

THE BULL SHEET, official publication of THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

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The President's Message

Now that most of us have returned from our safari to the deep south, we are ready for work or giving thoughts to attending the last few events remaining before we do. The one remaining event I would like to call your attention to is the World Flower Show, March 21-30. Although the title doesn't seem to have any bearing on turf, those of us who have attended this spectacular grandeur before know how much turf is represented. I am speaking of course, of the University of Illinois and Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, Turfgrass Information Booth. I spoke to Dr. Jack Butler at the National in Miami and he expressed his hopes that the Midwest members would again assist his staff as they have in years past. "Pistol Pete" Vandercook will again handle the scheduling of the volunteers. So, if he asks for a few hours of our time, let's cooperate. He's a great guy and it will help us too.

Unfortunately I didn't get a message to the editor in time last month, but I was happy to see his reminder and program of the Midwest Regional Turf Conference at Purdue in the February issue.

It was so good to see so many of our Midwest members at the National Conference. It was with deep personal satisfaction to see one of our non-resident members elevated in the ranks and another elected to the National Board. Both were active members in our association when in this area, and I'm sure there isn't any question as to their ability and qualification. I know both will be passionate in their beliefs and feelings, but also respectful and considerate of their fellow members' viewpoints. Again, I was very pleased with the results and also in the fine and orderly manner the election chairman handled the election.

After many years of attending National Conferences, this was the first Conference I was actively involved with duties representing the Midwest. I believe every member should at some time invite and accept this obligation, and fully realize and understand the efforts and hard work these National officers and directors are subjected to. I am sure we would all be just a little more tolerant and less apt to criticize.



L. to R. John West, John Jackman, Oliver Miles, Julius Albaugh and Ted Sokolis. Committee members not shown are Ken Quandt, Mike Bavier and Dick Trevarthan.

Above are members of the MAGCS Education committee. These men are ready to listen to all ideas that you may have concerning education of our members.

Ray Gerber, Superintendent at Glen Oak Country Club, has never missed a MAGCS Meeting since coming to Chicago 31 years ago.

I have always come away from these conferences I felt, a better person. Whether I valued the educational meetings to the fullest or not, I felt the personal contact with your fellow superintendent from border to border and coast to coast was priceless. I have sat in rooms of informal meetings between superintendents, and discussed better methods of growing grass and maintenance than came out of the educational sessions. And this is good.

On my way back I made several stops and visited with friends and golfing associates. I saw many fine golf courses and was impressed with the fine grooming on some of them. Once I left sunny Florida I was anxious to get home. My haste was so great that I didn't inspect the roadside turf in Alabama as well as they thought I should have, and for a few anxious moments it looked as though I might be cutting the court house lawns in 1969.

All in all it was a wonderful, hectic, and informative 2 weeks and I'm ready for the challenge of 1969. I hope each and everyone of you also are relaxed and ready to battle the elements for the coming year. I know it has been a season of many conferences, clinics, symposiums, shows, etc., but if possible, commit yourself to a few hours at the Flower Show if you are asked to. It will definitely be back to work after that.

Ed Wollenberg, President

THE THIRD ANNUAL GOLF TURF SYMPOSIUM

As Reviewed by John West
Superintendent — Bonnie Brook C. C.

The third annual Golf Turf Symposium, sponsored by the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents and the Milwaukee Sewage Commission, was held to discuss the problem of **Poa annua**.

Dr. Engel of Rutgers University described **Poa annua** as a blue grass with large white ligules and roots growing from nodes rather than rhizomes.

Where can **Poa annua** be found? Dr. Engel feels that it grows in any cool, moist climate where the vegetation is closely cropped and high levels of nitrogen and phosphate are present.

Increased infestations of **Poa annua** are caused by excessive watering or drought, compaction, increased phenoxy herbicide use, high nitrogen and phosphate, close mowing, and renovation at the wrong time.

Control of **Poa annua** can be achieved through management by having a dense turf cover, judicious use of fertilizer, avoiding disease, spreading traffic, and watering only when necessary. Chemical control at Rutgers has been achieved by the use of Sodium arsenate at $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 pound per acre endothall in two or three applications of $\frac{1}{2}$ pound per acre, and calcium arsenate at five to fifteen pounds per thousand applied in the spray prior to seed germination. He warned that all chemical controls should be used with caution to prevent loss of desirable turf.

Dr. Sortoretto of the Cleary Corporation had the problem of telling us how to live with **Poa annua**.

His four steps to care were to hold the spread of **Poa annua** to under 100 percent; to have a good feeding program which included magnesium, iron, and potas applied weekly to greens and monthly to fairways; a preventive disease program; and a wilt control agent to close stomatal opening and reduce transpiration.

Mr. Anderson, Superintendent of Brae Buhn Country Club, explained his use of lead arsenate since 1936 and his **Poa annua** control with 600 pounds per acre applied over a five year period.

Mr. Riley, Superintendent Manufacturers Club, explained his use of granular calcium arsenate at the rate of ten pounds per thousand the first year and $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 pounds per thousand each succeeding year with good **Poa annua** control.

Mr. Small, Mallinkrodt Chemical Works, explained the use of Pre-San on turf to control **Poa annua** in new sod and in older turf with spring and fall applications of material.

Mr. Moore, Superintendent Woodway Country Club, told of his use of sodium arsenate to kill all fairway turf and then the reseeding program for desirable sod. He showed slides of cultured practices used by superintendents to maintain good turf.

Mr. Kerr, Chipman Chemical Company, put a note of caution in the use of arsenates. He suggested only good quality granular calcium arsenate be used. Low rates of about four pounds of granular per thousand be applied spring and fall until toxicity is reached to prevent damage.

Mr. Small explained the Pre-San to be effective must be watered in and used after aeration or thatching. Pre San's inhibiting effect can be overcome by the use of 5 to 7 pounds of activated charcoal per thousand or $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of peat in contact with the material.

Mr. Frank, Elcano Products, showed where Bolan at 2 pounds active per acre reduced **Poa annua** when applied in late August with only slight discoloration to turf. Late August applications were more effective than when the material was applied later.

Dr. Daniel, Purdue University, showed where **Poa annua** fails the better grasses have to take over, so before starting any program of control you should have a good public relations campaign for the membership, get enough money in your budget to do the job, start a turf improvement program, and then select the chemical to be used for **Poa annua** control.

Dr. Engel stated that there is no sure control of **Poa annua** and pre-emergence chemicals sometimes show poor results, because of the perennial nature of some plants. He showed some slides of the Hyperoids which destroys **Poa annua** selectively and some work being done on its control.

Mr. Holmes, Mid-continent Director USGA Green Section, summarized the meeting and closed the meeting in good order.

HOW YOU CAN IMPROVE PUBLIC RELATIONS AT YOUR CLUB

Come to the MAGCS Meeting March 13, at Cherry Hills Country Club. Mr. Charles Vance of the Buchen Public Relations Firm, which has done work for the GCSAA, will be our featured speaker.