

BROOKSIDE SOIL TESTING and IRRIGATION WATER ANALYSIS

includes complete report, and recommendations for producing quality turf on golf courses.

ADVANTAGES:

- Improve the environment of the grasses and eliminate turf diseases
- Decrease the money spent on pesticides
- Reduce thatch and eliminate fairway renovation
- Less money needed for high cost fertilizer
- Healthy turf attracts more golfers and increases income

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PESTICIDE USE — ENVIRONMENTALISTS GOVERN

The safe use of pesticides is an important tool for effective turfgrass management. Our industry depends on the availability of these materials as well as arborists and indoor pest control operations. The regulations associated with pesticide use, especially state certification, has made it harder for just anyone to apply pesticides, and hopefully the more responsible and trained personnel are licensed to apply them. These regulations we can live with.

Recently in Lake County, Illinois, an environmentalist group called the Lake County Defenders have been pushing against the use of pesticides. They are attending village meetings and "educating" people on the dangers of pesticide use. In the "News Sun" of Lake County, a local newspaper, the executive director of the Lake County Defenders was quoted as saying, "You know what Agent Orange is? It's the same stuff you can go into the store and buy right off the shelf, and it's called Ortho Weed-Be-Gone." The sad part is village board members are listening. In the Village of Wauconda, Lake County, Illinois, an ordinance was passed which affects all industries using pesticides. The Lake County Defenders' executive director played an important role in the approval of the ordinance. To summarize the articles which pertain to the Golf Course Superintendent:

Section I: 3) User of Pesticides who is the landlord or Tenant of a building to which the public is invited for the sale of goods or services, included but not limited to food dealers, liquor dealers, **exhibitors of athletic events**, carnivals, cinema, billiard and pool halls, bowling alleys, and public dances.

Section IV: A person not otherwise subject to the requirements of this ordinance who applies pesticides in the board definition as used by this ordinance, to an area less than 5,000 square feet but more than 1,000 square feet by spraying, fogging, dusting or dragging, shall be required to insert warning signs every 75 feet of frontage which warning signs must protrude 18 inches above the grass lines. The warning signs must be of a plastic, metallic or other material which will not decompose with rain and said warning sign must be rectangular and be at least 8 inches by 6 inches. The information on the sign must be as follows in black letter on a white field with a red border and shall be as follows:

- A. The name of the company providing the pesticide or if no company the name of the person having done the spraying.
- B. The name of the chemical, such as Two-Four-D or Dursban and diazinon or other chemical as the case may be (in red lettering).
- C. The day and time of application.
- D. Keep children and pets off this lawn until after the first rainfall, or 72 hours have elapsed.

Said sign shall be inserted on the lawn no closer than 2 feet of the sidewalk or right of way and no further than 5 feet from the sidewalk or right of way.

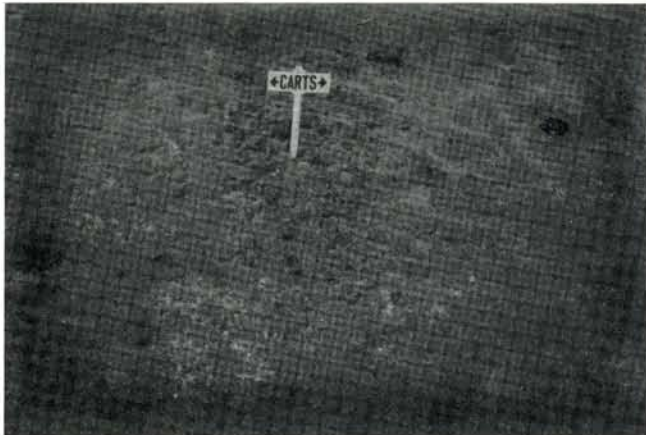
I feel that enforcing this law will be difficult and if need be we could all comply. But will the next ordinance be a total ban on pesticide use in Wauconda? We as a group attended the village meeting the evening the ordinance was passed to comment on it. Unfortunately, they voted on the ordinance before they would hear comments and discussion. The board said all comments and discussion had taken place at the previous meetings. How are we to know when these meetings are discussing such subjects? Do we as an industry need to have a representative at every town meeting in every village

Continued

to protect against such local legislation?

A few new groups have been formed to protect our industry against anti-pesticide forces: the 2,4-D Coalition, headed by Dr. Robert Miller, Vice-President of Chemlawn Corporation, Columbus, Ohio, and the National Environment Law Foundation (NELF) headed by John Kenney, President, Turf Doctor Inc., Framingham, Massachusetts. Although the lawn care industry is directly affected by anti-pesticide laws, and we are working to fight against them, we need your support in the golf course industry to help protect your needs and interests. You will be hearing more about the 2,4-D Coalition and NELF. Please join and support these organizations to help maintain reasonable pesticide policies.

Jim Mello, Agronomist
Nice'n Green Plant Foods, Romeoville, IL



The job of greenkeeping pictured above shows pythium and cart damage during the July and August stress. If it hasn't been wilt, it's wet wilt, if not that, it's been grubs, or a pump that went out, or pythium. This past summer it has been all of the above and more. But as you read this it will be all past history and all we will have to do is grow grass, and LOTS of it with this past season.

OAKS: OAK WILT

This disease appears during drought or other stressful conditions. Red and black oaks (the ones with sharp-pointed leaves) wilt, curl slightly, and drop leaves in large numbers starting in the upper crown of the tree. The leaves turn pale green, bronze, or tan, starting at the margins. Red and black oaks will wilt and die within several weeks. Brown to black streaks usually develop in the young sapwood of wilting branches. White and bur oak (the ones with rounded or lobed leaf edges) symptoms are brown, curling, and dying leaves that remain attached to the branches. Infection generally occurs in scattered branches of the crown. Infected trees may die in one year but usually die back slowly over a period of several years or more (becoming "stagheaded"). Sapwood discoloration, which is common in red and black oaks, is rare in white and bur oaks. CONTROL: There is no cure for oak wilt. All we can suggest is: (1) avoid pruning or otherwise wounding trees during the growing season when the sap is flowing; (2) promptly cover all wounds with a tree-wound dressing; (3) break root grafts by cutting the roots mechanically or by applying Stauffer's Vapam Soil Fumigant in a series of holes midway between the healthy trees and those that are actively wilting or are suspected of being diseased; (4) in forests and woodlands, poison all oak trees that are within 50 feet of trees infected with oak wilt.

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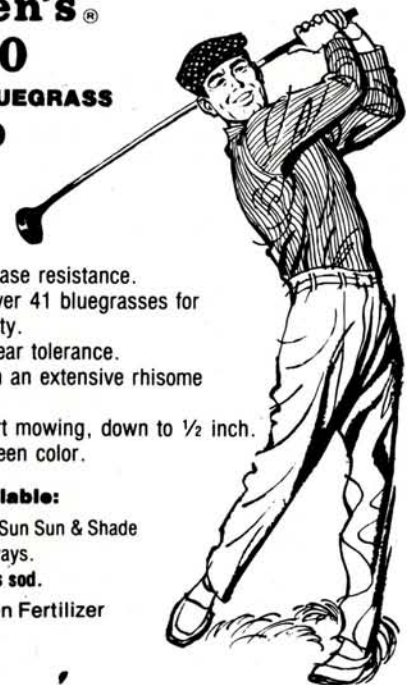
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