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WTT10
NGF arranges Forum on Golf

In an effort to identify golf's critical problems and fathom how to solve them, the National Golf Foundation has scheduled a "Forum of Golf" meeting for October 18-20, 1981, in Dallas.

The meeting will be the first step in a proposed restructuring of NGF, to make it a more aggressive force in stimulating new interest and participation in the game of golf. Deane Beman of the PGA Tour told the NGF Board of Directors at their annual meeting that the average age of an American golfer has increased to 42.5 years old, golf is perceived as slow and costly, and "television ratings have decreased considerably in the last five years." Beman, Joe Black (also of the PGA), LPGA's Ray Volpe and NGF's James Long are scheduled to speak at the meeting.

In other NGF news, the foundation has scheduled its 1981 NGF Golf Course Management Workshop for November 29-December 2 at the Pheasant Run Convention Resort Hotel just outside of Chicago. The theme of the seventh annual workshop is "Survival in the 80's." Scheduled speakers include: Dick Nugent, American Society of Golf Course Architects; Marshall Dann, Western Golfers Association; Mike Bavier, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America; and John Husar, Chicago Tribune golf columnist.

NGF has named Annette Thompson, formerly women's golf coach at Penn State University, director of education services. Harry Eckhoff has moved to director of golf facility, while Mark Boorman has become NGF's director of communications.

Builders enter second decade

The Golf Course Builders of America has embarked on its second decade. The association, headquartered at 725 15th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20005, was formed in 1970 as a national organization for companies that construct, renovate and rebuild golf courses.

Among its many membership services, GCBA publishes a yearbook directory that also lists other golf trade groups and includes articles on construction by leading golf course architects. The association exhibits at the Golf Course Superintendents Association convention where its also holds its annual seminar on golf course construction and problems.

In 1981 Frank Underwood, Bowie, TX, was elected for an unprecedented third term as president of GCBA. In other GCBA news, a sister organization, the British Association of Golf Course Constructors, has been formed. Located at 6 Fitzwalter Place, Chelmsford, Essex, England, it is comprised of contractors and supplier groups with the initial membership reaching 15.

Long Island superintendents choose Reilly

Ann Reilly, executive secretary of the New York State Turfgrass Association has been selected to be executive director of the Long Island Golf Course Superintendents Association. The decision was announced by LIGCSA President Edward Fufaro.

Reilly is also association manager for Mailorder Association of Nurserymen and florist groups in the Northeast. She is familiar with both turf and nursery specialists in the region and nationally.

Employee meal costs not taxable

A recent Supreme Court decision has ruled that FICA/FUCA taxes can not be taken on the cost of meals for employees. Many superintendents eat meals at their clubs so they can be reached in case of problems. This cost is not taxable according to the ruling. Lodging costs are also not taxable in certain circumstances. Refund claims can be filed for the years 1978 to the present. Contact the National Club Association for more information 1625 Eye St., NW, Washington, DC 20006 (202) 466-8424.

News from page 6

year," said Daryl Spikes, Southern Turf Nurseries, Tifton, GA. "One reason is that a lot of housing construction had already started (before the current interest rate crunch). I think housing sales will be even slower in 1982." Like some other sod producers, Southern Turf Nurseries is planning to work around the housing shortage. "We are going to intensify our marketing strategy," said Spikes. "We're going to try and get a bigger percentage of new housing business and work more closely with the contractors and landscapers." Spikes noted that even in tough times golf courses provide a steady flow of business.

According to Garey, the current sod sales slowdown might have some beneficial side effects. "Sod producers are going to have to increase their management efficiency if they are going to effectively compete," said Garey. "When the economy rebounds and sales pick up, those companies should be in better shape." Garey also noted that growers should be alert to pick up hints from companies that do well during the slowdown. "With sales holding up in the northeast, one of the reasons could be their aggressive sales techniques," he speculated. "They do a good job of promoting sod."

According to sod growers, the midwest has been hit by the housing slowdown and some areas of the south also report sluggish sales. The northeast and the west seem to be holding their own but many growers have resorted to price cutting for the first time. Sod producers in the Sunbelt and other growing metropolitan areas (e.g. Denver) reported strong sales.

With interest rates remaining high, some sod growers have turned to current home owners as a source of business, according to Garey. "When people can't afford to go into debt to buy a new home they will often spend the money to improve their current one," he said.

CHEMICAL

Houston plant fire wipes out '82 Dacthal

A fire in Diamond Shamrock's plant in Houston, Texas, in late July wiped out the 1982 supply of Dacthal preemergence herbicide for turf. Preemergence herbicides for turf have been in short supply for nearly three years. Losing a major product like Dacthal will send turf managers to suppliers now for 1982 supply. Some suppliers have a limited supply. Others report they will be short again in 1982. Refund claims can be filed for the years 1978 to the present. Contact the National Club Association for more information 1625 Eye St., NW, Washington, DC 20006 (202) 466-8424.
That’s because this low maintenance variety so often outperforms the biggest names in Kentucky Bluegrass.

The record shows that Merit is consistently rated high in turf quality and color as well as disease-resistance, including good resistance to leaf and dollar spot.

A variety that is praised for its excellent spring color, Merit also holds its own when subjected to minimum irrigation and fertilization.

Look at the record. In 1972 NE-57 trials, in a five-year New Jersey test, in a New York trial, at an eight-year Purdue study, a three-year Ohio trial and in a four-year Missouri test, Merit often outperformed such bluegrasses as Baron, Nugget, Fylking, Adelphi, Glade and Bonnieblue.

Merit... it’s a Kentucky Bluegrass worth looking into.
Interior landscape show set for St. Paul

The third annual meeting of the Interior Plantscape Association, October 28-30, will feature more than 30 speakers on 40 topics as well as the first certification examination for interior landscaping given by the National Council for Interior Horticultural Certification.

Basics will be covered as well as trends, including hydroculture, tissue culture, and gravel culture. Business aspects include starting the business, building it, adding computers, and scheduling routes. Speakers include Dr. Richard Lindquist on Insect Control, John Peterson, Dr. Charles Powell, Dr. Paul Reed, Dr. George Manaker, and Dr. Arnold Cusson. Business discussions will be led by leading interior landscapers.

Interested persons should contact IPA, 11800 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA 22091 (703) 476-8550.

NLA calls for landscape award entries

Entry forms for the 12th annual National Landscape Association residential landscape award program are now available from Ray Brush, NLA, 230 Southern Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20005. Deadline is November 2, 1981.

Awards will be given for the categories including single family residence, entrance, active use area, and passive use area. Entries will be judged on the basis of practicality of design, selection of plants and materials, execution of installation, and maintenance of the project. Awards will be presented during the management clinic, February 6, 1982, in Louisville, KY.

2nd lawn care show has workshop format

The second annual convention and trade show of the Professional Lawn Care Association of America will feature a workshop format November 18-20, 1981, at Louisville, Kentucky's Commonwealth Convention Center.

Last year the association surprised a number of critics with a healthy turnout of both delegates and exhibitors. This year, after planning for more exhibit space, the PLCAA exceeded its expectations. More than 1,000 lawn care businessmen are expected to attend the event. More than 700 attended in the show's first year.

Keynoting this year's convention is Gulf Oil Vice President Ralph Lewis who will speak on "Energy-Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow". Lawn care is highly dependent upon gasoline and fertilizer prices.

Workshop sessions, where panels discuss relevant topics and the audience is invited to participate, will feature personnel management, profit and loss analysis, office management, handling and disposal of pesticides, advertising, management stress, and the 24-D situation. Workshops will extend into the evenings on topics such as liquid and dry programs, insects and diseases, ornamental programs, employee fringes, and equipment.

Interested persons should contact PLCAA, 435 North Michigan Ave., Suite 1717, Chicago, IL 60611 (312) 644-0828. Registration is $90 for non-members and single rooms range in price from $40 to $50 per night.

ALCA winter show speakers selected

A construction labor lawyer, a political businessman, a financial consultant to the landscape industry, and a millionaire expert on interpersonal relations will address attendants at the 1982 annual meeting of the Association Landscape Contractors of America, January 24-29, at the Riviera Hotel in Palm Springs, CA.

A record number of exhibitors have reserved booths and space for outdoor demonstrations, an ALCA custom for exhibitors. Interested persons should contact ALCA, 1750 Old Meadow Rd., McLean, VA 22102.

The certification exam for interior landscaping will be given at the ALCA show as will educational sessions on the subject.

News from page 12

stock. Chances are the suppliers will be unable to provide either Dacthal or Betasan from Stauffer Chemical Co.

Other alternatives are Balan by Elanco, Tupersan by Du Pont, and Ronstar by Rhone-Poulenc. Cost, residual period, and percentage control are less attractive for these substitutes. Stauffer plans to raise the price of Betasan 10-15 percent to cover the cost of expanded production. Herb Day, manager of specialty products for Stauffer, said production for Betasan had already started when they heard of the fire and only limited expansion of production was possible.

Products containing Dacthal and Betasan will either be short or more expensive next year. Much of the production of these chemicals is for private label combinations with major distributors of fertilizers and chemicals.

CONVENTION

NAA Annual Meeting
Set for Maui, Feb. 14-18

The National Arborist Association (NAA) has planned its 1982 Annual Meeting for February 14-18 on the Island of Maui, Hawaii. The headquarters hotel will be the Maui Surf Resort on Kaanapali Beach.

"We expect a very good turnout," said Robert Felix, NAA executive vice president. "Over 150 members have already made their reservations and we think the final number will be nearly double that." Felix added that association members should plan to arrive Saturday, February 13, to overcome any jet lag that might result.

Hotel and air space will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis so the association advises that members make their reservations as soon as possible. The deadline for reservations is December 28.

TURF SEED

Otto Pick buys Ontario company

Otto Pick & Sons Seed Ltd. of Ontario, Canada, has purchased the forage and turf seed division of Maple Leaf Mills Ltd. The purchase includes administrative, processing and research facilities. Maple Leaf is the prime distributor of Fylking Kentucky bluegrass in Canada. Many of the Pick and Maple Leaf efforts will be reorganized and combined.
Contemporary favorite and exhibitionist's delight. Wide expanses show off well with artful contours of Fylking providing tasteful balance and form in mixtures. Find pleasing opportunities to flaunt your artistry with land sculptures of this Swedish heritage elite. Its full lush body would never betray how little care it requires and its lower cost. This and its resilience to heavy traffic and disease make Fylking truly art for the masses. Express yourself. Ask for Fylking Kentucky bluegrass at your local wholesale seed or sod distributor.
Four indicted for falsifying safety data

Four former employees of Industrial Bio-Test Laboratories, Inc., (IBT) were charged with giving EPA false safety data on two pesticide active ingredients from 1970 to 1977. The indictments specified fraudulent mice carcinogenicity tests on Sencor, a herbicide widely used on corn and soybeans, and Nemacur, a broad spectrum nematicide. EPA has asked the registrant, Chemogro Corporation, to repeat the false IBT studies.

During the early 1970s, IBT also conducted studies on another 200 pesticide active ingredients. Prominent on the list are chemicals such as acephate, atrazine, propoxur, pyrethrin, simazine, terrazole, toxaphene, captan, carbaryl, 2,4-D, DDVP, folpet, metasystox and parathox. EPA initiated a review of these tests in 1978 and in some cases manufacturers have supplied new safety data. The economic applications of summarily removing some of the chemicals from the market are so serious that EPA chose to take the review route.

Agriculture Canada is also looking at the IBT-tested pesticides and will likely adopt a review technique similar to the one used in the United States.

Minor use pesticide data given boost

The EPA has just awarded a $35,000 grant to the IR-4 Project for development of data for minor use pesticides. The project, initiated by the USDA in 1963, aids growers of minor crops by coordinating the activities of various state and federal agencies to secure labels and tolerances for minor uses of pesticides. To date, more than $6 million has been spent in this effort.

Four years ago, IR-4 expanded from only food crop projects to non-food products, such as annual and perennial floral crops, shrubs, trees, tropical foliage, and turfgrasses. Data from research generated through 1980 have made it possible to assemble registration packages for 1,760 ornamentals involving 19 insecticides, 15 fungicides, and 15 herbicides. From these 969 new label registrations were granted.

The IR-4 program has had a large impact on interior plant pest control. The Interior Plantscape Association has been a driving force behind these efforts.

The research and data are done in USDA laboratories, state agricultural experiment stations, and private locations utilizing a team approach.

Safety agency seeks chain saw standards

The Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) has begun developing a safety standard for chain saws aimed at reducing the risk of injury to users caused by kickback. In 1978, nearly 100,000 persons required medical attention after being injured while using chain saws. About one quarter of these injuries occurred when the saws kicked back. The CPSC estimates that the actual cost of kickback injuries in 1979, not including pain and suffering, was $24 million. There are nearly 18 million saws in use: 85 percent are gasoline powered and the remainder are electrically powered. Most (85 percent) of the injuries are caused by gasoline powered saws, especially those with a cubic inch displacement of less than 3.5.

The Commission has been working with the chain saw industry and the Chain Saw Manufacturing Association on a safety standard since 1977. It has now decided it would be more expeditious to develop the standard itself and hopes to have one completed by July 31, 1982.

The Commission is one of the independent Federal regulatory agencies targeted for extinction by the Reagan Administration. Congress has objected to such a move. The Commission may end up much smaller and in the U.S. Department of Commerce.
What do turfgrass experts say about Pennant* ryegrass?

The Turf Trial results speak for themselves. Pennant is a champion. Rigidly controlled, comparative testing involving Pennant and competing varieties of perennial ryegrasses were conducted by turf experts across a broad region of the U.S.—the Pacific Northwest, the Southwest, the Northeast.

Pennant topped many of its competitors in these tests, including overseeding and heat tolerance trials in the Southwest. Some of the expert’s findings are illustrated below.


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<td>PENNFIRE</td>
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<td>DIPLOMAT</td>
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Percent winter injury. Adelphia, N.J. March 1978. (10 of 26 varieties tested showed no significant injury.)

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At Adelphia, N.J., Pennant showed the best performance under low fertility and drought stress. We call it “The Trophy Turf”. We think you will, too.

For additional information regarding Pennant’s truly remarkable Turf Trial performance, contact: Agriculture Service Corporation, 5240 Gaffin Rd., Salem, OR 97301, Telephone: (503) 581-8899.
CONFUSION REIGNS OVER FEDERAL, INDUSTRY TURF EQUIPMENT REGS

By Thomas Paciello, equipment editor

Confusion over which safety standards commercial turf care equipment manufacturers should follow is the heart of a 10-year disagreement between the manufacturers and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

In 1971, OSHA adopted the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) B71.1 standard, "Safety specifications for power lawn mowers, lawn and garden tractors, and lawn tractors." However that standard was developed for consumer mowers and commercial equipment was excluded from its scope. This led to certain problems where non-consumer mowers were being used in an OSHA workplace.

Matters were further complicated since there have been several revisions to ANSI B71.1 after the 1968 version. These later revisions deleted the notice that the standard did not pertain to commercial equipment. While the federal OSHA adheres to the 1968 version, some state OSHA programs have adopted the later versions resulting in conflicts between state and federal OSHA requirements. (The latest version of B71.1, completed in 1980, excludes commercial equipment from its scope.)

In an effort to rectify this situation, the American National Standards Committee on Safety Standards for Lawn Mowers, Snow Throwers, Power Edgers and Trimmers, Garden Tractors, and Related Equipment and Attachments, B71, formulated American National Standard B71.4, "Safety specifications for commercial turf care equipment." The Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI) has sponsored the project since its inception in 1956.

The standard states, "The safety specifications in this standard apply to powered walk-behind, towed, and ride-on machines intended for marketing as commercial turf care equipment." In the appendix it is noted that the standard "was developed to provide a set of uniform voluntary requirements specifically addressing commercial turf equipment. In the past there has been confusion as to whether this equipment should be designed to conform to ANSI B71.1 or to agricultural or industrial equipment standards."

It would seem that the next logical step would be for OSHA to drop ANSI B71.1 and adopt B71.4. According to OSHA it is not that simple. The agency must first be petitioned to change the standard. It then checks to see if the reasons are worthy and if so, it goes through the "rulemaking" procedure. In rulemaking a proposal is developed, public hearings held and comments on whether the change is appropriate are gathered from all the parties with a vested interest.

"We're locked-in to the standard we have now and the only way we can get out of it is to go through rulemaking," said one OSHA official. "We can't arbitrarily say we are going to adopt this (B71.4) standard. We are bound by administrative law to go through the proper process."

Not all manufacturers are in complete agreement with OSHA's stand. "It's ridiculous for OSHA not to adopt the commercial turf care standard," said Gilbert Brown, Bunton, Inc., Louisville, KY. "In 1971 they adopted what was available (B71.1). Now that a more applicable standard is available they should adopt that." Brown was a member of the Engineering Specifications Subcommittee of B71 that developed B71.4.

The majority of manufacturers contacted by WTT noted that they were in favor of voluntary safety specifications. One of the main fears of federal regulation was that it would lead to increased manufacturing costs. (Commercial turf care equipment manufacturers who also make consumer equipment are still reeling from CPSC's decision to make deadman controls mandatory on consumer mowers.)

Noting CPSC's strict (and expensive) rules to protect the mower user, commercial equipment manufacturers believe that the operators of their equipment are more skilled. "Keep in mind that
USS Vertagreen Premium Fertilizers are formulated and marketed by USS Agri-Chemicals, a division of United States Steel, and continue to provide the most versatile product line for the turf care industry. USS Vertagreen Turf Products are supported by the most comprehensive manufacturing and distribution network in the U.S. For every turf fertilizer need, give us a call and we’ll prove, “Service is Always in Season!”

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the people who operate commercial equipment are more qualified and their age bracket is more manageable," said Don Broman, OMC-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE. "They are usually between 18 and 65 so you don't have to worry about the safety of children. There are no 12 year-olds running commercial mowers."

Howard Price, Howard Price Equipment Co., Chesterfield, MO, pointed out that increased federal regulation might cause a problem with the specifications of older machinery that was manufactured under another standard.

While most manufacturers downplayed the importance of federal regulations, they were in almost total agreement that industry standards are important. "From a liability standpoint, integrity standpoint and customer-relations standpoint, it is very important that we comply with all the standards that we can," said OMC-Lincoln's Ron Stolley. Howard Price added that "buyers want to know that we follow some type of official specifications."

The commercial turf care equipment industry has plans to make voluntary regulations even more enticing to the manufacturers. ANSI B71.4 is currently being revised to correct any sections that are open to multiple interpretations. When that is done (probably sometime in 1982, according to OPEI technical director Ed Mentz) OPEI will institute a safety seal program for companies that manufacture their equipment in accordance with the revised standard.

"We want a reasonable safety standard and still be able to cut grass," said Bunton's Brown. "A lot of time was put in (to B71.4) and I think it's a good start."

Ron Stolley
OMC Lincoln

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Models for 4-105 gpm now cost as little as $120 to $240, with even greater savings at flow rates up to 525 gpm. Steel units for up to 6200 gpm and energy-saving pump protection separators are also available.

Lakos Plastic Separators. Backed with over 15 years of experience as the solution to sand & grit problems. Details and the name of your nearest dealer are yours for the asking.
Turfgrass seed producers have reported to *Weeds Trees & Turf* that this year’s harvest was not as good as expected, but adequate to meet the demand of a market suffering from drought and a weak economy. Increased demand for cheaper, faster germinating perennial ryegrass has started to have a small effect on the consumer demand for Kentucky bluegrass, according to Bill Meyer, Turf Seed, Inc.

Sod producers, large buyers of improved turfgrass seed, have seen sales drop by 50 percent in some areas. A drop in both residential and commercial construction as well as drought conditions are blamed. Interest rates have also slowed home improvement.

The transition to improved grasses is starting to have an impact on the production of common turfgrasses. "Looks strange to see shortages of some of the common items, but it appears that acres were down this year and supply will be tight," said Larry Vetter, manager of Northrup King’s Professional Turf Products Division. Vetter observes also that annual ryegrass, perennial ryegrass and creeping red fescue appear to be a little short for the coming year.

Rain at harvest time and ergot hurt production in the Northwest to a degree.

Supplies of some of the newer Kentucky bluegrasses, (such as Enmundi, Columbia and Shasta) will not meet demand. These grasses may be less proficient seed producers, haven’t reached full production levels yet, or haven’t had the acreage devoted to them by seed growers to meet demand. These same limitations are experienced by brokers of some of the newer perennial ryegrasses and fescues.

**Shortages of common, annual and perennial ryegrasses, and red fescue appear possible this year.**

Although research has taken years, many new varieties have reached the market. The broader selection is met, however, with a depressed market. Relief from drought has arrived in many locations, but interest rates remain high. Economists see little relief for high interest rates this year since businesses may have learned to live with them instead of fighting them. For the same reason, high interest rates may become less of an obstruction.

### Turf Seed Harvest Report, Percentage of Anticipated Demand

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties</th>
<th>% forecasted</th>
<th>% harvested</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adelphi</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>America</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aquila</td>
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<tr>
<th>Fescue Varieties</th>
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<td>Agrams chewings</td>
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