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Congratulations go out to **Steve** and (Mrs.) **Schendel** of Ruffled Feathers Golf Club on the birth of their son Jack on July 6.

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With all talk around town in August being drought/heat-related, getting hold of people to find out what's new in their neck of the woods is difficult at best. Heck, even attendance at our many golf leagues has taken a hit from Mother Nature's cruel ways this summer. With this in mind, I've asked those who would actually take the time to talk about their summertime woes to contribute their "Top 12 Indicators That It Has NOT Been a Good Summer" experiences . . . (see list at right) One feels so much better after a good rant . . .



*Hearing the shouts from the gallery of "Down in front!", a surly Tony the Tiger lets them know what he thinks of them at the Keebler-Kellogg Classic, held this summer at Stonebridge Country Club (Dan Sterr host). Ernie Keebler (L), fearing for his life, remained quiet.*

## Top 12 Indicators That It Has NOT Been a Good Summer

- 12) Your 100-foot hoses have 74 Band-It repairs on them.
  - 11) You have puddles within 10 feet of localized dry spots.
  - 10) Your rain gauge has spider webs in it.
  - 9) Your kids go to their grandmother's for two weeks, and you neither
    - a) notice they're gone since you've not seen them anyhow, nor
    - b) take advantage of their absence with your significant other (if you get my drift).
  - 8) Your wife asks who you are when you finally come home for the day.
  - 7) Your golf course is doing the "apocalyptic be-bop," whereby trees just fall over for no reason, bugs you've never seen before are swarming everywhere, the plants you usually count on to remain green in a drought (clover, thistle and even knotweed) wilt, and the lovely colors of autumn—the yellows, the browns, the halloween oranges and chimney reds—are everywhere they shouldn't be (like in your turf).
  - 6) You are gone so often your wife suspects you are having an affair. With your assistant. Who is male.
  - 5) A much-needed half-inch of rain forces you to rope off your overwatered fairways.
  - 4) You've changed the oil in your spray rig nine times.
  - 3) Your buddies are planning a fall hunting trip, and all you can think of is how nice it'll be to kill something besides grass.
  - 2) When you arrive at work on August 4, there is a "Dear John" letter on your office door saying, "I'm leaving you." It's from your *Poa annua*.
- And finally,
- 1) Even a simple task such as entering your pump house (to look at your once-again empty acid tank or to hose down your red-hot pumps) becomes an ordeal when you drop the key and it conveniently falls through the one-inch crack in the soil you've been meaning to water and disappears into the earth's bowels and is found a week later in a rice paddy in freaking China.

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*River Forest Country Club*