

An Ode to the EPA ...

EPA regulates our external conditions.

Whatever we do requires its permission.

Its staff is composed of lawyers organic,

Whose method of work is creation of panic.

The ice caps are melting!

The oceans will flood!

Monoxide is increasing and ruining our blood!

The air will be toxic and smother our breath,

Which everyone knows is a horrible death!

We're destroying the ozone with aerosol cans.

Which greatly distresses deodorant fans.

Through a gullible press they create alarm,

Over chemical hazards from factory and farm.

Pesticides are a threat more fearful indeed,

Than nemotode, fungus, insect, and weed.

They worry we'll eat astronomical doses,

If you eat fifty tons! It will give you cirrhosis!

They doubt all research, but believe every rumor,

Apprehensive do-gooders with no sense of humor.

When it comes to decisions, they do as they please,

All inscrutably written in governmentese.

B.E. Day, plant physiologist, Berkeley, CA

Credit: From Letters Section Golf Course News

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Disease Update: June 1993

by Randall Kane, CDGA

The last few days of hot, humid conditions and continued rain should change the spectrum of diseases we are seeing around the area. I have seen the beginnings of dollar spot for the last week or so, and have heard of some areas where brown patch has been observed. I also have seen some Pythium on an isolated tee enclosed by trees and shrubs. Hopefully, we won't be seeing any more Fusarium patch or other cool temp problems.

The major disease story of the last couple of weeks would have to be take-all patch of bentgrass caused by Gaeumannomyces graminis. It is appearing frequently on bent fairways of newer courses (three to four years old). Some patches are three or more feet in diameter, which indicates that the fungus has been present at the site for some time (2 years or more) but symptoms were not visible until this spring. G graminis seems to be more damaging when we have a spring like this year, with a prolonged cool and wet weather pattern.

Has anybody seen any insect problems yet, other than ANTS? I have seen very little injury from cutworms, and have not seen any Ataenius. Another point to ponder: with all the rain, we will have to watch fertility levels since the water will leach out nutrients — especially on sand rootzones. Potassium is readily leached and K deficiencies are likely.

(Editor's Note: This is from the Computer Bulletin Board. When it came out it was very timely for the weather conditions of the past couple of days. Just another example of what you may find by turning on your computer and hooking up.)

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