Hundreds of improvements, one great result.
Exceptional quality of cut and after cut appearance is the result of the new Reelmast® 5010 series fairway mowers from Toro®. It's all thanks to a completely new design that's focused on performance, operator comfort, and serviceability. The innovative new DPA cutting units offer simple adjustment along with major advances in reel and bedknife edge retention. The detailed improvements will keep you out of the shop and on the fairway producing the results you've come to expect. After all, beauty lies in the details. To find out more, call (800) 803-8676, or visit toro.com/fairways.
Conditions worthy of devotion.

It's not an easy job protecting the conditions that golfers love. It requires daily vigilance. Especially when it comes to something as prevalent as dollar spot. You have to fight back with a trusted product that works, a product like Banner MAXX® fungicide. Its systemic mode of action and broad-spectrum control make it a constant in the ongoing protection of your turf.

You can be assured that Syngenta is there protecting your course year in and year out. We are there for you through the eventful days and the not-so-eventful.
Helping Hands
They came, they worked and they left four New Orleans golf courses in much better condition than they had found them. Part of our cover story package.
By Larry Aylward

Growing the Game: Part 2
The Drive for Diversity
Plenty of minorities are interested in golf, but they'll need a few more bucks (and buddies) to play with if they're going to boost the industry.
By Thomas Skernivitz
New Orleans superintendent Peter Carew maintains optimism for his life, his city and his livelihood in wake of Hurricane Katrina.

About the cover
Golfdom art director Carrie Parkhill captures the sullenness of superintendent Peter Carew's plight in our cover design. Photography by Larry Aylward.

Multi-Fauceted
When it comes to syringing greens, different interpretations rain.
By Thomas Skernivitz

Real-Life Solutions
Call in the Cavalry
Superintendent turns to USGA's Turf Advisory Service for help on golf maintenance front.
By Charlie Fultz
Fluid Fertilizers

with Proactin® and LN3™

Ideal for 14-day application intervals

Controlled release fertilizer products for sprayable applications and "spoon feeding" programs. Utilizes LN3 controlled release nitrogen for consistent and extended feeding.

Utilizes Proactin - a proprietary mixture of l-amino acids, vitamins, polysaccarides and secondary bionutrients. Promotes plant vigor.

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

www.AndersonsGolfProducts.com
Poa annua invades bentgrass fairways and greens often out-competing bentgrass and other desirable grasses, eventually becoming the dominant turf species. Cutless turf growth regulator can help you fight this encroachment, and shift the competitive advantage back to your desirable turfgrass. Unlike some plant growth regulators, Cutless constricts the Poa annua but is gentle on desirable grasses such as bentgrass, allowing the bentgrass to grow and establish in the constricted Poa annua colonies. So free your bentgrass and squeeze the Poa annua out of your fairways and greens. Use Cutless, the Poa Constrictor™.

For more information about Cutless turf growth regulator, call 1-800-419-7779 or visit our website at www.sepro.com.

"Here at Merion Golf Club, our members are passionate about golf and the condition of our course, so we have an active Poa annua management program. We rely on Cutless because it is highly effective in reducing Poa annua infestations in bentgrass fairways. My experience with Cutless is that it is less disruptive on the bentgrass, while being highly effective in reducing Poa annua populations. In addition to bentgrass conversion, Cutless also provides labor savings by reducing our mowing requirement. Cutless is a great product that I am glad to see SePRO bring back to the golf course market."

Matt Shaffer
Director of Golf Course Operations, Merion Golf Club, Ardmore, PA
GET TO THE ROOT
OF YOUR SALT PROBLEM!

Just the Facts!
Certified plant tissue analysis of recent research results after just one application of NaEx.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Control</th>
<th>Treated w/NaEx</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sodium</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrogen</td>
<td>3.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phosphorus</td>
<td>0.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potassium</td>
<td>1.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium</td>
<td>0.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorides</td>
<td>1601ppm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>92ppm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NaEx™ Reduces sodium and chloride levels 40 - 60%

NaEx contains ingredients that sequester salts and renders them unavailable to plants. Improves turf color and vigor while protecting the roots from salts!

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If you get a group of superintendents together and ask what they want, they'll tell you plenty (trust us, we did just that). But one thing that really stood out was "effective results." Lucky for us, we provide that every day. Through intensive research, field trials and university studies across the country, we vigorously test BASF products to make sure they'll deliver better results — results that mean your turf will pass the most important test: your golfers.

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Find a distributor: 800-545-9525

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I couldn’t agree more with the golf course superintendents who charge that homeowners are the worst offenders when it comes to wasting potable water. Most homeowners are clueless about how to water their lawns properly. But apparently there are superintendents out there who are wasting potable water, too.

How do I know? Because those superintendents admit it.

Late last year we conducted an online poll of 380 superintendents to find out how they manage water use on their golf courses. We asked them: Are you managing water use as efficiently as possible? Twenty-five percent of superintendents answered, “Yes, our course is golden brown in some areas.” Sixty-five percent answered, “Somewhat, we’re trying to find the right balance.”

But 9 percent answered, “No, we’re watering away to attain as thick and green of turf as possible.”

Now, I understand that some of the superintendents in this 9 percent are irrigating with effluent water. But not all of them. Heck, even if it’s only half of the 9 percent that use potable water to achieve the thick, green look... well... that’s still too many superintendents who are watering away like homeowners.

Consider that golf courses in many parts of the country are under “CSI”-like scrutiny for their watering habits by the general public, including homeowners. But however misdirected the general public is for assuming that most golf courses use too much water, it’s watchdogs can sniff out the few courses that do and bring them to light — as in the media spotlight.

And let’s not forget the mainstream media loves to haul out the dirty laundry. When there’s a story of such — “Golf Course Defies City’s Plan for Water Conservation” — it’s quite possible the six o’clock news will set up in front of the clubhouse for a live broadcast. Hence, the entire golf industry ends up looking irresponsible on the broadcast — including, unfairly, the 90 percent of superintendents who are watering responsibly.

In essence, the few bad-apples theory applies here. But to be fair, most of these bad-apple superintendents shouldn’t be classified in the reckless context that the connotation implies. The bet here is the few superintendents who are watering away are doing so because they have to — or they’ll be scanning the Sunday classifieds for another job. The reality is that many members who pay thousands of dollars a year to play at their private clubs expect to see a return on that money in the form of thick, green turf — every day.

So what can brown turf do for the superintendents at these clubs? Get them fired. So, yes, these superintendents are scared to scale back on irrigation.

So what’s the industry to do about golf course maintenance’s version of Watergate? I hate to put the onus on the 90 percent of superintendents who irrigate responsibly, but that’s what I’m going to do. It’s time for them to stand up and tell their stories.

Maybe this means these superintendents should make presentations about their irrigation tendencies at city council meetings to get the word out that they’re not wasting water. Maybe it means they should invite the press to their courses to show them how watchful they are not to over-irrigate for the sake of their communities and the environment. (Take it from me, the press likes “good” stories, too.)

Somehow and some way, these responsible superintendents must step forward and dispute the public’s assumption that all golf courses waste water. They must quash this label created by the minority.

So, if you’re one of the superintendents in the 90 percentile, what do you plan to do?

Larry Aylward can be reached at 216-706-3737 or laylward@questex.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.
**Balls in Play In Badger State**

Although golf development isn’t exactly red-hot in Wisconsin, the Badger State will greet a few intriguing new courses this year. The Club at Strawberry Creek in Kenosha will make its debut in late spring. The Richard Jacobson design is appended by a mix of single- and multi-family homes and a 33,000-square-foot clubhouse. Slated to open later this summer is Erin Hills Golf Club, a Mike Hurdzan-Dana Fry design located within a 500-plus-acre development that also includes a 30-room inn. In Lake Geneva, the redesign of Hillmoor Country Club is underway. If all the permits are received on time, construction will commence this summer on that $100 million project, which involves more than 250 homes, a new clubhouse, a 30,000-square-foot banquet facility, and a three-story hotel with 100 rooms. For details on these and other golf projects around the United States, visit www.golfconstructionnews.com.

**Golf Rounds Played**

The percentages below represent the difference in number of rounds played in February 2006 compared to the number of rounds played in February 2005.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>FEB.</th>
<th>YTD.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New England ME, VT, NH, MA, RI, CT</td>
<td>613.6%</td>
<td>316.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Atlantic NY, PA, NJ</td>
<td>58.8%</td>
<td>88.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East North Central MI, OH, IN, IL, WI</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
<td>115.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West North Central ND, MN, SD, NE, KS, IA, MO</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>94.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Atlantic WV, DE, MD, VA, NC, SC, GA</td>
<td>-3.6%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>-3.8%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East South Central KY, TN, AL, MS</td>
<td>-16.2%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West South Central OK, AR, LA</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain MT, ID, WY, NV, UT, CO, AZ, NM</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific WA, OR, AK, HI</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL UNITED STATES</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cyber Work**

Superintendents were asked how often they use the Internet for work-related purposes?

- **DAILY** 71%
- **WEEKLY** 22%
- **MONTHLY** 3%
- **HARDLY EVER** 3%

Based on 374 responses

Golfdom

**A Good Walk Spoiled... By Length**

Augusta National Golf Club just keeps getting longer. At last month’s Masters, the course played at 7,445 yards. It seems more and more pro golfers are getting perturbed at the course’s constant lengthening.

- Said Nick Faldo, “Once they buy up all the roads and the houses, they’ll get it to 9,000 yards.”
- Said Sandy Lyle, “I think enough is enough.”

SOURCE: THE AUGUSTA CHRONICLE

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