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

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BRIARWOOD'S MEXICAN OPEN



Adolph Bertucci presenting Martin Arrendondo, winner of Briarwood's Mexican Open, Oct. 18. The burly, mad looking guy on the right is Arturo Cordova (last year's champ) who lost in a three man sudden death 2 hole playoff. The third guy, Modeito Sanchez, not in the picture, and the two in the picture came in with 51 (we only play 9 holes). The guy with the hat is not mexican, but is a good friend of theirs.

Paul Voykin

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HOW TO MEASURE THE WATER CONTENT OF RAIN AND SNOW

Water from rain and snow play an important part in recharging our ground water supplies. The following was prepared by the U.S. Geological Survey, Dept. of Interior, to answer the most frequently asked questions about water equivalent of both rain and snow.

RAIN: One inch of rain over an acre (43560 square feet) amounts to 27,154 gallons of water. What happens to this water depends on several factors, amongst them: topography, rate of rainfall, soil condition, humidity, vegetation density, extent of urbanization, etc. Of the total amount of water, USGS estimates that about 25% would run off immediately, about 15% would evaporate, about 40% would be taken up by surface soils and the other 20% would finally filter down into the aquifers. These figures of course can vary greatly, for example, the direct runoff would be excessive in a highly urbanized area because of the density of pavements and roads and other impervious areas.

SNOW: An inch of snow falling evenly on one acre of ground is equivalent to about 2,700 gallons of water, say USGS hydrologists. This figure, however, is based on a rule of thumb that 10 inches of snow is equal to one inch of water and this figure can vary greatly depending upon whether it is heavy wet snow or powdery dry snow. Wet snow has a very high water content, four or five inches of this type of snow contains about one inch of water. The dry powdery snow may require 15, or more, inches to equal one inch of water. Thus, an inch of very wet snow over an acre might amount to more than 5,300 gallons of water while an inch of powdery snow might yield only about 1,300 gallons of water. Not all snow is converted to liquid either, some of it "sublimates", going from a solid directly into a vapor thus skipping the liquid state.

MEASURING SNOW: The do-it-yourselfer can measure the water content of snow. Collect a sample in a straight sided container having one end open. Don't spoon or pack the sample into the container, rather press the container into the snow filling it to its full length. After the snow is melted, measure the depth of the liquid and compare this to the depth of the snow originally in the container. By measuring the total snow-fall and applying the ratio of water content, the total water content of the snowfall in a limited area can be estimated.

C. E. (Scotty) Stewart