## THRU THE GREEN

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## Guideline No. 7: It is often best to avoid using a standardized tree planting as vardage indicators. Problems arise in the future when one of the planting is lost or damaged.

For example, if palm trees are used on each hole to indicate a distance of 150 yards, it will be impossible to replace a dying palm with one of matching size. In addition, a tree planted to the edge of the fairway can severely penalize a golfer.

Guideline NO. 8: When selecting a tree, choose species that match the existing vegetation and have favorable characteristics. Cottonwoods and large fruit trees are not good candidates for golf courses because they are either strong surface rooter or require continuous maintenance.

addition, try to limit the number of different species as much as possible. A continuous vegetation scheme is often the trademark of many of America's highest-ranked courses. For example, the site of this year's US Open is Oak Hill CC in Rochester, NY. This particular course has a continuous theme of oak trees from the first tee through the 18th green. Courses that tend to plant a potpourri of tree species are usually unflatteringly refereed to as tree zoos or specimen parks.

Guideline No. 9: Try to naturalize the appearance of large tree planting by randomizing the distance between each tree. A good way to develop a randomized tree planting would be to hit several dozen golf b balls into a rough area from a distance of 200 yards. Then place a small flag where each ball

Profurf.

has landed and selectively remove one flag at a time until there are an appropriate number left.

Guideline No. 10: To prevent unnecessary neglect of newly planted trees, never plant more than the maintenance staff can adequately During the first year of maintain. establishment, small trees require extra attention and frequent hand-watering during the summer. If you must purchase trees in large numbers due to cost, it might be best to establish a tree nursery near the maintenance facility where they can be easily cared for. Then over the next several years, slowly spread them over the course.

Summary: Remember that a good treeplanting program on any course starts with a long-range plan. What makes a golf course different from a park or from your front yard is the presence of sensitive putting greens and the integrity of the fame.

The agronomic impact of misplaced trees is commonly seen in the form of shade, root competition and poor air circulation., Thoughtful tree planting should not only improve the appearance and play ability of your course, but more importantly, remove the thorn from your superintendents side.

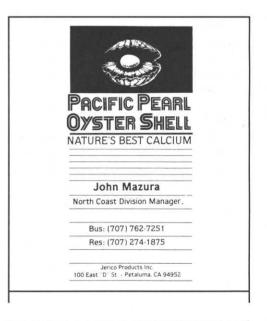
Article by Paul Vermuelen USGA, as seen in Divots August 1992.

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GARDEN, GOLF COURSE AND TURF EQUIPMENT

## ANNUAL **CHRISTMAS** PARTY

and Larry Lloyd Memorial Tournament will be held December 4 in the Monterey area. Tee off at Del Monte Golf Course and join your fellow superintendents at the Doubletree Hotel for dinner and dancing to "The Touch". Rooms are available at the Doubletree Hotel for \$59.00. Make reservations for dinner and golf with the GCSANC office and for room reservations call the Hotel directly at (408) 649-4511 and tell them you are with GCSANC.



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## SACRAMENTO, CA 95815

(916) 927-3824 FAX (916) 927-0635

FRESNO, CA 93722