

Spring Is In The Aeration

By: Mike Huck

Spring is here! The time of year when every golf course superintendent in the country is accused of fondly and maliciously performing the most sacred maintenance task of all - aeration of greens! Every golfer on earth knows that the only reason a superintendent will aerate greens is to completely screw up perfectly good putting surfaces, giving himself much joy while watching the golfer suffer.

A conversation that can be heard on any golf course:

Harry: "Hey George, that

superintendent guy was trying to tell me that there was some good reason for punching the greens. I don't understand, they just got them perfect and now they go tear them up again! Then to top it all off, they spread a ton of sand all over the darned things, to fill up all those little holes they just finished making!"

George: "Why do they have to do this anyway? What good can it do? Hey Harry, there's the superintendent over there by that broken down machine. Let's go ask him why they have to ruin the greens like this."

Superintendent thinking, "Oh

no, not these two guys again!"
Harry: "Hey buddy, how's it going?"

Superintendent: "Well I'm kind of busy right now, this darned aerator just blew up."

George: "We were wondering why it's necessary to punch all these holes in the greens? They were finally perfect, and now they'll be terrible for weeks!"

Superintendent: "Well the fact is that if we don't do this in the spring, we will have more problems later in the summer. Believe me, no one hates aerating greens more than my crew and I do, but it has to be done!"

Harry thinking: "Sure he hates aerating, I bet this guy has been planning this day for a year now. These guys live to aerate!"

Superintendent: "Do you think my crew and I enjoy putting in a ton of overtime to do this hot, dirty job? It's real important that we get this done in the spring."
Superintendent thinking: "I wish these two would leave me alone, I've got a lot of work to do!"

George: "Yes, but why is it so important? What would happen if we didn't aerate this spring?"

Superintendent thinking:

Continued on page 4

SUPPORTER LISTING

SCOTTS PROTURE

Fertilizers - Poly S and new Triaform technologies Herbicides, Fungicides, Seed, Soil, tissue, water and turf disease testing.

Chick Dal Pozzo, Sr. Tech. Rep 510-791-8985

CALCIUM

Pacific Pearl Oyster Shell -- the most efficient calcium for the turfcare professional. Available from your fertilizer dealer.


For technical assistance Call **John Mazura**

Jerico Products, Inc. 707-762-7251

RUSSELL D. MITCHELL & ASSOC., INC.

Providing quality irrigation design and consultation services including bid document development, hydraulic analysis, and field staking.

510-939-3985 510-932-5671 FAX

 If you wish to place your Ad in *Thru The Green* contact Barbara Mikel at the GCSANC Office. Phone: (916) 626-0931



**Contra Costa
Landscaping, Inc.**

27 Years - State License #263333

All Aspects of Golf Construction

Greens - Tees - Bunkers - Seeding - Hydroseeding

Lakes - Pump Stations - Drainage

Quality Work - Competitive Prices

Jim Duhig

(800) 498-7339

(510) 229-1060

FLOWTRONEX PSI
Pumping Systems

Industry Leaders in
Quality, Service
and Innovation

Wes Hall
619-747-1662

