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LANDSCAPE LOG

By Douglas Chapman, horticulturist, Dow Gardens, Midland, Michigan



Photo courtesy of the National Arborist Association.

During the next twelve months, this column is going to concentrate on timely maintenance practices as they relate to overall landscape maintenance and tree species. Although it will highlight one month prior, e.g. March activities in the February issue of **WEEDS, TREES, AND TURF**, it should be stressed that as one goes 100 miles south of central Michigan, the practices would move up five to seven days, and north, the converse.

Physiologically, there are two times to **prune deciduous trees**. The best time is from March through the commencement of growth. The second time is when we have active lateral meristem activity, or during August.

During these two periods the cambium, or lateral meristem, is more active and, therefore, the wound response (compartmentalization, or isolating the injury,) and the process of closure (callusing over) would be optimal.

Conversely, when the tree is in a rapid growth period (during early spring when terminal elongation is accomplished) would be least desirable to prune, and, therefore, the wound response would be poorest.

Most deciduous trees can be pruned but some trees are active bleeders. These so-called bleeders include Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*), Red Maple (*A. rubrum*), American Elm (*Ulmus americana*), and birch (*Betula* sp.). These should be pruned during August.

Size of the pruning cut also has a significant impact on the wound or the amount of time it takes to close over. Why, in English gardens, do we see trees one hundred to two hundred years of age but expect urban trees in this country to last only thirty-five to fifty-five years? Not only are the English concerned about the correct time of pruning, but they prune the trees actively every year or two. This, of course, means the wounds are smaller and have a decreased deleterious effect on the trees.

In this country, we often dream of five and six year pruning cycles but, in waiting this long, more damage can be done than corrective pruning.

All trees, when young, should be pruned annually for the first three years after transplanting. This devel-

ops a good structure and sets the pattern for its mature habit. At this point, we can be making smaller cuts, eliminating V-crotches, pruning of suckers, and removing rubbing or deformed branches.

Some trees require little pruning after this point. These trees include Scarlet Oak (*Quercus rubra*), White Oak (*Q. alba*), Maidenhair Tree (*Ginkgo biloba*), several low maintenance crabs, e.g. 'Snowdrift' (*Malus* 'Snowdrift') and floribunda (*M. floribunda*), Norway Maple (*A. platanoides*), Sugar Maple (*A. saccharum*), and Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*). Other trees, and these would include many other crab apple cultivars (*Malus*), Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*), Red Maple (*A. rubrum*), American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), European Beech (*F. sylvatica*), birch (*Betula* sp.), ash (*Fraxinus* sp.), and linden (*Tilia* sp.), require frequent pruning, and, if frequent but small cuts can be made, then heartwood rot or structural damage is not a major problem.

March is optimal time for **pruning of many shrubs**. Corrective pruning, annual thinning or containment, and renewal of shrubs that have become overgrown is best in March.

Generally speaking, many of our early spring flowering shrubs should be pruned annually. This pruning, depending on height desired, would range from 10 - 25%. More pruning would be appropriate when decreased height is desired. Annual pruning to renew the shrub should be at ground level and allow it to sucker. Shrubs pruned in this manner allow the plants to display their natural habit without turning them into a square, triangle, or sphere.

If flowers are important to you, then many flowering shrubs should be pruned just after flowering. If, due to the pressures of other tasks, this pruning can't be accomplished just after flowering, then any time during March and April is acceptable. A brief list of shrubs to be pruned in the spring includes Red Twig Dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), Deutzia (*Deutzia*), cinquefoil (*Potentilla fruticosa*) Yellow Twig Dogwood (*C. s. 'Flaviramea'*), forsythia (*Forsythia intermedia*), St. Johnswort (*Hypericum prolificum*), Mock-orange (*Philadelphus*), Flowering Almond (*Prunus triloba*), spirea (*Spiraea*), lilac (*Syringa vulgaris*), and weigela (*Weigela florida*). There are deciduous shrubs which can be pruned in very early spring without affecting

Continued on page 59

TABLE 1

March*

1. Prune deciduous trees, especially corrective pruning for those planted within the past three years.
2. Prune shrubs, for containment, thinning, correction and renewal.
3. Dormant oil spraying, for sucking insects when temperature is above 40 degrees.
4. Fertilizing trees and turf.

* Based on central Michigan, subtract or add 6 days for each 100 miles south or north, respectively.



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Colorado Springs • Gorbey, Inc.
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• Van Waters & Rogers
Greeley • Balcom Specialty Products
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• East Haven Wholesale
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EVENTS

The current issue of **WEEDS TREES & TURF** carries meeting dates beginning with the following month. To insure that your event is included, please forward it, 90 days in advance, to: **WEEDS TREES & TURF Events**, 7500 Old Oak Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44130.

Annual Meeting of the Fertilizer Institute, Atlanta Hyatt Regency, Atlanta, GA. **Feb. 13-15.** Contact the Fertilizer Institute, 1015 18th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

Capital Area Turf and Ornamental School, Holiday Inn, Grantville Exit, I-81, Grantville, PA. **Feb. 15-16.** Contact Harold E. Stewart, Dauphin County Extension Service, 75 S. Houck St., Suite 101, Harrisburg, PA 17109. (717) 652-8460.

American Sod Producers Association Mid-Winter Conference, San Antonio, TX. **Feb. 16-18.** Contact Bob Garey, Executive Director, ASPA, 9th and Minnesota, Hastings, NE 68901. (402) 473-4683.

Sixth Annual Landscape Industry Conference and Trade Show, Sheraton Inn Lakewood, Denver, CO. Feb. 18-19. Contact Associated Landscape Contractors of Colorado, 3895 Upham St., Suite 150, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033, (303) 425-4862.

Lawn Car Applicators Clinic, Morton Grove, IL. **Feb. 22-23.** Contact Tom Fermanian, 106-D Horticulture Field Lab, Urbana, IL 61801, (217) 333-7847.

Northeastern Pennsylvania Turf and Grounds Maintenance School, Luzerne County Community College Conference Center, Nanticoke, PA. **Feb. 22-23.** Contact E.V. Chadwick, Luzerne County Extension Service, Court House Annex, 5 Water St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702, (717) 825-1701.

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America International Turfgrass Show, Atlanta, GA. **Feb. 22-24.** Contact Kay Nelson, GCSAA, 1617 St. Andrews Dr., Lawrence, KS (913) 841-2240.

Ohio State University Landscape Design Short Course III, Fisher Auditorium, Wooster, OH. **Feb. 23-25.** Design Detailing. (Short Course II is prerequisite). Contact Fred K. Buscher, Area Extension Center, OARDC, Wooster, OH 44691, (216) 262-8176.

Midwest Turf Conference, Purdue University. **Feb. 28-March 2.** Contact Dr. Bill Daniel, Dept. of Agronomy, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, 47907. (317) 494-4785.

52nd Massachusetts Turfgrass Conference and 8th Industrial Show, Civic Center, Springfield, MA. **March 1-3.** Contact Dr. Joseph Troll, University of Massachusetts, Stockbridge Hall, Amherst, MA (413) 545-2353.

Horticulture Industries Conference, Earle Brown Continuing Education Center, University of Minnesota (St. Paul Campus), St. Paul, MN. **March 2-4.** Contact Office of Special Programs, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108, (612) 373-0725.

Associated Landscape Contractors of Massachusetts Exposition 1983, Glen Ellen Country Club, Millis, MA. **March 9-10.** Contact ALCM, 1357 Washington St., #7, West Newton, MA 02165 (617) 964-0452.

34th Annual Canadian Turfgrass Show, the Edmonton Inn, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. **March 13-16.** Contact Dean Morrison, Alberta Director CGSA, Willow Park Golf and Country Club, 639 Willow Park Dr. SE, Calgary, Alberta, T2J 0L6.

Club Managers Association of America Annual Conference, Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas, NV. **March 13-15.** Contact CMAA, 7615 Winterberry Place, Bethesda, MD 20817. (301) 229-3600.

Tree Wardens, Arborist, & Utilities Seminar, Quality Inn and Conference Center, Chicopee, MA. **March 15-17.** Contact Louis J. Casasanto, 81 Oak St., Clinton, MA 01510.

Maine Turf Conference, South Portland Merry Manor, Portland, ME. **March 16-17.** Contact Dr. Vaughn Holyoke, Deering Hall, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469. (207) 581-2111.

Reinders Brothers, Inc. Sixth Turf Conference Equipment Show and Service Clinic, Waukesha County Exposition Center, Waukesha, WI. **March 16-17.** Contact Ed Devinger, Manager, Turf Division, Reinders Brothers, Inc., 13400 Watertown Plank Rd., Elm Grove, WI 53122.

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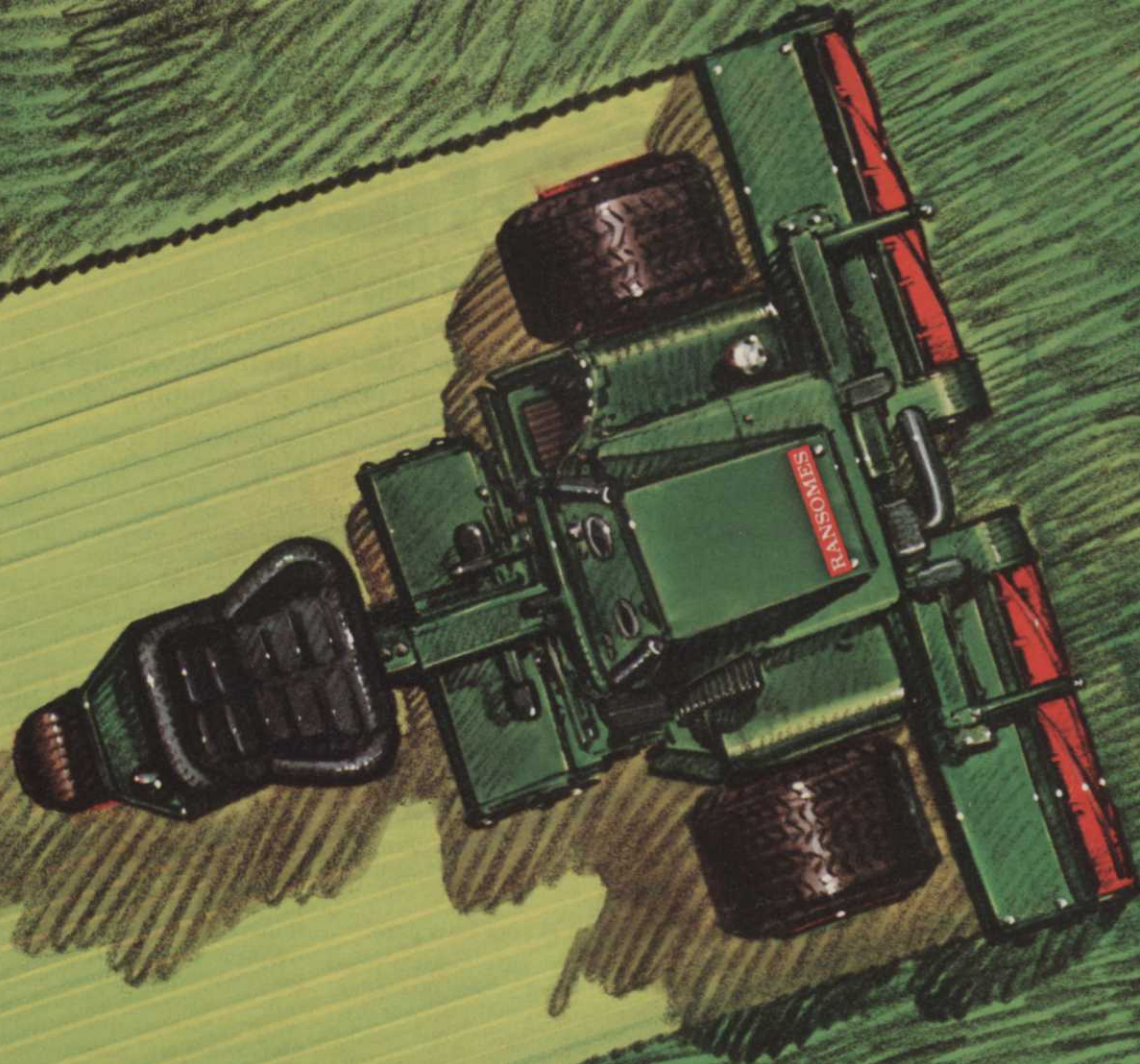
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What makes Speed Learning so successful?

The new *Speed Learning Program* does not offer you a rehash of the usual eye-exercises, timing devices, costly gadgets you've probably heard about in connection with speed reading courses or even tried and found ineffective.

In just a few spare minutes a day of easy reading and exciting listening, you discover an entirely new way to read and think — a radical departure from any-

thing you have ever seen or heard about. Research shows that reading is 95% *thinking* and only 5% eye movement. Yet most of today's speed reading programs spend their time teaching you rapid eye movement (5% of the problem) and ignore the most important part (95%) *thinking*. In brief, *Speed Learning* gives you what speed reading *can't*.

Imagine the new freedom you'll have when you learn how to dash through all types of reading material *at least twice* as fast as you do now, and with greater comprehension. Think of being able to get on top of the avalanche of newspapers, magazines and correspondence you have to read... finishing a stimulating book and retaining facts and details more clearly and with greater accuracy than ever before.

Listen-and-learn at your own pace

This is a practical, easy-to-learn program that will work for you — no matter how slow a reader you think you are now. The *Speed Learning Program* is scientifically planned to get you started quickly... to help you in spare minutes a day. It brings you a "teacher-on-cassettes" who guides you, instructs, encourages you, explaining material as you

read. Interesting items taken from *Time Magazine*, *Business Week*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Family Circle*, *N.Y. Times* and many others, make the program stimulating, easy and fun... and so much more effective.

Executives, students, professional people, men and women in all walks of life from 15 to 70 have benefited from this program. *Speed Learning* is a fully accredited course... costing only 1/5 the price of less effective speed reading classroom courses. Now you can examine the same, easy, practical and proven methods at home... in spare time... without risking a penny.

Examine Speed Learning FREE for 15 days

You will be thrilled at how quickly this program will begin to develop new thinking and reading skills. After listening to just one cassette and reading the preface you will quickly see how you can achieve increases in both the speed at which you read and in the amount you understand and remember.

You must be delighted with what you see or you pay nothing. Examine this remarkable program for 15 days. If, at the end of that time you are not convinced that you would like to master *Speed Learning*, simply return the program and owe nothing. See the coupon for low price and convenient credit terms.

Note: Many companies and government agencies have tuition assistance plans for employees providing full or partial payment for college credit programs.

In most cases, the entire cost of your *Speed Learning Program* is Tax Deductible.



COLLEGE CREDITS

You may obtain 2 full semester hour credits for course completion, wherever you reside. Credits offered through Whittier College (California). Details included in your program.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

National Management Association, the world's largest association of professional managers, awards 3.0 CEU's for course completion. CEU's can be applied toward the certificate in Management Studies.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Speed Learning is offered internationally to members of professional associations such as: American Chemical Society, Foundation for Accounting Education, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and dozens more. Consult your Education Director for information.

BUSINESS, INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENT

Many companies and government agencies offer *Speed Learning* as a wholly-paid or tuition reimbursement program. Consult your Training or Personnel Director for details.

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HBJ1-WTT-2/83

YES! Please rush me the materials checked below:

- ☐ Please send the *Speed Learning* program @ \$99.95 plus \$4 postage and handling.
- ☐ Please send the *Speed Learning Medical Edition* @ \$109.95 plus \$4 postage and handling.
- ☐ Please send the *Junior Speed Learning* program (ages 11 to 16) @ \$89.95 plus \$4 postage and handling.

Check method of payment below:

- ☐ Check or money order enclosed (payable to learn incorporated)
- ☐ Charge my credit card under the regular payment terms
 - ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ Interbank No. ☐ American Express

NJ residents add 5% sales tax.

I understand that if after 15 days I am not delighted in every way, that I may return the materials in their original condition for a full refund. No questions asked.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____

If you don't already own a cassette player, you may order this Deluxe Cassette Recorder for only \$49.95. (Includes handling and delivery.)

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WT&T PRODUCTS

Wheel Horse introduces new tractor, mower mount

Wheel Horse Products, Inc. has introduced the C-195 tractor and front mount mower carrier. Tractor features 19 hp twin cylinder Kohler engine, hy-



drostatic transmission and unidrive all gear transaxel. Various attachments are available. Carrier is designed to fit most C-series tractors and is said to maximize precision trimming and mowing of hard-to-get areas.

Circle No. 170 on Reader Inquiry Card

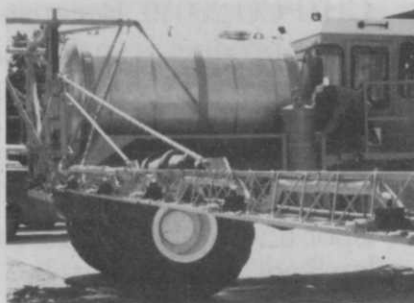
Snow throwers available for Hustlers

Two models of heavy-duty snow throwers for Excel Hustler turf Industries are PTO driven and hydraulically controlled. Rotary broom attachments for lightweight snow removal are available.

Circle No. 171 on Reader Inquiry Card

Air valve system available from Delavan

Delavan has available an air boom control valve system for custom applicators using high-volume, ground flotation sprayers. The system controls



nozzle drip and is adaptable to flotation sprayers equipped with air brake systems. Kits for the system come with one, 11, 12 or 13 valves, control box, air regulator, three-way valve, check

valve and nylon tubing. Add-on kits also available.

Circle No. 172 on Reader Inquiry Card

Townsend granted patent for chain saw design

Townsend Saw Chain Co. has been granted a U.S. patent for the Tri-Raker saw chain design that is said to be more effective in reducing kickback. The triple raker chain increases the facial area on the raker so it doesn't become buried in the wood.

Circle No. 173 on Reader Inquiry Card

Growing line of turf and ornamental products

BFC Chemicals, Inc. has added to its line of turf and ornamental products with Turcam insecticide for surface and sub-surface control of insects in turf and ornamentals, and with Pro-



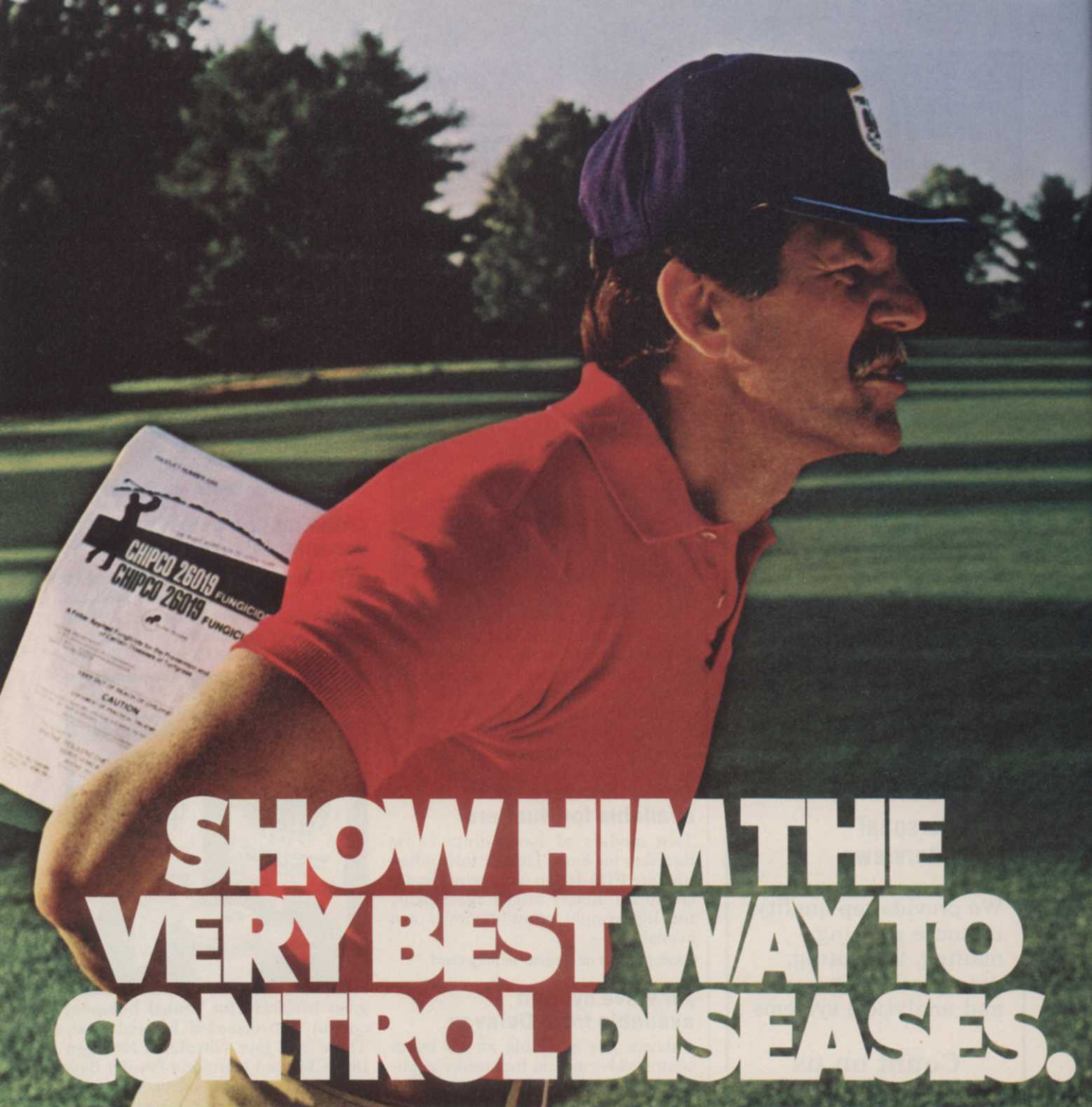
grass herbicide for annual bluegrass control in overseeded bermudagrass. These two join Nitroform Nitrogen Blue Chip and Nitroform Powder Blue controlled release nitrogen source fertilizers, and Deltic insecticide for outdoor control of fleas, ticks and mites.

Circle No. 174 on Reader Inquiry Card

Eliminates clogging and skating movements

The Green Machine weeder/cultivator from HMC employs a counter-balanced, dual-blade cutting action, reciprocating 1800 times per minute to assure the unit moves only in the intended direction. The spring steel blades are self-cleaning and replaceable. Weighing 9.5 lb, the unit is 51 in. long, 7½ in. wide, and features a 4¾

Continued on page 72



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