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MTI Distributing Company

The Toro Company introduced at the National Golf Course Superintendents Show, a new walk greensmower that features the smallest clip of any walk greensmower on the market. A small clip allows for a more uniform quality-of-cut.

"Toro's 75 years of experience in Turf Maintenance Equipment were invaluable in the development of the Greensmaster 1000," said Helmut Ullrich, Toro Marketing Manager.

"We combined features of Toro's riding Greensmaster with those of the company's walk greensmowers to create a new product that addresses many of the concerns of top golf course superintendents."

The Greensmaster 1000's smaller clip -- .16 inch -- is due to its unique 11 blade design. The smaller clip, combined with the 1000's superior grass-catching capability, make for a smooth green; a quality demanded by superintendents, according to Ullrich.

In addition, Toro's new "loop" handle design creates maximum operator comfort and keeps necessary weight on the front of the mower, thus allows more even tracking across the green and a more consistent quality-of-cut.

Several other features combine to make the 1000 ideal for superintendents concerned about creating the highest quality putting surface. Height-of-cut can be adjusted to tournament height -- 3/32" -- and the 1000's special airflow design keep more clippings in the collection basket.

In addition, Toro's Greensmaster 1000 can take a grooming reel attachment and a variety of rollers. Its narrow width allows for narrower striping of the green and better ground following.

The Greensmaster is powered by a 3 1/2-horsepower Kawasaki engine, the drive system features the latest cog belt design, which limits the amount of service required.

The Toro Company is the nation's largest independent manufacturer of outdoor maintenance equipment.

For more information about the Greensmaster 1000, contact Glenn Rasmussen at MTI.
TOURNEY BENEFITS
ROBERT TRENT JONES
ENDOWMENT FUND

The inaugural Robert Trent Jones Invitational, a golf event benefiting the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's endowment fund named for the legendary architect, raised a record $27,000 to support university scholarships.

The midsummer tournament was held at the Metedeconk National Golf Club, Jackson, NJ -- Jones' most recent New Jersey design. Teams made up of club superintendents, officials and members, representing 15 selected golf clubs from the Northeast, contributed $1,500 each to support the Jones Endowment Fund. Metedeconk members made additional contributions to bring the total to $27,000 -- the largest contribution to GCSAA's scholarship efforts ever by a single club.

Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS, GCSAA's secretary/treasurer and Metedeconk's coordinator for the event, described the Jones Invitational as "a very meaningful way in which to recognize the unique relationship between the golf course architect and the golf course superintendent, as well as an excellent opportunity to support the development of future golf course managers and the game of golf while enjoying a great day of golf and camaraderie."

Richard Sambol, who along with his son Herbert conceived and developed Metedeconk National, expressed optimism that the event would have a prosperous future. He also thanked manufacturers and distributors who donated hole sponsorships, saying the event "couldn't have happened" without their support.

Tournament players lavished praise on both architect and superintendent for the superb design and conditioning of the course. Cadenelli, in turn, cited the tremendous efforts of his crew in preparing Metedeconk during the previous soggy weeks.

The GCSAA Robert Trent Jones Endowment Fund was established in 1987 with a substantial donation from the New Jersey architect. Once fully capitalized, the fund will help pay college tuition for turfgrass management students considering careers as superintendents.

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OFF THE TOP
OF MY HEAD

GREG HUBBARD, CGCS
Editorial Chairman

One of the goals of MGCSA this year was to improve our HOLE NOTES publication. As the primary communication tool to our members, the newsletter should positively reflect the fine organization to which we belong. Many members have indicated that if the look and feel were improved, along with the editorial content, this publication would be worthy of placement throughout their clubs as a public relations tool and a source of information for their members. Our first effort was to improve the editorial content of the publication. Many members now have checks in their hands and smiling faces for taking some time to share their knowledge with us. Now, we must change the design and mechanics of the publication. The Minnesota Golf Association, current publishers of HOLE NOTES, has informed us that they will no longer be able to serve as our editor. As our newsletter has become more involved and complex and their time more limited and stringent, we are forced to explore other avenues. An ad-hoc committee consisting of President Keith Scott, Treasurer Tom Fischer, Secretary Rick Fredericksen, and the members of the Editorial Committee, Bill Johnson and myself, was formed to explore other means of producing our publication.

After exploring a number of alternatives, including additional financial assistance to the MGA, this committee has reached what we think is an ideal solution. Turtinen Communications, based in Wayzata, has been chosen as our new HOLE NOTES editor and publisher. This company has a long history of serving the golf business and is currently acting as the executive office of the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association, among other business and professional organizations. Ralph Turtinen expresses a "deep interest in and appreciation of the game of golf" and also writes a weekly golf column in the Minneapolis paper. Their knowledge of the publishing business should certainly improve the look and feel of HOLE NOTES and make it truly representative of our organization. This change will come at very little additional cost to our members. The only difference will be that HOLE NOTES will be mailed in bulk rather than first class, resulting in slightly slower delivery time.

Though they have one issue left, let me thank the MGA and their fine people on a job well done. Without their help and assistance, HOLE NOTES would not be anywhere near its present quality. Let me also welcome aboard Turtinen Communications. Their first issue will be in our mailboxes shortly after the first of the year as we feature our annual turf conference. I'm sure it will do our organization proud and we will have met our goal of improving our HOLE NOTES newsletter.

Social Swinger Or Golfaholic?
Take This Quiz To Find Out

Convinced that someone you love has fallen prey to "acute ball-beating dependency" (golfaholism)? Then take this test (if you dare), and expose the true depths of your loved one's obsession.

1) Does your spouse often engage in unconscious, repetitious acts like wiggling his feet, wagging his rear and hitching up his pants?
   □ YES  □ NO

2) Does he practice his grip, stance, or swing naked in the bathroom, outside church, on airplanes, or in other public places?
   □ YES  □ NO

3) Have you ever gone shopping and turned around to find him standing in front of a full-length mirror taking a full swing at a ball that isn't there with a club that isn't there?
   □ YES  □ NO

4) Is there a divot in the carpet in front of the television or family room?
   □ YES  □ NO

5) Does he treat his clubs like a lover, embracing them with both hands, no matter how many times they betray him?
   □ YES  □ NO

6) Has the love of your life turned into a golfing mailman? In other words, neither rain nor snow, nor dark of night keep him from his appointed rounds?
   □ YES  □ NO

7) Does his nose twitch when he gets within 1,760 yards of a golf course? (To any normal person that's one mile. To a golfaholic, it's 1,760 yards to the first tee!)
   □ YES  □ NO

8) Does his passionate pursuit of the game know no bounds... like a lot of his shots?
   □ YES  □ NO

9) Has your golf lover ever gone on "bogey binges" for days, weeks, or months at a time? Does he want to talk about it afterwards?
   □ YES  □ NO

10) Has this person succumbed to the "Rocky Reaction"? No matter how the game beats him down, is he always ready to come back for one more round?
    □ YES  □ NO

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The Golf Tee

First and foremost, Dr. William Lowell was a gentleman. In 1921, at the age of 60, the dentist from South Orange, New Jersey, took up golf. He was appalled by the practice of teeing the ball on a pyramid of wet sand, leaving a player with gritty hands. Instead, Lowell used his dental tools to whittle a golf tee. Although Dr. Lowell’s partners referred to his tees as “suppositories for wildcats,” Lowell’s sons saw commercial potential in the tee, and in 1924 Lowell received a patent. His Reddy Tee was packed in boxes of 18 that sold for a quarter. Lowell imagined golfers would leave them behind and use a box per round. He even planned a biodegradable version until he realized golfers were hanging on to the little wooden spikes. The tee got a professional boost when Walter Hagen, the U.S. Open Champion, pulled up to Dr. Lowell’s dental office and asked where he could get more tees. Advertised as “The Tee of Champions,” 70 million Reddy Tees sold worldwide in 1929. By then competition was catching up to Dr. Lowell, and his company office was closed in 1933.

Old Farmer’s Almanac, 1988

THE EXTENSION LINE

Bob Mugaas of the University of Minnesota Extension Service is a regular contributor to Hole Notes. As Hennepin County Extension Agent, Mr. Mugaas compiles various articles related to the golf field for our information. Bob is an excellent source for answers to many questions on horticultural problems. He may be reached at 612/542-1420. Written requests should be sent to:

Bob Mugaas
Minnesota Extension Service-Hennepin County
701 Decatur Ave. N.
Suite 105
Minneapolis, MN 55427

This month’s articles cover Types of Pruning—Mature Trees, Oak Problems, and Powdery Mildew.

TYPES OF PRUNING—MATURE TREES

From Nursery Notes, August 1989
by Elton M. Smith
Extension Specialist - Landscape Horticulture
Ohio Cooperative Extension Service

A. CROWN CLEANING

Crown cleaning or cleaning out is the removal of dead, dying, diseased, crowded, weakly attached, or low-vigor branches and watersprouts from a tree crown.

B. CROWN THINNING

Crown thinning includes crown cleaning and the selective removal of branches to increase light penetration and air movement into the crown. Increased light and air stimulates and maintains interior foliage, which in turn improves branch taper and strength. Thinning reduces the wind-sail effect of the crown and the weight of heavy limbs. Thinning the crown can emphasize the structural beauty of trunk and branches as well as improve the growth of plants beneath the tree by increasing light penetration. When thinning the crown of mature trees, seldom should more than one-third of the live foliage be removed.

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At least one-half of the foliage should be on branches that arise in the lower two-thirds of the trees. Likewise, when thinning laterals from a limb, an effort should be made to retain inner lateral branches and leave the same distribution of foliage along the branch. Trees and branches so pruned will have stress more evenly distributed throughout the tree or along a branch.

An effort known as "lion's-tailing" results from pruning out the inside lateral branches. Lion's tailing, by removing all the inner foliage, displaces the weight to the ends of the branches and may result in sunburned branches, watersprouts, weakened branch structure and limb breakage.

C. CROWN REDUCTION

Crown reduction is used to reduce the height and/or spread of a tree. Thinning cuts are most effective in maintaining the structural integrity and natural form of a tree and in delaying the time when it will need to be pruned again. The lateral to which a branch or trunk is cut should be at least one-half the diameter of the cut being made.

D. CROWN RESTORATION

Crown restoration can improve the structure and appearance of trees that have been topped or severely pruned using heading cuts. One to three sprouts on main branch stubs should be selected to reform a more natural appearing crown. Selected vigorous sprouts may need to be thinned to a lateral, or even headed, to control length growth in order to ensure adequate attachment for the size of the sprout. Restoration may require several prunings over a number of years.

E. CROWN RAISING

Crown raising removes the lower branches of a tree in order to provide clearance for buildings, vehicles, pedestrians, and vistas. It is important that a tree have at least one-half of its foliage on branches that originate in the lower two-thirds of its crown to ensure a well-formed, tapered structure and to uniformly distribute stress within a tree.

When pruning for view, it is preferable to develop "windows" through the foliage of the tree, rather than to severely raise or reduce the crown.

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OAK PROBLEMS

From Dial-U Highlights
Minnesota Extension Service
University of Minnesota

Several calls have come in concerning browning and defoliation of entire or significant portions of oak trees. The major concern is whether or not the trees have oak wilt. Oak wilt symptoms on red oaks include rapid wilting of the affected trees beginning at the top of the tree. The leaves wilt from the tips to the base and fallen leaves are likely to be brown around the tip and green at the base. On cross-sections of affected branches, brown discoloration of the springwood vessels and brown streaking on the outside of the wood may also be observed. White oaks may survive for several years with uniformly brown leaves appearing during the growing season and affected branches eventually dying back one or two at a time.

A similar pattern of symptoms may occur on drought stressed oaks infected with Armillaria root rot and colonized by two-lined chestnut borer. Oak trees that are killed by this condition decline over a several week period. Signs of Armillaria infection include development of white mycelial fans and black, shoe string-like rhizomorphs under the bark at the base of the trunk. Honey-colored mushrooms often develop in close proximity to the tree. If colonization of the borer has occurred, its galleries can also be seen under the bark of large branches and main trunk.

Two-lined chestnut borer (T-LCB) damage is apparent in red, white, and bur oaks, and also ironwood trees. They first attack the crown; dieback can resemble oak wilt. One way to differentiate between the two is to check dead branches for meandering tunnels; this indicates attack by T-LCB. Unhealthy trees are most likely to be attacked and can be killed by this insect. Prune infested branches two feet into healthy tissue to remove the borer. Remove trees that have been killed by T-LCB. Watering and fertilizing can help increase the vigor of the tree and help it to tolerate this insect.

POWDERY MILDEW CAN WREAK HAVOC

by Cynthia Ash
Asst. Extension Specialist
Minnesota Extension Service
University of Minnesota

The ever present powdery mildew fungi have been wreaking havoc in many gardens and landscapes this summer producing gray to white powdery appearing structures of the leaves. Severe infections can result in leaf puckering, poor growth, and fewer flowers.

Unlike other fungal diseases which need prolonged periods of wet foliage to infect the plant and cause disease, the mildew fungi only need occasional periods of high humidity. When this happens the fungus grows over the surface of the leaf and sinks little structures into the leaf to derive nourishment. Powdery mildew seldom seriously harms the numerous types of plants it infects but it can reduce photosynthesis and weaken the plant.

To prevent problems with powdery mildew avoid planting susceptible plants in heavily landscaped areas. In existing landscapes pruning or replacement of plant materials to increase air circulation and sunlight penetration will help. Avoid over-crowding. Use plant materials adapted to the landscape areas present. Water early in the day and at the base of the plant. Fungicides are available for some plants but are only a temporary cure.

ILLUSTRATED POSTER ON TWO TEE SYSTEM FOR WOMEN OFFERED

Recognizing the tremendous influx of women into the golfing ranks, the American Society of Golf Course Architects is offering an illustrated poster that explains the design philosophy behind the two tee system for women.

Alice Dye, the only woman member of the Society and an amateur golf champion, has authored the material on the two tee system. She explains the current research, why the system is gaining momentum, how to create new forward tees, and the cost of construction.

Illustrations show exactly how the two tee system should be implemented, both on existing courses and new courses. "Men have a choice of playing from different teeing grounds to accommodate their various abilities," Dye points out. "Women have no choice. It's like asking them all to wear the same dress size. Golf course personnel who recognize the fact that women make up a main source of weekday golf need to assess their yardages to create a manageable course for women golfers.

Addition of new forward tees to the existing tees use by women provides a challenging, yet pleasurable golfing experience for both the low handicap female golfer and for those players who are not as long off the tee."

To obtain a copy of this illustrated two tee system for women, send $5.00 check to the American Society of golf course Architects, 221 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60601.
The walk greens mower which lets your operators manicure the finest putting surface of all...the greens. Its superior handling characteristics and cutting performance put this mower a step ahead of the competition.
A Day Scrambling at Edinburgh USA

Host Superintendent Tom Fischer and Arrangements Chair Kevin Clunis took care of the "Raffle" and prizes. Here also was a winner-- Tom Haugen.

Edinburgh is not only known for its great Golf Course, but also its wonderful food. A Patio Lunch was available during the day. Many couldn't pass it by.

On the 15th hole, a hole-in-one would have received this E-Z-GO golf cart. A week later and people were still trying... sorry, only on that day was it possible to win.

Before dinner all of the troops got together to discuss the day's episodes. Some were winners, and others were not, but all participated in a good effort to raise money.

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MINNESOTA SUPERINTENDENT RECEIVES GCSAA CERTIFICATION

Douglas F. Veillette, superintendent of Little Falls Country Club, has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

Veillette has been superintendent of the Little Falls, Minnesota course since 1982. He lives at 1119 Riverview in Little Falls.

To become certified, a candidate must have five years' experience as a golf course superintendent and be employed in that capacity. The candidate must pass a rigorous six-hour examination covering the rules of golf, turfgrass management, pest management, financial and organizational management and the history, ethics, purpose and procedures of GCSAA. Also, an on-site inspection of Veillette's golf course operation was conducted by two currently certified superintendents: Kerry Glader, CGCS, of St. Cloud, Minn., and James Nicol, CGCS, of Coon Rapids, Minn.

GCSAA, an 8,800-member international professional and educational association, instituted the certification program in 1971 to recognize outstanding and progressive superintendents. More than 1,000 GCSAA members currently hold “CGCS” status.

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