
<td>-11.2%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>-11.0%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL UNITED STATES</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Not that a pythium outbreak is anything to laugh about. That said, are you laughing enough? Craig Zablocki, a motivational humorist, says research shows that laughter stimulates every organ in the body, reduces pain, and releases muscle tension.

Ha, Ha, Ha!

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Smithco was founded 39 years ago and is still a family business. Test-drive any Smithco product and see what a difference pride and continuity, good people and new ideas can make.

Clockwise from left: Don Smith, President; Ted Smith, Founder; Bill Kenney, VP Sales and Marketing; Scott Taylor, Chief Engineer

SMITHCO .com
PACE touts use of GPS, GIS
Global positioning systems (GPS) and geographic information systems (GIS) can and should be used in conjunction with sensors that monitor soil moisture and turf quality, Dr. Larry Stowell said in San Diego at the PACE Turfgrass Research Institute's 10th annual Turfgrass Research Seminar held in April.

Used together, those precision tools move turf management programs beyond IPM and beyond best management practices, according to Stowell, a PACE research director. They have proved effective in helping resolve problems that include irrigation distribution, soil moisture variability and white grub infestations, he told 145 turf managers.

A camera is an often forgotten but invaluable precision tool for documenting problems, techniques and progress toward turf management goals, Stowell said. In addition, the rise of digital photography makes it possible for turf managers to communicate easily with one another via photographic images.

Rain Bird's McWhirter retires
Rod McWhirter, Rain Bird Golf's national specification manager, retired April 30 after nearly 33 years with the company. McWhirter joined Rain Bird in 1973 as a golf course irrigation specialist. He helped develop the company's golf irrigation division into one of the world's top manufacturers of products and systems.

Stack, Bell Labs founder, dies
Malcolm G. Stack, 70, the founder of Bell Laboratories, died April 16 following a brief battle with cancer. Born May 9, 1935, in Manchester, England, Stack began Bell in 1974 and grew the business, which employs more than 300 people, into a leader in the pest control industry.

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Region Crawling With Six-Legged Creatures
INSECTS THE TALK AT COASTAL RESEARCH SEMINAR
By Tom Skernivitz, Managing Editor

These are rich times for self-proclaimed bug lover Rick Brandenburg. The professor of entomology from North Carolina State University is surrounded by six-legged critters in his region. “This is bug heaven,” he said of the coastal Carolinas and south Georgia.

Better yet, insects are more prevalent than ever because of pesticides that during the last dozen years have become increasingly kinder to the environment, Brandenburg said. While fish, birds, people and pets are safer today, so are many bugs.

“The challenge with the newer products is that most of them have gotten a little more restrictive in the spectrum they cover,” Brandenburg said at the Coastal Research Seminar, sponsored by Bayer Environmental Science and hosted by the Country Club of Charleston (S.C.) in April.

“So we have grub insecticides and mole cricket insecticides and not just insecticides. They changed a little bit. And we have to be much more accurate with the timing for them to work well. But if we do all that, these new products that we have today are absolutely excellent.”

So, what's bugging superintendents most these days?

Earthworms: Brandenburg's telephone has been ringing constantly the last decade because of earthworms that have invaded putting greens, tees, home lawns and athletic fields. “We

Continued on page 14