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Membership Correction

In the last newsletter, Stan Burgess was incorrectly listed as Class A Inactive. Stan's correct classification is Class A Life. We apologize for the error.

West Coast Santa Cruz Hotel Superintendents Institute November 4 & 5, 2002

1-831-426-4330

Rate is \$111.00 (single, double etc.)
Please ask for GCSANC Group Rate

**Reservations must be made
by October 17, 2002**

Membership

By PJ Spellman III

Robert Clarke, Half Moon Bay Golf Links, B

Gary Churchill, Bolado Park G.C., Associate

Terry Carroll, IGM at Barbara Worth Resort,
Associate to A

Justin Brimley, Diablo C.C., Associate

Lou Tonelli & Lake Merced GC To Host Scholarship Tournament

By Ken Williams

The GCSANC is privileged to visit Lake Merced GC for its annual Scholarship Tournament on August 5th. Lake Merced GC was originally constructed in 1922 but has undergone many changes over the years. Guiding many of the changes has been the venerable Lou Tonelli, who has done a masterful job with the classic course.

Lou began his career at the California Golf Club in 1962. He came to Lake Merced in 1968, became the Assistant in 1970 and became the Superintendent in 1978. "Lou is a legend around here," states Bo Links, a popular member of the Board and Greens and Grounds Committee at Lake Merced. "To show how much respect we have for Lou, we allow Lou to set his maintenance schedule before we schedule a single event." "Lou's been a tremendous part of our club, and I don't know what we'd do without him," declares Links.

The course that we'll see for the Scholarship Tournament will be quite different from the original design. The course was remodeled in 1964 to make way for Interstate 280, losing 5 acres in the process. Robert Muir Graves did the remodeling job utilizing the existing tree corridors and incorporating a previously unused canyon for holes #4 and #5. The course was done in a popular theme at the time with saucer shaped greens and bunkers located well back of the putting surfaces.

In 1998, Rees Jones was hired to remodel the course into a more modern design. He and his construction crew re-did all 18 greens and tees, four fairways, and all the bunkers. In the process, Adrian Bertens and Hydro Engineering re-did the irrigation system. All of this was done in 88 days, all while never closing the course. The membership played on bentgrass temporary greens while the work was being completed.

The newly installed greens were planted to Penncross bentgrass that performed well the first year but began struggling in Daly City's cold, overcast, "summer" climate. So Lou began inter-seeding with Peterson Creeping Bluegrass to improve the greens overall health. Since reinstating the Poa, the greens



Host Superintendent - Lou Tonelli

have been immaculate. In fact, Lou is now overseeding with a little A-4 bentgrass just to work toward the optimum Poa/bent mix.

Lou has had to work hard maintaining the new design. The slopes surrounding the greens and bunkers are steep and must be hand mowed. Lou's crew utilizes a gauntlet of 22" commercial rotary mowers to accomplish this task. The greens are so tight; Lou often uses the circle mowing technique (yes, the "circle-jerk" technique he originated but made famous at the Olympic Club during US Open preparation) when mowing with a triplex. "I recently lost nine well trained employees when the INS came in and cross referenced their Social Security numbers." "I've had to triplex greens as a result," states Lou. "The problem is, we just have nowhere to turn the mower."

Even after all the changes, there is no rest for Lou. He is now working on plans for a new maintenance building to go down near the 11th hole. Ground breaking is scheduled for this January. Also on the horizon, Lou

has plans to install a million gallon storage tank and new pump station in preparation for the arrival of reclaimed water.

Lake Merced GC is host to approximately 21 outside Monday tournaments per year. Lou was nice enough to give up one of his maintenance days to host the GCSANC's Scholarship event. States Lou, "I've never been on the Board, but I always try and help the Association when I can." Lou is quick to credit Assistant Superintendent Bob Borti and Equipment Mechanic Mel Bacani for keeping the day-to-day operations flowing well at Lake Merced. Lou even has one of his daughters helping him out as his Administrative Assistant. In his spare time, Lou's passion is training hunting dogs and competes with them regularly. He has won a number of competitive meets with his dogs including the recent Western Regionals.

Lake Merced GC is going to be a great venue for the Scholarship Tournament. Hope everyone can come out to see Lou and the handiwork of his fine staff!



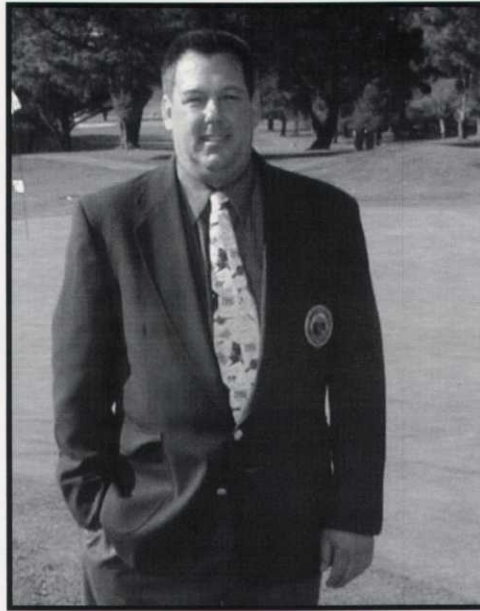
President's Message

By Jeff Shafer

"State of the Union"

On behalf of the GCSANC Board of Directors (BOD), I want to thank you for your support, encouragement and assistance this year. Every year holds new and exciting challenges. I congratulate all those who have lent a hand including the BOD and their committee members. Your dedicated work is appreciated.

As we move towards 2003 and beyond, our association must continue to operate as a "business." The way the GCSANC was run five, ten and many years ago has dramatically changed. We do not have the luxuries of country clubs being closed every Monday to offer our association large discounts. Most public facilities are working very hard for competing revenues and the days of ultra low fees are gone. The business landscape



Jeff Shafer

has changed everywhere and what we can afford is much more at the forefront. Just as all of you have experienced in your business, costs have continued to rise in areas such as

member services and administration. While we remain committed to delivering all of the tremendous programs and services generated in the past, we must also be fiscally responsible to ensure the future of our association. Every BOD meeting starts with the budget as the top priority and every discussion point thereafter eventually considers the economic impact it has on the association. We hope that every member feels that the services offered in 2002 have not diminished and that being a GCSANC member is beneficial to you and your facility. With the assistance from several members, the BOD is reviewing all areas of the association as it relates to costs and will continue to keep everyone informed of our efforts.

We look forward to serving each of you the remainder of the year and well into the future. I'd again like to express our gratitude to all those helping to support this wonderful association. Please do not hesitate to offer your comments on any association matter.

2nd Annual Assistant Superintendents Meeting

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!

Turf Star Marc Barrientos

Rainbird Tom Jackson

Southern Green - Soil Reliver Chad Waltman

Andersons Pro Turf Chuck Dalpozzo, Bob Miller

Floratine Products Group Brad Snavely

Farmload Distributors Mike Farmen

Special Thanks To

Cygnat and Paul Westcott, Applied Biochemists

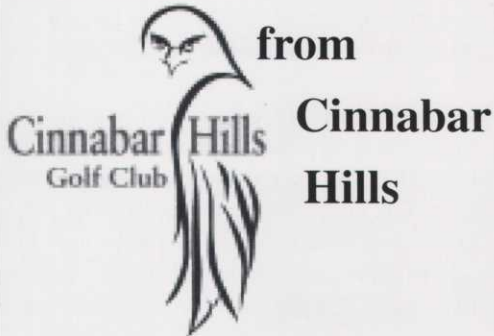
For The Educational Session On Pond Management



Jeremy Lehman and Bill Davis, III



Golf Results



1st Gross: 74 Mike Hill
 2nd Gross: 79 John Pina
 3rd Gross: 82 Dave Noel

1st Net: 67 Jeff Calhoun
 2nd Net: 68 Armando Sanchez
 3rd Net: 69 Craig Johnson

Closest to Pin: Ronnie Rogers 7'
 Closest to Pin: Keith Beamer 5'
 Longest Drive: Mike Ligon 300 plus



*Above: Cattail removal was discussed during the field session.
 Below: Bill Davis, III pointed out problematic plants at Cinnabar*



Westcott Addresses Assistant Superintendents

Paul Westcott of Applied Biochemists was the featured speaker at the GCSANC Assistant Superintendent meeting on July 22 at Cinnabar Hills GC. Westcott was presented in conjunction with Cygnet, an aquatic resource management company. Westcott gave a thorough presentation on lake management that included a field discussion. As part of the education, the group walked out to one of the ponds on the golf course and discussed the challenges with the greenside site.

A beautiful Bay Area day of golf followed the education. Participants got to challenge the spectacular John Harbottle III designed course.

Cinnabar Hills Assistant Supt. Bill Davis III organized the meeting with help from host Superintendent Jeremy Lehman. GCSANC Board member Mike Hill ran the check-in and golf portion of the event. This was the second year for the Assistant's meeting and all signs point toward continuation of this well attended event. /



Equal Opportunities

By Mike McCullough

There is a movement under foot that may shake the foundation of golf course management: women working on crews and serving in leadership positions.

As more and more superintendents struggle with hiring men for the open positions on their crews, the transition of having women fill those positions is becoming an increasingly viable option. Several superintendents in the area are utilizing women on their crews and have found the experience to be incredibly positive. Most superintendents have found the predominantly male crews making a smooth transition to having women on the crew much sooner than expected.

Rich Northcutt, superintendent at Stevinson Ranch, has five women working on his crew. When asked why they hire women, Northcutt said, "we increase the pool of applicants, which allows us to hire the best candidate for the position, regardless of gender. "If a woman is our best candidate, then that is who we are going to hire."

Northcutt noted that his crew has adapted well to the diverse makeup of the workforce. "Our maintenance facility is equipped with the appropriate facilities, both rest rooms and showers, so there aren't any problems logistically," he said. "We have a no-tolerance policy on harassment, which translates into a very professional atmosphere on the crew."

Dave Sexton, superintendent of the Meadow Club, is also no stranger to having women in the workforce. He currently has one female employee at his club and will soon have a female NCGA intern on board. Sexton likes the diversity the females bring to the workforce and believes having women on the crew changes the way people act. "The overall atmosphere has improved, no doubt about it," Sexton says. "Whether it is the behavior of crew members, the use of inappropriate language, or a cleaner shop and break room, the addition of women to the crew has rounded out the Meadow Club golf course maintenance family."

For all of the encouraging progress women have brought to the respective maintenance crews, there have been some proverbial bumps in the road. Northcutt has seen some apprehension in some women to learn how to operate equipment. "Most of the time they are not accustomed to the equipment and are a little tentative about learning how to operate the larger pieces of machinery," he says. Northcutt is quick to point out the women being more conscientious about the treatment of equipment and in how well they operate it. He proudly states that a woman on the crew is as good an equipment operator as any male employee he has on his crew.

Sexton has noted an area of concern with women on the crew - women in a supervisory capacity. On more than one occasion, male crew members have refused to take instruction from a female co-worker. This gender bias is not the only limiting factor for some of the crew members. Sexton noted that the individuals who showed animosity

towards the women were not the kind of workers that he wanted to keep around.

The worker stability issue is always one of the top concerns for superintendents, yet it hasn't been a concern for these superintendents that employ women. Both superintendents have been impressed by how long the women have been employed at their respective clubs. The longest current tenure by a woman at Stevinson Ranch is three years with several other ladies having multiple years of service as well. The Meadow Club boasts a female employee with 12 years of service. This kind of dedication should be the norm yet in today's ever-changing workplace it is sadly the exception.

When it comes to producing a high-quality product on a daily basis with a crew who has a great attitude and outstanding work ethic, superintendents will have to disregard traditional gender roles and occupations.



Jim Stark, Golf Course Superintendent at Ridgemark G&CC takes a moment out of his busy schedule for a photo with the entire winning team from the Northern California Women's Cup Match Play Championship. The top PGA lady club professionals gave Jim a big round of applause in appreciation for his dedicated work in providing the perfect venue for the 2002 Northern California Women's Cup Match Event.



Ted Horton Signs with Environmental Golf

Environmental Golf has announced a joint venture with Ted Horton, CGCS, of THC Consulting. Under the agreement, Ted Horton Consulting and Environmental Golf will share expertise on environmental stewardship, indigenous landscaping, and habitat protection at Pelican Hill and Oak Creek Golf Courses in California as well as strategic business planning and project support.

“As an environmental steward and recipient of many prestigious industry awards, Ted offers valuable counsel for timely and cost-effective golf course agronomic and environmental practices,” said Terry McGuire, director of business development. “His ability as a leader in horticulture and agronomic practices will provide our clients with an effective and powerful team of experts.”

In announcing the partnership, Ted Horton commented, “I am thrilled to align with Environmental Golf, a company that has specialized in maintaining many of the nation’s finest golf courses for more than 40 years. Together, we have formed a philosophy that will enable us to be leaders in environmental stewardship and agronomic excellence throughout our golf course maintenance and facility operations.”

Observations Around The Southwest

by Patrick Gross, Director
Southwest Region, USGA Green Section

July 9, 2002

Hot summer temperatures - Summer is here, with record high temperatures in many areas of the Southwest. Due to the lack of rainfall earlier in the year, many superintendents started their summer management programs in the spring to prevent diseases and stay ahead of soluble salt accumulation in the greens. So far, most courses have been doing quite well as a result of these programs. Careful water management should continue to be the focus of maintenance programs throughout the summer. There have been a few warnings of electricity shortages if high temperatures persist. Courses that have upgraded their irrigation pumping systems and conducted energy audits are reporting cost savings compared to last year.

Disease pressure - Most courses are doing quite well so far this summer, with very few disease problems observed at courses throughout the Southwest. Minor infestations of fairy ring and yellow patch were observed at a few courses in the past few weeks. Anthracnose and summer patch have not been a problem yet this year. Many superintendents implemented good programs earlier in the year for leaching greens and preventive disease control that has helped keep these diseases at bay.

Employment records - Several courses have been contacted by the Social Security Administration for an audit of employment records. Some of these courses have lost

golf course maintenance employees due to discrepancies in Social Security numbers and false employment documentation. Unfortunately, this has left several courses short-staffed during the busy summer season. A word to the wise - make sure your employment records are in order.

Fairway topdressing - Courses in Northern California have been applying sand topdressing to fairways for the past four years in an effort to improve fairway firmness during the winter and reduce the negative effects of earthworm activity. Unfortunately, many of these courses have little results to show for their efforts because they do not apply the sand heavy enough or often enough. It is important to accelerate topdressing applications during the first few years to get 1" of sand on the surface of the fairways as soon as possible to get any benefit from the program. Additional applications should be made in subsequent years to eventually build a 4" to 5" topdressing layer on the surface.

English daisy control - Pat Finlen, CGCS at the Olympic Club, and Josh Heersink at the Presidio Golf Course in San Francisco have had good results reducing English daisy infestations on fairways with spray applications of calcium nitrate fertilizer. The applications appear to desiccate the flowers and foliage of the weed while stimulating turf growth. The spray applications are made in the morning at approximately 1/8 to

1/4 lb. of nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. and allowed to dry on the foliage before irrigating later in the evening.

Use of effluent water expanding - Several courses in San Francisco, Southern California, and Las Vegas are preparing for the use of effluent water in the coming months. Courses should prepare for the use of effluent water by obtaining baseline soil tests and developing good programs for aeration and the possible use of soil amendments to insure good water percolation and drainage to help control soluble salts. While effluent water is well suited for turf irrigation, the biggest management problem appears to be controlling algae blooms and aquatic weeds in the storage ponds.

Quick Quote

A feature common to Muirfield is that the straight, bold stroke rarely if ever is in any way seriously punished. But the timid, the gutless, and the wayward rarely will escape retribution.”

—Pat Ward Thomas—



Turf-Type Tall Fescues for Northern California

*Ali Harivandi, Ph.D. and Bill Hagan, Ph.D.
University of California Cooperative Extension*

These results drive from a 4-year turf-type tall fescue variety trial conducted at the University of California Bay Area Research and Extension Center in Santa Clara. The study was financially supported by The Northern California Turf and Landscape Council, Golf Course Superintendent's Association of Northern California, and the University of California Cooperative Extension. The National Turfgrass Evaluations Program (NTEP) contributed both financial support and all grass seed.

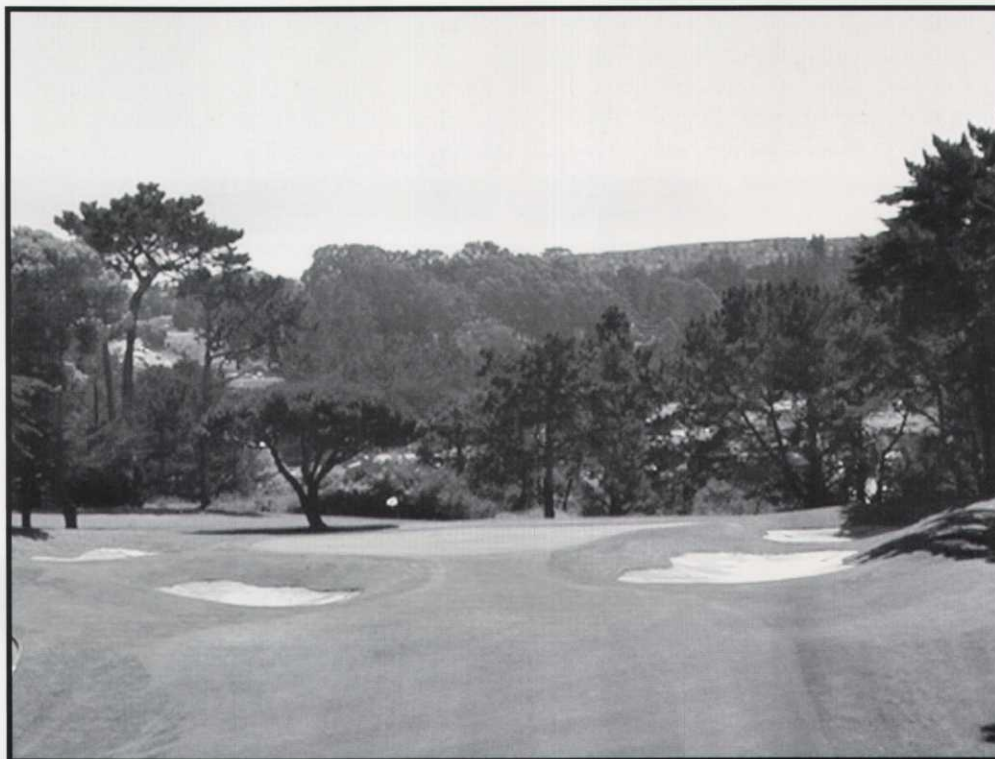
The 131 varieties were planted in October, 1996 and rated monthly from 1997 through 2000 for overall quality (turf score), as well as for individual quality components such as color, density, and texture. Seeding rate for all varieties was 9 lbs/1000 ft².

All plots were in full sun and mowed at 2 inches, with clippings returned, and were fertilized with 4 pounds of nitrogen per 1000 ft² per year. Annual fertilization consisted of 1-2 pounds of each of phosphorus and potassium. Irrigation was based on 80% reference ET (Evapotranspiration). No dethatching, or disease and insect control were practiced during the study. The premergent herbicide oxadiazon (Ronstar G) was applied each fall.

The accompanying Table gives combined 4-year final results. Turf scores are averages of the 48 monthly ratings based on a scale of 1-9, with 9 representing the superior variety in terms of overall quality. Varieties are ranked in the Table from highest score to lowest. To determine "statistically" significant differences between varieties, the LSD (Least Significant Difference) must be used by subtracting one variety's turf score from another variety's turf score. Statistical differences between 2 varieties occur when this value is larger than the LSD value provided at the bottom of the Table. For example, given a LSD value of 0.4 for this



Above: 16th hole at Lake Merced GC. Below: 17th hole at Lake Merced GC



trial, the top 62 varieties are "statistically" the same, although their turf score varies from 7.1-6.7.

Note: No part of this article and accompanying Table may be reproduced in any form without the author's permission. See Table on Page 9



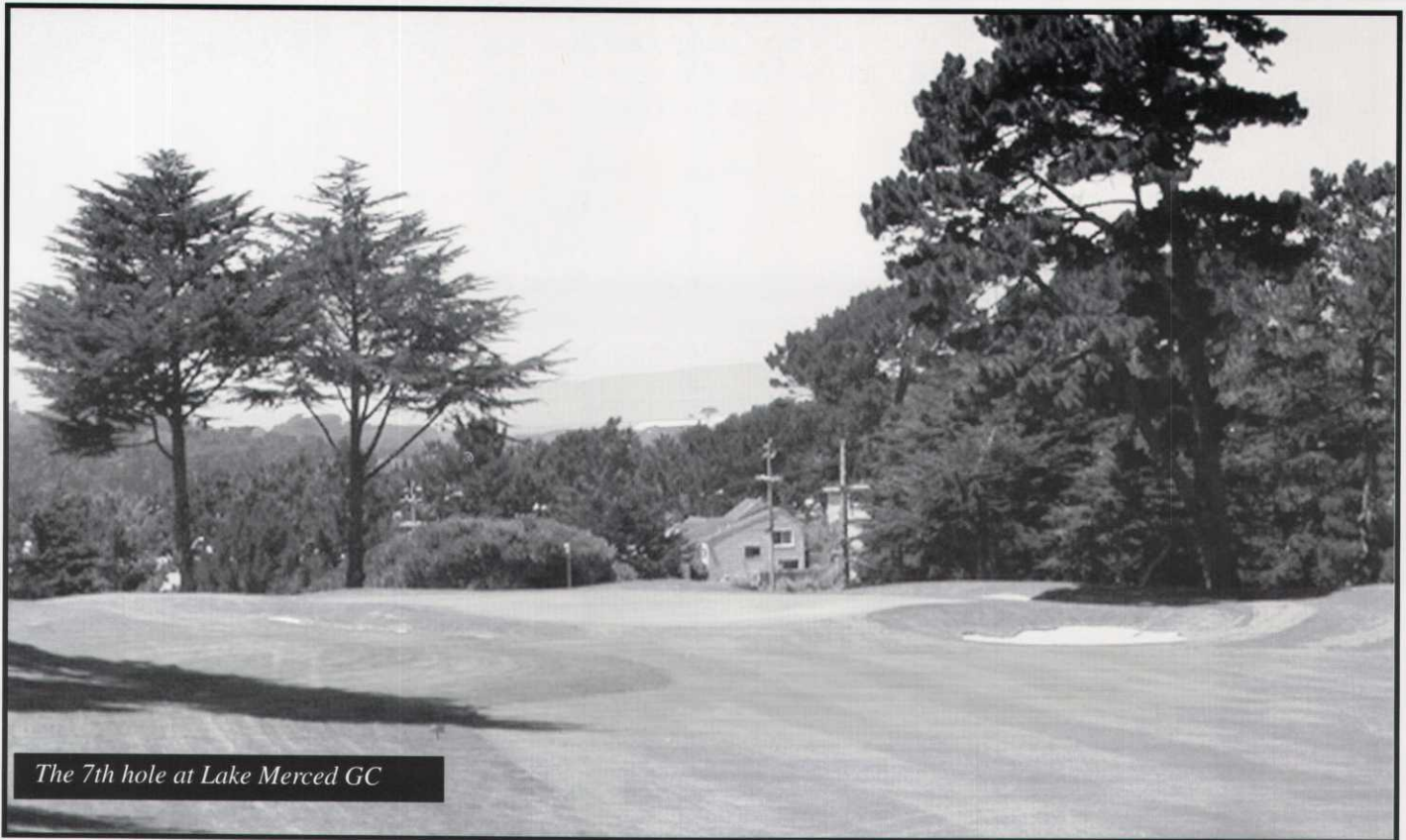
Mean Turfgrass Quality Ratings
(Turfscore) of Tall Fescue Varieties Grown
in Santa Clara, California (1997-2000)

Name	Turfscore	Name	Turfscore	Name	Turfscore
Plantation	7.1	Bravo	6.7	MB 214	6.5
Bandana	7.0	Bulldawg	6.7	Pro 8430	6.5
Bonsai 2000	7.0	Cochise II	6.7	Rebel 2000	6.5
Crossfire II	7.0	MA 25	6.7	Renegade	6.5
CU9502T	7.0	ISI-TF9	6.7	Reserve	6.5
Jaguar 3	7.0	Mustang II	6.7	Safari	6.5
Masterpiece	7.0	OF1-951	6.7	Tomahawk-E	6.5
Millennium	7.0	Pick FA 15-92	6.7	Falcon II	6.4
Shenandoah II	7.0	PST-5TO	6.7	Finelawn Petite	6.4
Tulsa	7.0	Regiment	6.7	Genesis	6.4
Anthem II	6.9	Shortstop II	6.7	Helix	6.4
Aztec II	6.9	Southern Choice	6.7	Leprechaun	6.4
Brandy	6.9	SR 8210	6.7	Lion	6.4
Empress	6.9	SRX 8084	6.7	MB 28	6.4
Gazelle	6.9	TF6	6.7	OFI 931	6.4
MB 212	6.9	Tracer	6.7	OFI-96-32	6.4
MB 26	6.9	Twilight II	6.7	Pedestal	6.4
Pick RT-95	6.9	Wolfpack	6.7	Axiom	6.3
Rembrandt	6.9	Airlie	6.6	Comstock	6.3
Scorpio	6.9	Alamo E	6.6	Onyx	6.3
BAR-FA 6LV	6.8	Arid II	6.6	ISI-TF10	6.3
Coronado	6.8	Arizona	6.6	JTTFC-96	6.3
Coyote	6.8	DP 50-9011	6.6	Kitty Hawk S.S.T.	6.3
CU9501T	6.8	Durana	6.6	PSII-TF-10	6.3
Finelawn 5LZ	6.8	Duster	6.6	PSII-TF-9	6.3
Olympic Gold	6.8	EA 41	6.6	Velocity	6.3
Oncue	6.8	Equinox	6.6	WVPB-1B	6.3
Pick FA 20-92	6.8	MB 213	6.6	Bonsai	6.2
Pick FA XK-95	6.8	MB 29	6.6	Chapel Hill	6.2
R5AU	6.8	OF1-96-31	6.6	Good-En	6.2
Rebel Sentry	6.8	OF1-FWY	6.6	JSC-1	6.2
Red Coat	6.8	Pick FA N-93	6.6	JTTF A-96	6.2
SRX 8500	6.8	Pick FA UT-93	6.6	Marksman	6.2
Tar Heel	6.8	Pixie E+	6.6	MB 215	6.2
Wildfire	6.8	Sunpro	6.6	MB 216	6.2
Wyatt	6.8	Watchdog	6.6	Shanandoah	6.2
Apache II	6.7	WX3-275	6.6	WPEZE	6.2
Arabia	6.7	ATF-020	6.5	Titan 2	6.1
Arid 3	6.7	ATF-022	6.5	DLF-1	5.9
ATF-253	6.7	BAR-FA6 US2U	6.5	Arid	5.5
ATF-257	6.7	Coronado Gold	6.5	DP 7952	5.5
BAR-FA 6D	6.7	Dominion	6.5	AV-1	5.3
Barrera	6.7	Glen Eagle	6.5	Kentucky 31 w/Endophyte	3.5
Barrington	6.7	ISI-TF11	6.5		

LSD Value*

0.4

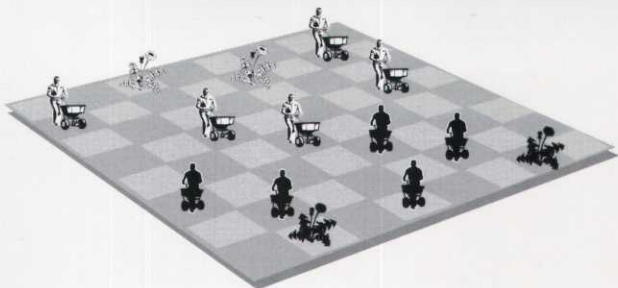
*LSD Value: To determine statistical differences between variety's, subtract one variety's mean from another variety's mean. Statistical differences between 2 varieties occur when this value is equal or lower than the LSD value (Least Significant Difference)



The 7th hole at Lake Merced GC

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	Size Guide Number (SGN)						
	100	125	150	175	215	240	
100	7.2	3.7	2.1	1.3	0.7	0.6	
125	9.0	4.6	2.7	1.7	0.9	0.7	
Pounds	150	10.8	5.5	3.2	2.0	1.1	0.8
Product	175	12.6	6.5	3.7	2.4	1.3	0.9
Per Acre	200	14.4	7.4	4.3	2.7	1.5	1.0
	225	16.2	8.3	5.0	3.0	1.6	1.2
	250	18.0	9.2	5.3	3.3	1.8	1.3

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Bob Miller
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