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On the cover:
Landscape managers help irrigate the nation, as depicted by artist Bob Novak of Cleveland

COVER STORY:
SMART WATER
By Terry McIver, As irrigation systems near perfection and water use is regulated, 'systems management' takes on greater importance.

42 A MONUMENT TO THE PAST
Freddie Wong is caretaker for a pleasant public course on the island of Kauai. He likes its pace and heritage.

44 INSECT CONTROL ON WOODY PLANTS
by D.G. Nielsen, Ph.D. and J.R. Baker, Ph.D. Insect control measures for woody plants can be quite involved. Here's a season-by-season strategy for battling the most common yet damaging pests.
44 Winter/spring
53 Summer/fall

60 THE DODGERS’ OTHER MANAGER
by Will Perry. If there are calamondins in centerfield, we must be in Dodgertown. Sure, Tommy Lasorda's here for spring training—but so is Carol Thomas.

72 WEATHERING A CHAMPIONSHIP
What do you do if a massive thunderstorm pummels your course in the middle of a PGA tournament? Hope Dick Schulz is on your side.

76 MONITORING MOWING
We have a fair idea of how many people in the green industry operate lawn mowers. But how many operate them carefully? Here’s a mowing safety quiz that will help you and your people determine how safety-conscious you are.

78 MENDING A WOUNDED BIRD
From tattered turf to tournament shape...it's been a long road, but Quail Hollow Resort is now a top-notch facility.

82 KEEPING THEM HAPPY
by Ed Wandtke. Keep your employees' morale high during peaks, valleys and trying times of the year using 'carrots,' motivation and psychology.
Dollar Spot first appears as yellow-green blotches on grass blades. Overall view of affected area shows patches from a few inches to several feet in diameter. Treat preventively at a rate of 1 oz/1,000 sq.ft. every 28 days.

Red Thread, in its latter stages, is distinguished by the presence of bright coral pink thread-like structures ½-1 inch in length. Use Banner preventively, before disease problems begin, with 2 oz every 14-21 days.

Summer Patch first appears as small patches of light green turf but can fade within hours to a light straw color. Research indicates best results are obtained with a preventive application of 4 oz when soil temperature reaches 60-70°F, followed by a second application 30 days later.

Anthracnose is most severe on Poa annua and first appears as irregular patches of yellowing turf which eventually turn bronze before fading to light tan. Prevent damage with 1-2 oz. of Banner every 14-28 days.

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For years, medical science has known that to achieve the most effective control, different diseases often require differing methods of prescriptive treatment. Yet only now, with Banner, are you finally able to gain the same sophistication in the prevention of diseases on turf. Because Banner is a truly unique systemic fungicide. With a broader spectrum of control and a more efficient method of treatment than any other yet devised. Instead of one indiscrim-
Powdery Mildew gets its name from the early stage growth of a gray-white powdery fungus on the leaf surface. In cases of high incidence, entire turf areas may appear dull white. Prevent fungus growth with 1-2 oz. every 14-28 days.

Spring Dead Spot appears as circular, straw-colored patches on Bermudagrass leaves just as they begin to green-up in spring. The rest of the plant is affected with black to brown dry rot. University research indicates preventive control can be obtained with 4 oz. applied in the fall.

Rust shows up first as light yellow flecks on the grass leaves. If left untreated, leaf surface will eventually rupture and yellow-orange or reddish-brown rustules develop. Preventive treatment calls for 1-2 oz. every 14-28 days.

Brown Patch is recognized by a "frog-eye" pattern formed by the diseased turf encircling green, unaffected plants. For prevention, apply 2-4 oz. every 10-21 days. If disease is already present, apply 2 oz. with a registered contact fungicide.

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Return of the drought?

Recent news item: "Combined storage levels in the three New York City reservoirs are at 48 percent of capacity. Normal storage at this date would be 83 percent. River flow at Trenton was only 25 percent of normal volume. The deficit rainfall for North Jersey is 11 inches. The deficit for South Jersey is 9 inches."

This is not good news, folks.

There will be a watering ban for most of metropolitan New York City, says Brooklyn extension agent John Amoroso. "I doubt if it'll be lifted until next winter," he says. "We've had a dry winter. Usually, we get a spring thaw and the snow comes down as water. But there's no snow up there."

Though the lawns are small in Brooklyn, the Queens and the Bronx, the cumulative effect of watering them would be felt. "We recommend one inch of water every three days," Amoroso continues. "Do you know how much water that takes, even for a 10-by-10 lawn? A lot."

The only exception to the New York watering ban is for vegetable gardens, and homeowners must use a watering can; no hoses.

Up north in Nassau County, where extension agent Maria Cinque does business, they've worked an odd-even watering system the last two years, with no watering from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nassau County, unlike New York City, draws its water from groundwater.

Cinque says that, last summer, it was common for neighbors to report people watering in pesticides on the wrong day to the police.

Some landscaping companies in the City have found a solution, Amoroso notes. "A lot of guys have wells and they carry their own water," he says.

Amoroso developed a list of recommendations he gives landscapers and homeowners. He wrote them in 1986 when the exact situation arose. Among the points: add organic matter to soil; use mulches; provide windbreaks; and plant drought-resistant annuals.

Bottom line: what do bans like this mean to companies applying pesticides?

"They obviously have to be more careful about scheduling days when they're putting down materials that have to be watered in," Cinque claims.
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ASSOCIATIONS

Green industry’s shakers team up for new coalition

CHICAGO — To insure that their collective voice will be heard, nine green industry trade associations teamed up here Feb. 22-23. Ed Davis, president of the American Sod Producers Association (ASPA), served as acting chairman.

Task forces were established to determine the organizational framework and a potential name. Other interim projects approved were:

- evaluation of an industry-wide economic survey;
- developing an improved information exchange on legislative and regulatory matters;
- coordination of programs directed to environmental improvement and overall public perceptions and policies.

“This had been attempted a couple years ago, but very little was accomplished," notes Doug Fender, executive director of the ASPA. “Last time we all saw each other, five or six of us said, ‘let’s try it again but this time let’s focus it.’

“The result was an extremely positive meeting. We all feel that a proper path to the future has been set.”

The group also agreed to begin an inventory of existing educational programs and to exchange future meeting dates. To improve communications, the groups also agreed to extend special annual meeting invitations to the leaders of the other groups and consider providing complimentary exhibit booth spaces.

“Each of the nine organizations volunteered to take on some aspects of the future of this group,” says Fender.


Green industry summit participants who met in Chicago recently: (Seated, from left) Ron Kujawa, ALCA; Robert Skiera, ISA; Bob Felix, NAA; Brian Kubota, ASLA; Russell Studebaker, PGMS; (Standing, from left) David Bohardt, ASLA; William Kruidenier, ISA; R.C. Sears, IA; Randy Tischer, ASPA; Jeff Bourne, PGMS; Terry Peters, ALCA; Jim Brooks, PLCAA; Bob Parmley, PLCAA; Ed Davis, ASPA; Doug Fender, ASPA; Dr. Eliot Roberts, LI; Dick Hunder, IA; and Frank Harder, NAA.

Next month:

- Cool-season disease control by Dr. Bill Shane of Ohio State University
- Warm-season disease control by Dr. Don Blasingame of North Carolina