

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

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CDGA GREENS COMMITTEE

Second Annual CDGA Greens Committee Seminar at River Forest Country Club was a success. Don Johnson (Greens Chairman Medinah Country Club) led a panel on Golf Course Conservation. A big question put forth was "Should Dues Paying members be given periodical use of their golf course." Bruce Sering, Evanston Country Club, Ray Gerber, Glen Oak Country Club and Oscar Miles, Olympia Fields Country Club, did an excellent job on discussing the closing of greens for frost and for winter play. Public relation with the members on what is happening with frost and other conditions that close a course, the use of temporary greens, and their make up, such as top-dressing, 8 inch cups over the regular 4 inch for putting, dying of these temporary greens and the size of them.

The use of the new Greens King and International Harvester Sand Trap Rake was explained.

Lee Record, USGA Mid-Continent Agronomist, showed slides on adverse golf course conditions throughout the country.

The afternoon was enjoyed by all who stayed to play golf at the beautiful River Forest Country Club.

Many thanks to Mr. Ralph Peterson and the CDGA for a very fine day.



The President's Message

How well are you and I communicating. Particularly, with the people we work for and with. I am sure we have all felt it difficult at times, if not frustrating, to communicate with our fellowmen. Many of us are only interested in expressing our viewpoints without any regards as to what the other person may have to say. And you can't expect people to hear you, if you are not willing to listen.

If we find it difficult to create a desirable relationship with someone, I feel that if we take the initiative and try to understand their interests in life we have bridged the first gap. Almost everyone is willing to talk about the things that interest them most in life, whether it is their vocation, hobby, or favorite pastime. This attitude will do much to generate a feeling to communicate.

If we were all on the same level as to education, talents, human backgrounds and environment, and profession, then communication wouldn't be a problem. But these differences, along with wide differences in age have caused many failures in communication. Many of us resent youth and their "mod" ways of thinking, and then you have the opposite who feel the old "codgers" are senile and outdated. Communication in these situations are trying if not impossible. But I am sure we are all intelligent enough to find an area of mutuality, or at least should try to.

Recall, if you can, of instances in your life when you really wanted to get to know someone better. Maybe it was the young lady who now is your wife. Were you not in a comprehensive mood, open and approachable? You wanted to know her likes and dislikes. And whether you ever received the answers, didn't seem to matter too much — you had been successful in communicating, because you were interested.

I have always envied a person who has the ability to fit into any crowd or gathering, and talk about any subject that may come up. We would probably agree that he is well read and educated. But the chances are that he has an insatiable interest in people. He likes all people, and listens to them and becomes involved with them. And the knowledge and information he acquires, enables him to almost converse with the "devil" himself.

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So the real secret to communication is not how much we know, but how much do we care and how interested and sincere are we with our club members, employees, and fellow superintendents. To communicate is to talk I know, but to make it work, someone has to listen.

How well are you and I communicating.
Ed Wollenberg, President

From "The Agronomist" U. of Md.

FERTILIZER-PESTICIDE COMBINATIONS?

A. J. Powell, Turf Specialist

When purchasing fertilizer combinations with insecticides, fungicides and herbicides, there are several questions to be answered to determine if the purchase is feasible. If there is any reason to doubt the necessity of either component of a combination, buy the straight materials. Timing of application many times renders the material useless or even detrimental. Listed below are questions concerning the components of a combination material which must be answered or understood before consideration of purchase.

Fertilizer Component:

1. Is it the right time of year to fertilize? Summer applications to cool-season grasses may be detrimental.
2. Is the P and K needed (results of soil test important) and in correct ratio? For instance, an extremely high level of soil P may result in a nutrient imbalance and poor growth.
3. Is the recommended coverage (rate) appropriate for time of year and turf species? High N rates are not recommended during the spring when rapid growth normally occurs with cool-season turf grasses.
4. Is lime needed in addition to this fertilizer? Normal weathering and continued use of fertilizer may increase acidity beyond the range of tolerance for desired turf species.

Insecticide Components:

1. Is insecticide specific for the insect problem? For example, chlordane would not be particularly effective against chinch bug.
2. Is rate (recommended coverage) appropriate for control selected? Low insecticide rates may not kill insect populations. High rates may cause accumulation in soil.
3. Are special precautions required because of toxicity to pets or humans? Consider safety first.
4. For best results, should this insecticide be watered in as is the fertilizer component? Without irrigation the fertilizer may be ineffective for such insects as sod webworm, chinch bug, etc.
5. To insure proper kill of insect, will insects be active (present) at time of application? Spring applications to kill or prevent sod webworm would be ineffective.
6. If insect is present, will the fertilizer component be detrimental to turf? For instance, summer fertilizer application may be more damaging than the insects.

Fungicide Component:

1. Has the disease been identified? Fungicide selection differs with specific diseases.

2. Will the fungicide be used to eradicate or prevent disease? To prevent a disease from occurring usually requires application of fungicides at 7 to 10 day intervals. To control a disease already present will also require a number of fungicide applications. In either case, you would likely end up with an excessive amount of fertilizer.
3. Is the rate used (recommended coverage) sufficient to achieve control? Higher rates are needed when disease causing fungi are active.
4. Are special precautions required because of fungicidal toxicity to turf, children, pets or humans applying the material? High temperatures can increase toxicity of some fungicides to turf and extreme care must be taken by the applicator when applying all fungicides.
5. Since only a small portion of the fungicide will remain on the leaf surface, will the fungicide be effective? Unless the fungicide becomes systemic in the plant the only disease causing fungi that will be controlled are those present in the thatch.
6. Being unable to irrigate after application, will the fertilizer component cause burn of turf? During hot weather, fertilizer burn from soluble nitrogen sources can be severe if not irrigated immediately after application.
7. Could the added fertilizer counteract the effect of the fungicide? Research has shown that turf grown under high nitrogen levels is more susceptible to attack by the leaf spot fungi.
8. Is a fungicide necessary? Diseases such as Fusarium blight are very difficult to control with fungicides. Furthermore the lack of irrigation after application could increase severity of this disease.

Herbicide Component:

1. Will the herbicide control the specific weed(s) problem? Certain weeds are very hard to kill and require special herbicides.
2. Is recommended rate higher than it would be if the herbicide was applied as a spray? The higher the herbicide rate, the greater the possibility of ornamental damage due to herbicides.
3. Are the special precautions concerning the danger to ornamentals understood? Certain herbicides such as dicamba move readily in the soil, and an overdose can mean death to trees and shrubs.
4. Is the herbicide being applied when the weeds are most susceptible? Generally weeds are easiest killed when in seedling stage of growth.
5. Will existing turf be injured if material is applied during hot weather? Many herbicides will burn turf if applied on a hot day.
6. Will the granular herbicide be as effective as a spray formulation? The effectiveness of materials such as 2,4-D and dicamba is greatly reduced when applied as a granular material, thus higher rates must be used.

These questions which have been asked and briefly qualified will help one decide on the feasibility of using any fertilizer or pesticide and specifically relates to the fertilizer-pesticide combination materials. If these questions seem too numerous, try asking yourself the necessary questions when the **third** ingredient of a combination material is added.

Personality Means \$\$\$

By Rev. Lee Truman — Copley News Service

How much do you think your personality is worth in hard cash?

In 1945, according to a Purdue University study, the engineering graduates who were at the head of their class in grades were earning \$150 a year more than those who were at the bottom of their class.

Times have changed. But one of the interesting things they turned up then and which is true today, was that those graduates who were rated by their fellow students as having "good" personalities were earning almost \$1,000 a year more than those who were rated as having a "poor" personality, irrespective of their standing academically in the class.

The raw truth, undiscovered by many, is that a man who has only mediocre abilities but has an outgoing personality makes progress in his chosen field at a much greater rate than his brainier counterpart. "A well-educated man doesn't have a chance," you can hear a disenchanted man complain who has a superb education but a weak personality.

This may not seem to be true on its first reading, but a really gifted person has to get along with people. He has to be able to influence them, even persuade them and to have them trust him. This is necessary even though he may be a walking book of exact knowledge in his field. Personality is actually a part of ability, and very much needed if a man is going to succeed or to achieve anything in the real world. Sales managers are interested in this when considering salesmen. Factories are interested in this for their foremen and supervisors. Department stores are concerned about this in store relationship with customers. The essential but unspoken factor is personality.

All of the study in personality development which has come about in the last five years is to help people to expand, to give them better all-around abilities and to take advantage of opportunities for the company and for themselves. Personality development is not just to make people oily smooth, but is there to let them work better with others, to allow them to lead more effectively, to let them communicate their ideas with more trust. This often is the difference between success and failure.

Dr. D. E. Lurtom, editor and writer, told the story of an old friend. The man had in 1896 discovered wireless telegraphy several months before Marconi made the same discovery.

He said that his friend lacked the self-confidence and enthusiasm which would allow him to demonstrate with effectiveness the magnitude of his discovery.

The doctor said he was told in confidence by this man that "I just wasn't born under a special star," and he went on to say: "Marconi had a personality like an evangelist, but I was born lacking."

This man made many other important discoveries, and yet he died practically unknown. He never knew the importance of personality in dealing with people. The sad thing was that this man who was obviously very brilliant, had a rather pessimistic philosophy of "it's no use for me to try."

One of the important factors that should be burned into your mental framework is that psychologists agree that almost all personality traits are acquired and very few of them are unchangeable. Of course, it is difficult to change a man who has entrenched his habits for several decades, but it is not impossible.

It is always a good investment to take time to analyze who you stack up in the desirable human relation qualities and to honestly look at your own abilities and strengths.

After that, act on what you learn. Practice developing the weak qualities until there is a strength developed there by practice and patience.

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RECORD'S RECORD

By Lee Record
USGA Green Section
Mid-Continent Agronomist

"Should regular greens be played during the winter month?" This question was asked frequently during the past season by Greens Chairmen and club officials.

There are two critical times when injury may be severe. Early or late in the season when the grass has been growing and frost occurs, foot traffic on frosted greens will cause serious footprinting. Ice crystals within the grass blades are distorted and rupture living cells, causing death. Later in the day when the ice crystals have thawed the same amount of traffic will do limited damage. Syringing greens in early morning before traffic is allowed on the course will help solve the problem; water melts the ice crystals.

The most serious damage occurs after the soil has been frozen and the upper portion of the green has begun to thaw; the surface layer of the soil is overly wet and slippery. Foot traffic at this time will cause severe compaction, tearing of the roots at the point where they penetrate the still frozen area. The surface of the green will be susceptible to serious footprinting which in turn will affect the quality of the putting green surface throughout the following season.

It has been demonstrated in test plots that trampling on melted snow, with subsequent freezing will result in total turf destruction. This is a strong argument against using slopes on the golf course for sledding, skiing, and the use of snow mobiles.

When the soil is partially thawed injury is serious and long lasting. This condition is always associated with beautiful late winter and early spring days when the air is warm and the soil is cold. It is very difficult to convince golfers they should not play.

Dr. Fred Grau, prominent turf authority, proposes that this sign be displayed at the golf club. "In the

interest of all the members, and in an attempt to preserve the high quality of our greens, the course is closed to play until conditions warrant resumption of traffic."

"Every effort is made to keep the course continuously playable, but when Nature fails to cooperate and brings frost or floods we have no choice but to limit play. The understanding and consideration of the members are greatly appreciated."

Speaking from an agronomic point of view, we would say without reservation that it is best to keep winter play off regular greens and to use temporary greens.

How's Your Chemical I.Q.?

Buying chemicals? If so, you're exposing yourself to a whole new world of words. Terminology used to identify and describe chemicals or to give instructions in their use are, of necessity, technical and complicated.

Recent surveys made in Texas, Colorado, and elsewhere found that users of ag chemicals too often use them without completely understanding label terms or instructions. As one physician said, "It's one thing to 'read' a label, but something else to 'understand' it. Reading the label is 'important', understanding it is 'essential.'"

We've compiled a list of chemical words (and their definitions) that have been found to be most often unknown or misunderstood by farmers and chemical dealers. Take a good look at this list — you are apt to find them on the label of the next pesticide you buy!

ACTIVE INGREDIENT — the killing agent, toxic chemical within the mixture.

ACTUAL DOSAGE — the amount of pure toxicant used per unit area, volume or individual. Extension recommendations are given on basis of actual active material.

AGITATE — to keep a pesticide mixed up. To keep it from separating or settling in the spray tank.

ANTIDOTE — an immediate first aid treatment or remedy to offset effects of a chemical or other poison.

BASAL APPLICATION — application of a chemical pesticide in a band at the base of a plant.

BROADLEAVED PLANTS — plants or weeds with wide, flat leaves having net veins. Not grasses or conifers.

CALIBRATE — to check, measure. Determining how much pesticide is actually being applied by each nozzle, or opening of an applicator.

CARRIER — inert material in which the pesticide chemicals are mixed.

COMPATIBLE — Chemicals that can be mixed together and still maintain a satisfactory physical state without decreasing their effectiveness.

DILUTENT — any material used to dilute a pesticide to desired concentration.

DIRECTED APPLICATION — placing of a pesticide on a limited area such as a row, bed, base of plant, or animal.

DOSAGE — the amount of pesticide to be applied per given area.

FINAL TREATMENT — last pesticide treatment before harvesting a crop.

FOLIAR SPRAY — pesticide applied to leaves, needles, and blades of plants.

FORMULATION — the form in which the pesticide is offered for sale.

ILLEGALE RESIDUE — chemical residue that is in excess of a pre-established government-enforced safe level.

INCOMPATIBLE — not capable of being mixed or used together.

INERT INGREDIENT — inactive ingredients — any material in a pesticide mixture that wouldn't prevent damage from or destroy pests if used alone.

LARVA — the worm-like or grub-like immature or growing stage of an insect.

LAYBY APPLICATION — chemical application put on at time plant or crop is cultivated for the last time.

LOW VOLATILE — a liquid or solid that does not evaporate quickly.

MISCIBLE — able to be mixed.

NON-PERSISTENT — only lasts for a few weeks or less.

NON-VOLATILE — a pesticide that does not evaporate.

ORIFICE — the opening or hole in a nozzle through which liquid is forced and broken up into drops.

PHYTOTOXIC — injurious or poisonous to plant.

PRECIPITATE — to settle out. A solid substance that forms in a liquid and settles to the bottom of container.

RESIDUE — actual amount of a chemical present after application.

RESISTANT SPECIES — pests that survive relatively high rates of a chemical.

SELECTIVITY — ability of a chemical to kill some pests but not affect others.

SOIL STERILANTS — a chemical that will destroy all plants in the treated area for long periods of time.

SPLIT APPLICATION — putting on part of a pesticide at one time and the rest on at a later date.

SPOT TREATMENT — the placing of a pesticide chemical only on the parts of an area or plant.

SURFACTANT — a chemical or agent used in a pesticide formulation to make mixing easier and help the material spread, and completely wet surface.

SUSCEPTIBLE SPECIES — animal or plant that can be injured or killed by specific amount of given chemical.

TOLERANCE — the amount of chemical considered safe on any food to be eaten. Can mean ability of a plant or animal to survive treatment.

TOXICITY — the degree to which a substance is injurious or poisonous to a plant or animal.



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Reprinted from "The Divot News"

By Tom Vande Walle, Superintendent
Short Hills Country Club, Moline, Illinois

So you missed the superintendents' meeting. WHY? Couldn't get away from your course? Know what that means? You have just confessed "I'm a poor excuse for a manager." A good manager plans ahead, organizes his people, delegates authority, subrogates responsibility and requires that his employees accept it. He knows he can get away from his course whenever he wishes, either to business association meetings from which he returns with fresh insight, new ideas and the inspiration and pep to put them to work...

"I don't get anything from these meetings which will help me at my course" . . . You are confessing "I can't learn from the experience of others" and/or "I can't adapt myself to change" . . . Why do you think the leaders of the industry attend as many meetings as they do? . . . For their health?

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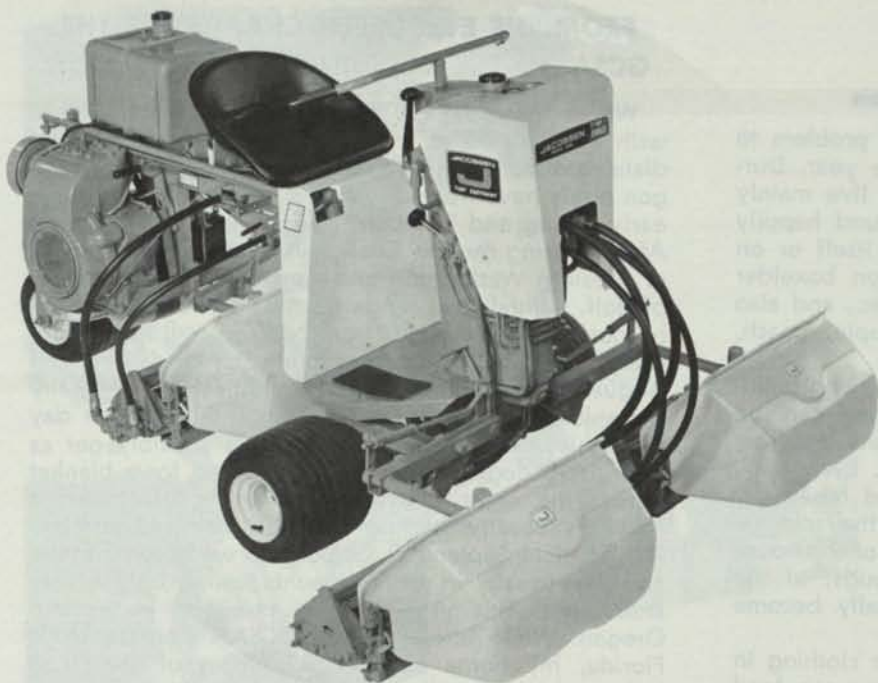
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BOXELDER BUGS

by Stanley Rachesky
Entomologist, University of Illinois

The boxelder bug can become quite a problem to homeowners especially in the fall of the year. During the summer months these little bugs live mainly on boxelder trees where they can be found happily feeding on the seeds either on the tree itself or on the ground. They are not only found on boxelder trees but can also occur on maple, ash, etc., and also on fruit-bearing trees such as grape, apple, peach, plum, etc.

As cool weather approaches they migrate into buildings for protection. While migrating they can be found clustered on the sides of houses and crawling into any cracks or crevices they can find. Eventually, they get into the walls of the house and hibernate. On warm, sunny days during midwinter they can be found outside on the south and west sides of the house "sunning" themselves. Many boxelder bugs, at the same time, move into the house and really become a nuisance to the residents.

Boxelder bugs do not feed on food or clothing in the house nor do they bite, however, they can feed on some house plants. The big boxelder problem occurs when they soil curtains and wallpaper with their fecal material.

There are two generations of boxelder bugs each year. The massive development of the second generation depends on the temperatures in the late summer and early fall. It is the adults of the second generation that hibernate in and around the house causing all the trouble.

Sometimes it appears that the best solution for control, that is, control that would be final (once in a life time) is to take a trip down to the hardware store and purchase an axe and chop down the darn boxelder tree. This suggestion is almost as bad as instructing the homeowner to calk all cracks and crevices in the foundation and siding of a house.

Insecticides are perhaps the best hope or method for control. Thoroughly spray the trunks and the surrounding ground area of seed-bearing boxelder trees in the fall if the bugs are evident. In addition, spray the sides and foundation of the house, including a three foot strip beside the house.

Lindane 0.5% spray will give a nice quick kill. This should be applied to all surfaces to the point of runoff. Dieldrin 0.25% also will give excellent results. Applications of these insecticides may have to be repeated at one to two week intervals.

Inside the home boxelder bugs can be very easily controlled by picking them up with a vacuum cleaner and of course quickly disposing of them. Pyrethrin or DDVP household sprays will enable you to obtain quick knockdown and kill, but the use of these sprays are warranted in cases only where severe infestations occur. Do not, for heaven's sake, smash them on the interior walls of a house or you will find yourself in the repainting business.

FROM THE EVERGREEN CHAPTER OF THE GCSA IN THE WASHINGTON STATE AREA

We in the great PACIFIC NORTHWEST are blessed with a multitude of climates. Some along the immediate coasts of British Columbia, Washington, and Oregon rarely have frost. Rainfall is heavy, summers cool, early Spring and Fall both having delightful weather. After crossing the low Coast Ranges, the inland valleys of Western Washington and Oregon enjoy 12 months of golf. Rainfall will range from 30 to 40 inches yearly most of which comes from November through February. By June it becomes quite dry and July and August seldom bring rain. Humidities are generally quite low during the summer months. After a day during which the temperature might possibly get as high as 90 degrees, you will be looking for a blanket before the night is over. Irrigation is, of course, a necessity usually starting April or May and continuing into late September. Seldom do we receive snow, and that usually in small amounts lasting only a very short time. This year was an exception in western Oregon. While attending the GCSAA Conference in Florida, my home received 47 inches of snow, 38 inches coming in one continuous fall. This is, by far, the greatest fall recorded in our area of Western Oregon. The Cascade Range between Western and Eastern Oregon and Washington marks the dividing point between mild and severe winters. These mountains ranging from many 10,000 ft. peaks to Washington's Mt. Rainier, 14,410 ft, quite effectively milk the clouds of their moisture. Consequently, the eastern portions of both States are much drier. In fact, vast areas receive only from 6-10 inches of precipitation yearly. While we seldom see temperatures below 20 degrees above in Western portions of the two States, zero, and below, temperatures are common east of the Cascades. Vast acreages of irrigated crops are raised in these areas. Golfing is rare in the winter months. Many areas are sparsely populated with over two-thirds of the population of both States concentrated in the western one-third of each State. So—when you talk about the rainy Northwest—remember that nearly 2/3rds of it borders on desert. Many of you receive far more rain than we do. And do our golfers ever complain if they can't play 365 days a year. In fact, the only time our course ever closes is Christmas Day, and some golfers will sneak out to try their new clubs.

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