

COMMUNICATION - Jack Baker, H. V. Carter Company, Inc.

Communication - Just possibly the most important word in the English language - just where would we be today without it? Communication is so important between individuals, organizations, families, employer to employee, etc. Just where does this apply in day-to-day operation of a golf course? That's what interests us most, right?

First, the Golf Course Superintendent who enjoys his job with his Golf Club must have a hot-line running between the Green Committee Chairman, Manager or whoever he answers to. The communication consists of a respectful and knowledgeable relationship between both parties so that there can be no misunderstanding of responsibilities. It has proven time and time again that the written word or authority when carefully spelled out with all its inferences, is the best line of communication and copies kept of all such important documents leaving no room for error or omission.

With our industry becoming so specialized it bears well for us to adopt the most businesslike procedures in carrying out our assignments and responsibilities so that we operate within proper areas of authority at all times. It follows that the same pattern of operations should be delegated to those individuals who are designated to carry out the subordinate roles in the many phases of today's golf course maintenance.

Just as our Golf Course Superintendents Association provides a sounding board for its members so should all of us continue to swap ideas and helpful information that will enable us to continue to do a better job and thus reach the top of our profession. Communication will grow in the exchange of information and suggestions that tend to create improved conditions for our courses and for upgrading our own status.

#####

Cliff Wagoner asked the following question and received a letter containing the answer from Dr. Victor A. Gibeault, Environmental Horticulturist "Turf and Landscape", University of California, Riverside

Is there research that substantiates night watering actually causes more disease than early morning watering?

"I responded by indicating that it is commonly suggested to irrigate in the early morning hours (5 a.m. to 7 a.m.) so as to reduce disease potential, however, I was unfamiliar with specific studies that supported this recommendation. After reviewing some literature I must respond that little research has been done and reported on this question. However, the following may be of assistance.

1. Excess moisture on the leaf surface, which is necessary for the development of certain diseases, is removed by morning solar radiation and increased daytime temperatures. An example of disease development under prolonged periods of moist leaves has been recorded with rust (Puccinia spp). (Madison and Hagan. 1962. Agronomy Journal 54: 157-160)