

GOOD READING -- How many superintendents subscribe to Grounds Maintenance It's free for the asking. There is much excellent information put out to turf managers in this monthly.

The other day I received a copy of a letter from the Musser International Turfgrass Foundation, concerning the Ataenius beetle. In the November issue of Grounds Maintenance there is quite an extensive article on this pest. It has been found in over 40 states and is still spreading. To date the most damage has been to Poa Annuua, Blue grass and Bents in that order. No satisfactory control has been developed. Many turf managers are treating the "look-alike" symptoms as disease and dry wilt, according to Dr. Fred Grau.

Between the letter from Dr. Fred Grau and reading the November issue of Grounds Maintenance, it will give you, the turf manager a better insite on how serious this problem could be. REL

Partial letter from Dr. Grau on Support for Ataenius beetle research "A recent visit with Larry Runyon at Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri, has convinced me that we must take the lead in developing more adequate support of the Ataenius beetle project. The way this pest is spreading tells us that many owners and managers of turfgrass areas face ruin. No satisfactory control has been developed. I know of one course that could experience a \$1 million loss.

We are contacting chemical firms hoping to find EPA-approved materials that may have promise. We need reports from every director so we can have "ammunition" (data) on the presence and damage due to Ataenius. Dr. Niemczyk needs more support. We've given him all we have available. and it isn't enough! Voluntary contributions are NOT the answer - so far. We will seek tax funds, too. SBA offers relief from drought - why not for turf ruined by Ataenius? End results are comparable to a degree but we know that the beetle will be here next year.

Scott Lamb, ACP, 1349 Capitol NE, Salem, Oregon 97303, is preparing to distribute streamers to alert owners, superintendents, and managers to the seriousness of the situation. Please send data and comments to me or to Scott, as soon as possible."

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Richard Eichner, Superintendent of Lakeside Golf Club of Hollywood has been appointed by GCSAA President Ted Woehrle to the Executive Committee of GCSAA. He will serve out the expired term of Director Hobart Burgan who resigned. Rich will serve until the annual meeting in St. Louis in 1980.

THRU THE GREEN EDITOR

Robert E. Livesey, CGCS
415 N. Akers Road Space 19
Visalia, CA 93277

Deadline Date Fifteenth of Each Month