



Speaker - Bruce Sering, Clinic

A STRICTLY PERSONAL REMINISCENCE OF THE 29TH ANNUAL MIDWEST TURF CLINIC

Bruce A. Sering
Superintendent of Grounds
Glen View Club

Beautiful spring-like day — Don Pakkala, Superintendent of Medinah sure does have the Oak leaves cleaned up on the main drive. Wonder how the back nine looks? Nice assemblage of superintendents today — must be at least 200 and all getting younger looking. Pete Leuzinger and his committee certainly did work hard on this clinic.

Water — Dr. Joseph Rosillon —
Fresh Water Foundation:

What I learned about water: (1) If we have a stable environment, no problem with water, but the availability of water has changed and changed dramatically in the last 100 years. Key word — availability; (2) Water supply is limited, the same water we had thousands of years ago is the same water we have today; (3) There is not an unlimited supply of water and the vast majority of water is salt water. Only one percent of our water is fresh, and of that one percent, three tenths is available. The quality of this available water has altered because of pollution; (4) The rules have changed on who gets this convenient potable water. We, the golf courses, are not even on the list for who gets what water; (5) The water is under my land, it runs through my property, so it's mine. The attitude that "it's my water" is not viable anymore. We are now beginning to realize that there is no such thing as private water. We are going to have to re-evaluate the whole question of riparian rights, prior rights, licensing and everything; (6) How does a golf course get water? By making yourself important, through information, education and incentive; (7) Use recycled water from ponds, use effluent water, and have good controls on the water you do use.

I enjoyed Dr. Rosillon's talk and, of course, there was much more to it, but these were the points that stuck in my mind. His discussion also brought home to me how the Chicago area superintendents, C.D.G.A., and Midwest universities have been working on using recycled and effluent water. Most courses in the Chicago area have dug ponds in the past 20 years to collect run-off water for irrigation. The University of Illinois, with much financial aid from the C.D.G.A. and cooperation from superintendents, is hard at work and has been for a number of years pursuing the uses of effluent water. Every superintendent in the area is optimizing the use of water by cultural and mechanical means, i.e., automatic water systems, aerification, use of wetting agents, etc.

Coping with Adversity - Carl Landgrebe, C.G.C.S. -
Hinsdale Golf Club

Doom - Disasters - Adversity - Dead Grass - Floods - etc. Carl told us to keep everything in perspective. Have a positive attitude at all times even when things are looking their bleakest. That, after all is said and done, how we visualize ourselves is what matters. He gave us examples as to how he turned adversity to his own advantage. One of these was the storm water management project that cut through the golf course.

Fertilizer Evaluation - James D. Mello - Nice 'n' Green
Plant Foods, Inc.

Jim gave us an excellent recapitulation on good nutrient management and how important the timing of applications are. I must admit to the fact that when I see slides on the relative merits of one fertilizer being better and less expensive than some other, my mind commences to wander. The eyes just seem to glaze over. I'm sure fluff has its place in our industry, but liquid applications have never seemed efficient, or a cost effective way to fertilize, not to mention uniform coverage. This conclusion was arrived at after many years on the working end of the nozzle and an observation of the results. Please, dear friends, save your 20 cent phone call telling me that it's the operator's fault the coverage was poor. Remember, I stated this is a personal reminiscence of the turf clinic.

Ataenius and Bag of Worms - Dr. Roscoe Randall -
University of Illinois

Superb dissertation on the various bag of worms that inflict damage to our golf courses. The paramount point of Dr. Randall's talk to me was his phone number - 217/333-6650. I know if there are any insect problems I cannot come to grips with, there is Dr. Randall just a phone call away ready and willing to help. Besides the recapitulation of uses of various insecticides, I learned about the menace that's attacking honeysuckle. An aphid is killing the honeysuckle. This little juice-sucker is going undetected because of its habit of folding the leaf over itself and the only research on it is printed in Russian.

I.T.F. and Research - Dr. Tom Fermanian -
University of Illinois

Join the Illinois Turfgrass Foundatin and help the University of Illinois help us. Without our support, our assistance, and our money, the research at the university cannot continue or improve. Dr. Fermanian showed us how they use computers on research projects and the utilization of data bases.

C-15 Syndrome

Dudley Smith - Silver Lake Country Club;
Dr. Dave Wehner - University of Illinois;
Dave Roberts - Michigan State University;
Pete Leuzinger - St. Charles Country Club

There was so much information in this panel discussion on the C-15 problem, it alone could have been the turf clinic. These fine men have toiled long and hard with C-15 decline and they deserve our gratitude for their efforts. It boggles the mind to think of the many long hours Pete and Dudley spent trying to save their greens. The dedication to the greenskeepers art. The unselfishness. The professionalism. It makes me proud to bask in the reflected glory of their devotion to our occupation. I'm gratified by the knowledge that we have research people like Dave Roberts and Dr. Wehner working on our problems. A real educational experience was lost for those of you who missed this particular segment of the program.

Lawn Diseases - Mr. Ed Solon - Chemlawn Corporation
Powdery Mildew - Leaf Rust - Fusarium Blight -
Dollarspot - Helminthosporium (leaf spot) - Brown
Patch - Smut - Red Thread - Grey and Pink Snow Molds
- Pythium — Reviews of turf diseases are always in
order. Ed gave us a good overall look at how these
diseases affect a home lawn and the controls a
homeowner may use. I see this presentation as a tool to
help us to communicate with our members. We all
know how members ask the superintendents about
their (the members) own home problems. This talk will
help us towards that end. As our President, Mike
Bavier, stated in his message, "Communicating is an
art both vital and simple ... There are many such
chances to communicate and we must use every one of
them. Because we may be denied access to situations
such as Board meetings. We often give up on the many
smaller, everyday opportunities. A superintendent's
communications effort should always start with the small
things; first, build meaningful one-on-one relationships..."

Storm Water Management - Bill Lindley - Architect,
Lindley & Sons

This discourse on storm water fits in nicely with Dr.
Rosillon's speech on water. Storm water is a resource
out of place. If we use this run-off water intelligently, it
will be an asset to our golf courses. We may use this
water for irrigation as well as to beautify and enhance
the entire layout. One point that hits home in Mr.
Lindley's talk is that storm water management is **not**
for amateur architects. So much time and money can be
wasted if a less than certified engineer is used, not to
mention the poor and non-functional result.

Proper Planting and Care of Trees - Jack Obert

Mr. Obert's specialty is tree planting with an emphasis
on mechanical tree planters. The salient points to
remember in Jack's talk were:

- (1) use improved varieties
- (2) make sure the root ball is the correct size
- (3) soil requirement of the tree you select

Sand Topdressing - Be Aware -

Dr. William Daniel - Purdue University

Dr. Daniel told us to be cognizant of all the factors that
are involved in a sand topdressing program.

BE AWARE: Sand size is very important. Select a sand
with suitable particle size. See Purdue University sand
analysis paper. Don't try sand topdressing program if
you cannot get the proper sand.

BE AWARE: Disease patterns will change on sand top-
dressed greens. Dollarspot may become a problem.

BE AWARE: Frequency of fertilizer applications and
the need for more N may appear.

BE AWARE: The infiltration rates of sand topdressed
greens will change as more and more sand is incor-
porated. Careful irrigation management is needed.

As you can see the main thrust of Dr. Daniel's paper is
awareness of what sand topdressing is before you start
such a program. It is an excellent procedure but — **BE
AWARE.**

Conclusion:

The summing up of this 29th Annual Midwest Turf
Clinic is the amazing amount of knowledge one can
acquire. All these first class men imparting their
wisdom to us and all we have to do is soak it up. To
those of you who were in attendance, use the
knowledge well. To those of you who were unable to be
with us, see you, God willing, at the 30th Annual
Midwest Turf Clinic.

HYDRAULIC OIL DYE TORO P/N 44-2500

Toro has available an approved liquid red hydraulic oil
dye. This dye has been endorsed by our hydraulic
component suppliers as being totally soluble and in no
way affects the warranties of their components.

The oil will be packaged in a 20 milliliter (approx-
imately 5/8 ounce) bottle. One bottle will be sufficient to
properly dye a 4-6 gallon reservoir. This dye can simply
be added to the oil (does not need to be premixed) in
the reservoir and it will self-mix.

Remember, hydraulic system maintenance becomes
important to protect both the equipment and the
property. Leakage is probably one of the major
concerns of equipment operators today. There are
several things that can be done to prevent unexpected
leakage occurrence.

- Routine inspections of machines will often spot
potential damage causing deficiencies before they
develop.

- Be alert to items such as hoses rubbing on tires or
against sharp metal edges.

- Inspect hoses for cuts in the outer rubber coating. If
this occurs corrosion can take place on the inner hose
wire braid, thus leading to eventual hose failure.

- When removing implements ensure that hoses
connected to the reel motors are not twisted. Be careful
how and where reel motor is placed so sharp bends are
not imposed on the hoses. Careless handling of the
motors could also cause the fitting to loosen.

Dirt, water, air, metal particles and improper oils are
all agents which cause hydraulic component failure. No
matter how well we care for our hydraulic system there
will be a certain amount of build up of these
contaminates in the hydraulic system. The only defense
against these agents is regular hydraulic fluid changes
and hydraulic filter changes.

**DYE IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR A GOOD PREVEN-
TATIVE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM.**

**This dye can be used in any hydraulic equipment and
will be available through our Parts Department at \$2.49
per bottle.**

J. NOER RESEARCH FOUNDATION AIDS RARE BOOK COLLECTION AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Michigan State University recently acquired, through
grand funds from the O. J. Noer Research Foundation,
a copy of Dr. Frederick Hanham's **Natural Illustrations
of the British Grasses**, published in 1846. The book,
bound in blue watered silk, contains 62 preserved
specimens accompanied by a descriptive text. The
planned 1,000 copies required a great deal of work by
Dr. Hanham himself, since he collected and prepared
all the 62,000 plants required for the anticipated 1,000
copies to be printed. Half again as many plants would
be required due to culling and, understandably, only
850 were printed.

The rare book collection is but one part of the
cooperative efforts by Michigan State and the Noer
Foundation to establish a collection of books, period-
icals, conference proceedings and other literature
dealing with turfgrass, its production and management
This includes all copies of **Goldfom** and its successors,
The National Greenkeeper and its successors and **The
Bulletin of the U.S.G.A. Green Section.**

James M. Latham, Research Director