



MIDWEST BREEZES

Congratulations are in order to **DeeAnn Leuzinger** for becoming the Ladies St. Charles Park District champion. DeeAnn eagled the #6 hole. It would be a wise move for her husband, **Peter**, Supt. at St. Charles C.C., to take a few lessons from his wife.

Mark your calendar for Sept. 10, 1980. That is the Turfgrass Research Field Day at Urbana, IL, a very worthy meeting.

The M.A.G.C.S. August 4th meeting held at Randall Oaks C.C., was a most enjoyable day. This was the day the seniors were guests of the association. Many of the seniors played golf on a super conditioned course made possible by Supt. **Sterling Hamilton**. The cook-out dinner was a real treat - good food and plenty of it. It is always a real pleasure to have **Bill Madler** of the Harley Davidson Golf Car Co. make an appearance with his generous contribution. We thank him.

The editor thanks all the many nice friends that sent me flowers and cards during my stay at the hospital. I would like to thank each one individually but due to the large number I hope you will accept it this way. Thank you.

In the July issue of the **Bull Sheet** the editor made a statement in reference to Poa Annuua - the large amount of seed it was producing and indicating it could be a summer not suitable for this strain of turfgrass. Mother Nature did what it always has done in the past, providing plenty of seed to take the place of the old plant that could not take the high temperature.

On August 18th the Butler National Golf Club will start the project of reseeding their greens, using penneagle bent. This is a new strain developed by Dr. **Joseph Duich** from Penn State. Dr. Duich will supervise the project.

Does anyone have the answer as to why 24-D does not kill broad leaf weeds such as dandelions, buckhorn, etc., as it used to do in the past years. The golf courses in the Chicago area are not having very good results this year. What have you got to offer for the reasons?

Dear Mr. Gerber,

I would like to thank the members of the M.A.G.C.S. for their thoughtfulness and concern during my recent hospital stay. The terrarium from the association and the cards and letters from members helped make my time in the hospital much more pleasant. I hope to see everyone real soon.

Dave Zimmerman

Dear Ray,

Many types of English are used during trying times, including Old English.

"SUMMER FLING"

Oh Hell! I know thy sting.

'Tis a sentiment Superintendents sing,
When they've felt the fury a hot summer can bring.

With wilt, disease, poa saying goodbye,
Heat waves climbing high into the sky.

Just like St. Helen's eruption,
A hot summer fumes a similar destruction.

When times tend to be disenchanting,
Is Nature saying, "Don't take me for granted"?

Kenneth R. Zanzig
Green Garden C.C.

THE IDEAL GOLFER

Doesn't play early, nor after five,
Always walks, never drives.

Hits them clearly off the tee,
No divot mark, for all to see.

Carefully disposes of paper wraps,
Rakes the footprints out of the traps.

Doesn't play fast, nor too slow,
Stands aside and lets us mow.

Always speaks, with a friendly grin,
Plays the **game**, not just to win.

His wife stays home while he makes the loop,
She **doesn't** belong to the ladies group.

He doesn't golf till the first of May,
And stops right after Labor Day.

Eats at the Club, and buys a few drinks,
Helps carry his share of the cost of the links.

Plays once a week, usually Sunday,
Sometimes a Saturday, **never** a Monday.

Plays the game square, U.S.G.A.
Doesn't care what the local rules say.

Fixes the ball marks on the greens,
Never on his putter leans.

Sees no need for spikey shoes,
That mar the greens, and leave a bruise.

I've written these words with no trace of a sneer,
But where is this golfer? He doesn't play **here**.

Bill Smart, Ed.
Credit - Foreground

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SOME LIKES AND DISLIKES

We miss Bobby Hull, Elvis Presley, Richard Nixon, and Stetson hats. Rodney misses his mother, and Johnny misses his red sleigh and San Antonio. Paul misses Bob Williams, Dudley Smith, and three-foot putts.

We love Howard Cosell, cat fish, little towns, and European accents. Paul and Rodney love Russian Borscht and people who sing when they are drinking. Johnny hates Borscht. We love women in different colors and sizes, large bosoms, and beds with vibrators ...Also, cotton shirts, Peggy Lee, close dancing, and soft music.

We hate Rod McKuen, Edgar Guest, polyester pants, Foto shopts, junk mail, bills, and digital watches. We can't stand mustaches on blond guys, hate most "best sellers", and people who talk about diets and jogging.

Paul loves Rush Street and rye grass. Johnny loves old shoes, Caruso, and Rodney loves garlic and outdoor barbecues.

We hate the expression, "Have a nice day"...and salesmen who say to us, "Your course really looks great", when we know otherwise. Johnny hates his #4 Green, #16 sandtrap, Pittsburgh, and the month of July. Rodney hates all his greens, and Paul hates guys who disco well, and traffic lights.

We love Frank Sinatra, September, and Hackney's in Wheeling. Johnny and Paul love "gin", arguing, and Mexico.

What are your likes and dislikes?

by Paul, Johnny and Rodney Voykin

I can complain because rose bushes have thorns or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses.

Nutrient deficiencies, weeds, diseases, thin turf, insects.

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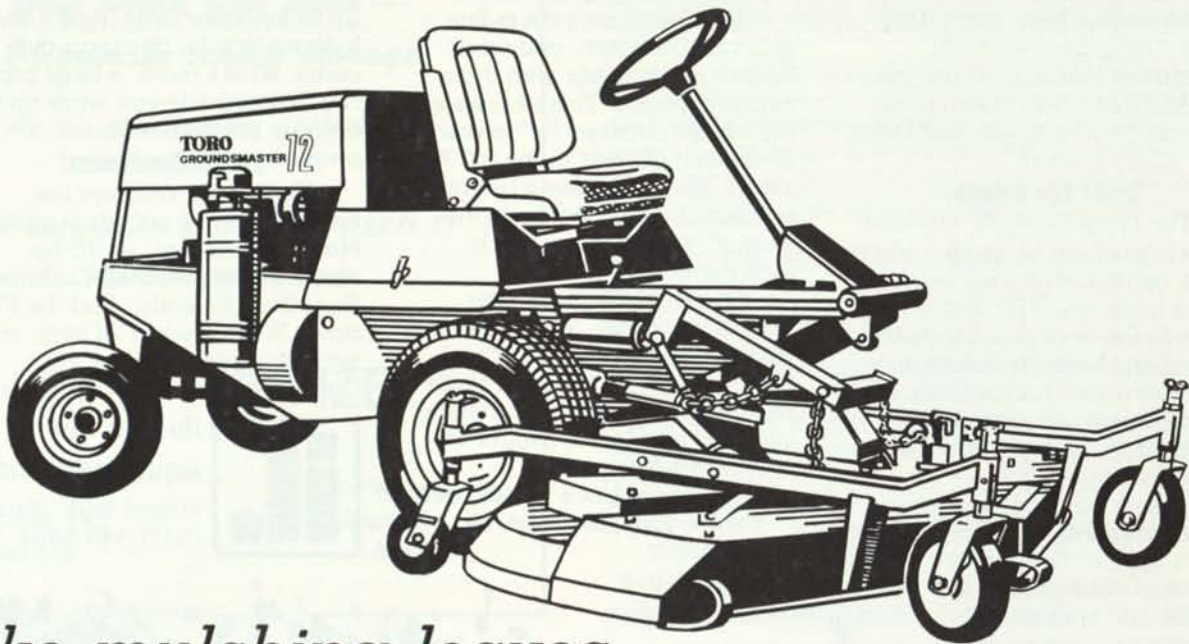
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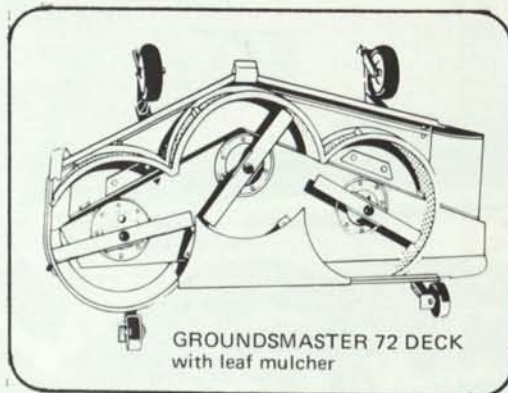
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HAS ANYTHING CHANGED IN FIFTY YEARS

Has anything in golf course maintenance changed in 50 years? The answer of course is Yes. But not everything. Let's take a look.

The following is a transcript of the "Question Box" period held at the Massachusetts Agricultural College (now University of Mass.), during the 1930 Conference. The questions and answers are interesting, reflect very probably the problems of the day, and the changes in the problems during the past fifty years.

For example, one question is: What about power putting green mowers? Are they successful? Certainly one would not expect that question to be asked today. However, the question: What is the average help needed for an 18 hole golf course?, might still be asked. The answers might be different.

Q. Is a rake of the Hovey type of any benefit to the turf or as a weed exterminator?

A. It keeps the top of the clover down, but better results are obtained by plugging out.

Q. What is the average help needed for an 18-hole golf course?

A. Average 12. For an ideal, 20.

Q. Is it advisable to top-dress a lawn with compost or loam? If so, when?

A. Garden loam put on the lawn 1/8 inch thick makes a good fertilizer. Spring is the best time, after the grass has started.

Q. What is the cost of constructing a nine-hole golf course?

A. \$50,000 to \$60,000 for an ideal course. \$1,000 per green, \$400 per trap and \$500 per acre. \$3,000 per hole, for municipal course.

Q. Why does soil dressed with sheep manure show such poor growth?

A. Isn't it for the same reason that a thimbleful of whiskey won't make a man drunk?

Q. Which is better, push or pull fairway mowers?

A. Push. Your wheels are trampling down the grass before the mowers come along. On a wet course the push type will bury itself. For such courses a pull type should be used.

Q. What is the most economical and efficient amount of seed per square foot for greens consisting of Rhode Island, Red Top, and Kentucky Blue Grass?

A. This cannot be answered, because of the variation in the number of seeds in a pound.

Q. What about power putting green mowers? Are they successful?

A. Very successful in the mid-west. Better than hand mowers, but a good man is needed with the mower.

Q. How can I stop moss from coming in the fairway?

A. Fertilizer, lime, drainage.

Q. How do you check and destroy cutworms?

A. With arsenate of lead or carbon disulphide emulsion.

Q. At what season or seasons would you apply a 10-5-4 commercial fertilizer to a fairway on a clay loam?

A. Fall is best - in September before the fall rains. About the middle of April if applied in the spring.

Q. What do you consider the best time of day to sprinkle greens?

A. Early morning, before seven. Directly after mowing. At night after nine. All night. In the evening, the sun doesn't dry it up. Early morning, and not too much. When sprayed at night greens are subject to brown patch. If watering is done in the morning there is danger of not putting on enough. A hardpan develops at a depth of two or three inches, and the poisoned soil water makes trouble. This theory not considered sound by many. Watering depends on the air humidity.

WHERE IS THE CHICAGO BENCH MARK?

The Chicago bench mark is on the corner stone of the Northern Trust Bank, La Salle and Monroe Streets. This mark is a quarter sized red spot and is the point of reference, or datum, for Chicago's height above sea level, which is 579.88 feet. It was placed on the bank because the building is on bedrock and thus cannot settle. The height of all other points (ground level points that is) is gauged in relation to it. For instance the highest point within the confines of Chicago's borders is at 92nd St. and Western Ave., where the elevation is 672.38 feet above sea level. The term sea-level refers to the height of the mean tide in New York harbor.

Charles E. [Scotty] Stewart

NEW PROTURF PACKAGING MAKES PRODUCTS EASIER TO RECOGNIZE AND USE

Color coding and detailed use information characterize the new line of Scotts ProTurf packaging. Each type of product has been given its own distinctive background color on the package for ready identification. These are (l. to r. in photo) blue for fungicides and fungicide-fertilizer combination products; green for insecticides; orange for fertilizers; and a white background for herbicides and herbicide-fertilizer combinations.

The new designs will help reduce the possibility of applying the wrong product. They will also help to assure accuracy of delivery and warehouse inventory control. Clear use directions include both a Scotts and Lely spreader setting recommendation for each product. The product name, stock number, directions and spreader settings all have been made even more legible on the new packages.

Austin J. Miller, President of Sprinkler Irrigation Supply Co., announces the opening of its new office and warehouse at 1115 Republic Drive, Addison, IL 60101. It is larger than the former facility at 1738 Armitage Court, Addison, to better serve the turf irrigation market, carrying a full line of products from manufacturers as Buckner, Nelson, Moody, Royal Coach, Cornell and many more!

Mr. Miller extends an invitation to all to come in and see this new facility and meet the Sisco salesmen, Jim Flannigan and Greg Deegan.

KEEP TURF FROM TREE TRUNKS

A recent report from California (Growing Points, Cooperative Extension Service, University of California, March, 1980) reports greater tree growth where the trunks are turf-free. They reported that young nonfertilized slow-growing trees like Southern Magnolia may triple in height if a 2x2 foot turf-free area is maintained around the trunk. If the clean area is 10 x 20 feet, the height growth may increase 6 times.

Trunk diameter can also increase significantly - from 2.5 to 4 times the trees with turf around the base. There is of course, a different response with other tree species. River Red gum almost doubled in height and tripled in trunk diameter when not fertilized or surrounded by turf.

It goes without saying, keeping the turf competition from young trees will mean fewer tree injuries from mowing equipment.

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II. Check Course - First Thing A.M.

Greens and fine turf for disease, wilt, irrigation performance and general conditions. Staff and jobs in progress - observe equipment operation, job procedures and techniques.

III. Miscellaneous.

Trouble shooting, recordkeeping, communications, etc.

IV. Check Course - P.M.

Greens and fine turf for disease, wilt, soil moisture and general conditions. Determine and program irrigation requirements. Jobs done or undone - noting good and bad.

V. Written Work Scheduling - Tomorrow.

Review weekly maintenance outline, agronomic and maintenance improvement programs, notes and staff available.

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Dear Mr. Gerber,

Enclosed is an article that I have written concerning the problem that has been encountered on Toronto Bentgrass. We have 47 Toronto greens on our F.P.D. golf courses and we have occasionally experienced infections of red leaf spot, however, we have always been able to control same in its first and secondary stages without turf loss!

Overall, C-15 has performed from fair to excellent varying only with soil composition and environmental location.

The information contained within was gleaned from my extensive experience in the turf management of Toronto, C-15 Bentgrass. Hopefully this informational perspective will help the golf course Supt. effectively manage the turfgrass species and control the "fungus amlingus"!

O. G. Miles
C.G.C.S.

IS THE GRASS GREEN, YELLOW, RED, OR DEAD?

It doesn't matter whether you're a Supt. catering to the golf turf requirements of the daily fee player or a private membership, an infection of "Helminth" sometimes prevents us from providing a green, healthy turf on which the game is played!

The present dilemma of Helminth (Red Leaf Spot?) infecting Toronto bentgrass greens or Helminth of any species attacking our turfgrasses is a serious and complex problem that usually can be resolved via a 4 step, ABC's - "Bite the Bullet" approach. Before this procedure is outlined it has been my experience that knowingly or unknowingly turf problems are quite often self induced; more turf is damaged or lost during the growing season from mechanical injury and wilt than any other cause - these are problems which the Supt. can prevent and control. Also diseases usually go through certain recognizable phases in their development: (A) primary infection (B) secondary infection (C) total - fatal infection. In the primary stage of red leaf spot a varying degree of yellowing occurs (chlorosis or lesions) and only the most trained and critical eye can spot it, diagnose it and outline a program for treatment and control; in the secondary or "big red" stage all Supts. will notice it, should be able to diagnose same and immediately outline a course of action to cure and control same; in the final "grim reaper" stage everyone will notice it but then it's too late, the damage has been done. You can only reduce existing pathogens, plug out damage or hope that enough life remains in the turf "mat" for natural recovery. By staying on top of the situation the problem will usually not progress beyond the primary and secondary stages (see outline of supt. daily routine).

"Bite the Bullet" - Procedure

1. What Do We Know About the Disease?
1. Occurance - anytime during the growing season when wet overcast weather prevails.
2. Symptoms - yellowing of leaf tips or tissue progressing to brown and reddish leaf lesions then root and crown rot.
3. Vectors - water, equipment and any traffic.
4. Other factors affecting development - (a) Weak turf caused by low or unbalanced fertility, (b) Weak turf caused by mechanical bruising from excessive dragging, brushing, etc., or any other adverse practice such as an extremely low cut.
5. Factors affecting recovery - (c) Stimulate new growth via improved and balanced fertility levels, (d) Stimulate

new growth via foliar applications of iron for increased photosynthesis, (e) Select effective fungicides (Daconil, LSR, Thiram, Mercurials, SP,) etc., (f) Spray at recommended rates and intervals. **Don't Panic** - See Aug. issue G.C. Mgmt. expose' of fungicides.

II. What Do We Know About the Turf Species?

6. Origin - a natural vegetative selection from Toronto via U.S.G.A. Green Section.

7. Growth characteristics - (g) Medium width leaf blade and texture, (h) Homogeneous and non-mutative stands, (i) Medium to dark green color under optimum fertility and weather conditions, (j) No dormancy during full growing season.

8. Factors affecting its decline or quality - (k) Low and unbalanced fertility, (l) Weakened by topdressing smothering, excessive dragging, brushing etc., (m) Ineffective disease control programs, (n) Susceptible to dollar spot, brown patch and leaf spot.

9. Practices which ensure its quality and survival - (o) Highly resistant to desiccation, resistant to ice sheet damage and snowmolds, (p) Adequate balanced fertility in a 4-1-2 or 3-1-2 ratio supplying approx. 6# N/M on organic soils and 8# N/M to sand mixes, (q) Professional formulation of fungicide programs - selection of products used, combinations mixed, rates, methods and techniques of application and seasonal scheduling are ultimately important, (r) Incorporation of tolerable maintenance and agronomic improvement programs into your operation.

III. Can You Rise Above Mankinds Self Defeating and Belittling and Mortalizing Vanities and Recognize What You Were Doing or Not Doing That Contributed to the Problem?

(s) Meet the responsibilities and challenges of a golf course supt. in a professional manner. (see daily routine), (t) Examine your programs and practices and change those that are contrary to golf turf management and conducive to disease development as outlined herein, (u) Consider and accept input from peers and other knowledgeable sources.

IV. Does Your Employer Provide You with the Tools Required to Properly Manage Their Turf?

(v) These tools include; sufficient and proficient staff, modern equipment and adequate turf supplies, (w) If undesirable practices created the problem due to people or peer pressures the golfer **must** understand that they should compromise because the turf can't - to ensure its well being, (x) as a comparison if a competent supt. provides the knowledge, expertise and dedication for a successful golf course management operation - why is the median income of a golf course supt. less than a truck driver, (y) Does the golfer consider, care, understand or are they even aware of the problems they create during inclement weather (freeze and thaw cycles, frosted or frozen turf, heavy rains and saturated soils) when the turf should not be subjected to play?

Summation and Final Comments

We were supposed to have learned the basics from our teachers (PHD's, peers and suppliers) however, it's up to each individual to master these basics through experience and continuing education. We need them and they need us however, rather than using them as a "crutch or umbrella", if we would practice what they preach our problems would be minimal and kept under control. How difficult and embarrassing it must be for them to say our management methods violate the basic turf management principles they taught us.

Summarily C-15 favorably responds to adequate fertility, non-abusive maintenance and cultural practices, non-opinionated, professionally assimilated and

proven disease control and agronomic improvement programs.

During my travels from the transition zone to the cool humid region I remember such fallacies as; (A) existing green soils could be improved with calcined clay - result layered soils and shallow rooted turf, (B) nitrogen recommendation of 10-12# actual /M/yr. - result devastated turf, (C)improperly labeled and used pesticides - results, unaffactive control and or damaged turf, (D) discussion of the merits of low fertility and opinionated agronomic condition improvement programs - result, weak, diseased, damaged and thatchy turf (research aerobic decomposition, oxygen in the root zone and the carbon-nitrogen ratio), (E) foreign recommendation of sand topdressing to improve soil structure of organic soil greens - result, again layering and shallow rooting even though a reputable doctorate and U.S.G.A. rep. cautioned supt. about its use.

Don't jump on the bandwagon and be someone's guinea pig, stay with tried and proven practices and programs.

Finally, during the last 17 years I have heard a lot of talk from peers in our various associations about improving the supt. status via professional conduct, continuing education and promotion of golfer awareness of the supt. role. Whenever these concepts have been presented in the past they were received negatively as though "who is he" and all that mattered was preservation of the "in-click heirarchy" and jealous or envious numero unos. Whereas if we meet life and golf course management with an open mind we may learn something of real value.

Some great advances have been made in golf course management - from the days of "trade secrets" to real knowledge, with the evolution of modern equipment such as riding greens mowers and trap rakes to automatic irrigation, by the research and development of improved turfgrass varieties and pesticides - our gratitude should be extended to all the theoriticians, professors, researchers, suppliers and practioneers alike for making these advances possible.

Utilization of these marvelous "tools" has benefited everyone involved and made the supt. job a liveable dream instead of a nightmare and has produced better golf turf for the golfers enjoyment!

Oliver G. Miles
Supt. of Golf

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EDITORIAL NOTE

In case you find mistakes in this bulletin, please remember they were put there for a purpose. We try to offer something for everyone in this periodical. Some people are always looking for mistakes.