

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

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President — Len Berg, CGCS

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PRESIDENT' MESSAGE

THE IMPACT OF DOING BUSINESS

This year's activities (dealing with inflation) will have a great impact on all of us during 1982. In the next few months the new Federal Administration (President Reagan) is planning budgetary cuts of 2% from all government agencies. Cutting budgets by 2% does not sound like much, but we are dealing with billions of dollars. What impact can this have on our golf business? With cut backs of these sums of dollars you can believe it that sooner or later the impact of all of this will be felt by all Americans.

To consider solutions to our economic problems is only short term. The Turf industry has to develop the means for which we can continue to have fine groomed golf courses using fewer budget dollars. We must all join together in successfully supporting Turfgrass research locally, statewide, and nationally. Continue to upgrade our preventive maintenance programs for equipment and turfgrass. To manage our budget dollars is going to be of greater essence in staff organization and communications.

The area in which all of our clubs feel the greatest impact from our daily management decisions is the decision to support turfgrass research and development. The next time a statement comes across your desk for \$50.00 from turfgrass research do something positive with it. For as little as it cost us now, ten years down the road could mean thousands of dollars in saving in our budgets only to be spent for more capital expenditures.

Len Berg

NO CARRYING CHARGE

Once there was a superintendent who never joined the MAGCS. All his life he took the benefits won for him by the other members of the society, but he refused to join. Then on his deathbed he told his wife: "Dear, please do something for me. I want six MAGCS members to be my pallbearers."

"But you never belonged to the MAGCS" his wife said. "Why do you want MAGCS members to be your pallbearers?"

"Honey" he replied, "they've carried me this far ... they might as well carry me the rest of the way."

Charles E. [Scotty] Stewart

MECHANIC'S SERVICE SEMINAR

SPONSOR: Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents
INCONJUNCTION: Midwest Engine Warehouse
February 13, 1980 - 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
REGISTRATION: 12:30 P.M. (No Charge)
LOCATION: Village of Woodridge Municipal Building — 1900 W. 75th St. Woodridge, Illinois
Registration will be LIMITED to 60. Advance registration is required. Please call Village Greens of Woodridge (312) 985-8366.

SERVICE RELATED SUBJECTS, MAKE UP THIS PROGRAM. The golf course mechanics will be able to take back to their clubs service tips and information, specification sheets, maintenance and record data, and much more. This program is dedicated to providing information on air cooled engines.

To: ALL TORO DISTRIBUTOR PRINCIPLES AND SERVICE MANAGERS

Subject: COLOR DYE IN HYDRAULIC SYSTEMS

In response to an article which appeared in a turf trade publication pertaining to the use of a colored dye (Fisher Scientific's Sudan IV); Toro has the following information:

We obtained the dye referred to and evaluated it for ease of sighting a hydraulic leak on a green. We found that the colored oil was more visible than normal oil. The differences were very significant on an overcast day, much less significant on a sunny day.

We forwarded samples of the powdered dye to our various hydraulic component suppliers, and our oil supplier, along with the mixture concentration referred to in the article. Their findings indicated that the granular particles of the dye do not all dissolve. The resulting increase in particulate contamination in the 5 to 100 micron range is very similar to having dust and dirt in the oil, and produces premature wear on components and seals and premature filter plugging. Therefore, they recommend we do not use this material in our equipment.

We are following their recommendations, and do NOT recommend its use. We are, however, evaluating another type of dye which is oil soluble, to test its visibility and will inform you of any results as soon as they become available.

Tom Dooley
Commercial Products Service Manager

POSITION WANTED

Seeking position as Assistant Golf Course Superintendent. Has a B.S. Degree in Horticulture, specializing in Turfgrass Management, from Iowa State University. Six years experience in golf course management. Contact: MARC P. DAVISON, 140 S. Forest Ave., Hillside, IL 60162. Phone: (312) 544-7447.

A HOME REMEDY FOR A WASP AND BEE STING

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UPDATING AN OLD GOLF COURSE

One of the biggest challenges we face in our business may not be that of growing grass but satisfying 325 members. We all grow grass differently in trying to achieve the same end product, that of smooth true greens, fairways that allow the ball to sit up and grooming to create a harmonious relationship of all the other aesthetic entities that make a successful golf course expression. You would think that our hands are full in achieving this desired end product. It's apparent that no matter how close we watch expenditures the bottom line is a tremendous price we are now paying and the high cost in the future to maintain the status-quo style of grooming we are putting forth today.

I feel there are many classifications of golf course maintenance, depending on type of course and type of competition. We are also at the mercy of the variable factors involved such as drainage, amount and kind of play, age, area, design and other innate agronomic problems. Many of us are at a turning point. I for one, am in such a situation. Being at a very old golf course one that is in dire need for renovation because of mostly age and the things that come with age. Hazards that have been edged back so many years that it is time to re-model. Greens and fairways that have lost their initial outlines over the years, now have a different variety of grass in those early outlines. Poor site selection of new tree plantings have added to a loss of the original architects intent, as well as the loss of key existing trees. Arriving at this turning point may be a blessing in disguise for my membership. We are now going to re-model with an economic awareness. We procured an architect, who we thought could deliver an economic remodeling plan. One that is not out to put his style of design foremost but will re-create the original architects intent with a streamlined maintenance program in mind.

Working closely with me, we arrived at our desired goal. We re-designed sand traps so they can catch the golf ball instead of the ball skipping in and out, keeping the original architects trap design in mind. With the loss of many key elm trees we re-contoured fairways and re-faced tees to create doglegs to play like they did forty years ago. We've shortened fairways and plan to eliminate them on par 3 holes to cut down on high maintenance areas. We put in redan style greens with bunkers in front and rear and plan to re-sod these approaches to bluegrass, further cutting down on a high maintenance area. We've eliminated sand traps with little significance and added some at distances where nowadays they'll come into play. Cart paths were added in heavy trafficed areas. Teeing areas that were too big were broken apart and made smaller. A tree planting scheme was designed into the plan for any future plantings. We have now devised a 10 year program to implement the master plan. I now have a more secure feeling regarding our maintenance approach in the future. I feel that I have done my job in creating a more affordable golf course that my members can enjoy without losing the original character that they've been so proud of in the past.

**John Berarducci, Supt.
Skokie C.C.**

Two goats were wandering on the field behind the movie studio. One was munching an old film that had been discarded when the other goat asked, "How is it?"

"Not too bad," answered the first, "but I liked the book better."



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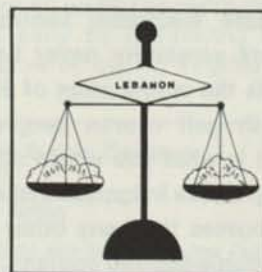
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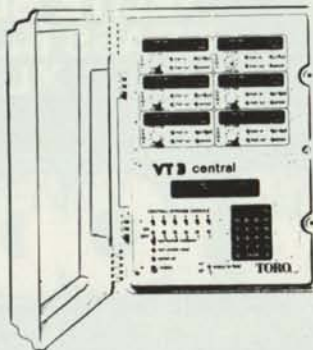
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Pesticides are great for getting rid of unwanted weeds and insects, but they aren't very good for humans. Chemicals are frequently spilled during mixing, and it is sometimes impossible to keep them from drifting back on the operator during application. Because pesticides can enter the body through the skin, proper care in the laundry room is vital.

A recent study by researchers at Iowa State University, Ames, showed that normal laundering is sufficient to remove 99.8 to 99.9 percent of the chemicals. Sample fabrics consisting of heavy cotton denim and a polyester/cotton blend chambray were contaminated with Atrazine, a herbicide, and Thimet, an insecticide, then washed and dried using normal household procedures.

Clothing worn while applying pesticides should be kept separate from other clothing and washed daily, using the following procedure:

1. Store contaminated clothing in a plastic bag to await laundering or put them directly into the machine after they are removed.
2. Use hot water, 140 degrees Fahrenheit, with the machine set for normal or full water level.
3. Add recommended amount of heavy-duty phosphate-based detergent.
4. Dry the clothes thoroughly in an automatic dryer at the regular fabric setting.
5. Make sure no pesticides are left in the washer by running the empty machine through the complete laundering cycle, using detergent.

Forefront

**MIDWEST REGIONAL TURF
FOUNDATION MEMBERSHIP 1980
ILLINOIS**

Is your name on this list — if not, why not??

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A young attorney working on his first case had been engaged by a farmer to prosecute a trucking company for losing a shipment of 24 of the farmer's pigs. He wanted to impress the jury with the magnitude of the injury. "Twenty-four pigs, twenty-four! Think of that! Twice the number in the jury box!"

**GOLF COURSE
IRRIGATION SEMINAR
for:**

- Key Grounds Department Personnel
- Golf Course Superintendents
- Green Committee Members
are welcomed

Topics to be covered:

- Pumping Plants
types and uses; basic pump controls; pump curves
- Sizing, Installing and Repairing
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Cast Iron Pipe
Installing and locating wire
Heads and Quick Couplers
Electric and Hydraulic Valves
The use of the new micro-computers

This seminar will cover only irrigation as it applies to golf courses and will not go into agronomic practices. This is a practical (hands-on) seminar.

These sessions (which are identical) will be held at:

**Builders Plumbing Supply Company
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133 South Route 53
Addison, Illinois 60101**

on MARCH 11 and 12, 1981, starting at 9 AM. Lunch provided by Builders.

Sessions fill up fast so make your reservations early by completing the form below or calling Virginia at (312) 629-8119.

**Builders Plumbing Supply Company
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The following would like to attend the Golf Course Irrigation Seminar on March _____, 1981 at 9:00 AM.

Club Address _____

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MIDWEST BREEZES

The late **Col. Sanders**, the Kentucky Fried Chicken man, made a statement some time ago that went like this: "Keeping busy is good for a person. One will rust away sooner by being idle rather than wearing out by being active".

If this is true and should it pertain to being active in the M.A.G.C.S. publication **The Bull Sheet**, there are many that are rusting away by this time. Many of the members of this association have never contributed toward this publication. The editor is asking for articles, either personal news or on the educational side. Who wants to rust away?

Dan Murray, assistant Superintendent at Glen Oak C.C., has resigned and taken the #1 Superintendent position at Kishwaukee C.C., DeKalb, Ill. A nice way to start a new year!

Ed Fischer, former Superintendent at Oak Brook C.C., has taken the Supt's position at Old Elm Club at Ft. Sheridan, Ill. **Al Bertucci**, Supt. at Old Elm for many years, has decided to hang up his spurs.

Adolph Bertucci, Superintendent at Lake Shore C.C., has spread the word that his father is ninety-nine years of age and his uncle **Elmer**, former Supt. at Old Elm Club is ninety-five. Both of the brothers are still active in doing many things around the home. This proves, keep busy. Don't let yourself rust away!

One of our regular attending members, **Vaclay Zolman**, has been in the hospital for surgery. Reports are he is back home and doing fine. This is sure good news and we all hope to see him at our M.A.G.C.S. monthly meetings again.

Our M.A.G.C.S. Jan. 5 meeting held at Arrowhead G.C. was a very interesting meeting. Fifty-seven attended and enjoyed an excellent lunch. We all thank our host, **Bob Breen**, who leaves nothing undone.

Our March 9th meeting will be held at Nordic Hills C.C. **Dave Meyer** will be our host. This should be a very interesting meeting. The speaker will bring you up to date on taxes. As you know, it is income tax time. Nordic has many facilities for your enjoyment. Come early and enjoy them. Nordic is near Itasca, just off old route 53.

M.A.G.C.S. March meeting has been changed from March 2nd to March 9 at Nordic Hills C.C. **Dave Meyer** reports there is available for your enjoyment after 1 p.m. bowling, swimming and racquet ball. Come and enjoy yourself.

Dear Ray;

It's not unusual at this time of year, to find the blahs and anxiety joining hands, to antagonize us into the dilemma some call Spring Fever.

"WINTER ANXIETY"

The Holidays have spent themselves,
 Winter's in full view.
 Evergreens peer through the ice and snow,
 To flaunt their green and blue.
 All of Nature swells with desire,
 To bloom and do their thing.
 But patiently must endure,
 Winter's yearly fling.
 Superintendents with the blahs to quell,
 Lose them on vacation.
 Others attend conferences,
 And further their education.
 Reluctantly we listen to,
 The tune that Winter sings.
 Waiting for Nature to open the garden gate,
 We all know as Spring.
 Hang in There!

Superintendently,
Kenneth R. Zanzig
 Green Garden C.C.

USGA'S NEW TURF BOOK SCHEDULED FOR '81 RELEASE

The current state of the art and science of turfgrass culture will be the subject of an upcoming book entitled **Turf Management for Golf Courses**, by Dr. James B. Beard, professor of turfgrass science at Texas A&M University.

Prepared under the sponsorship of the United States Golf Association, it is a comprehensive reference and "how to" book on the culture and management of turf for golf courses. It emphasizes the application of basic turfgrass principles to golf course turfgrass culture.

The subject has been organized into 12 chapters: The Golf Course, Building a Golf Course, The Putting Green, The Tee, The Fairway, The Rough, The Bunker, Equipment, Irrigation System, Pests and Stresses, Management, and Associated Aspects. Hundreds of photographs and illustrations are included.

The appendix includes vegetative and seed identification of turfgrasses, species and cultivar characterization, fertilizer characteristics and conversions, and drainage design specifications.

The USGA has sponsored two other turf-related books: **Turf for Golf Courses**, by Charles V. Piper and Russell A. Oakley, in 1917, and **Turf Management**, by H. Burton Musser, first published in 1950 and revised in 1962. Both books had a tremendous impact on turf management when they were published.

Turf Management for Golf Courses is not a revision of the earlier books. It will be available early in 1981 from the Burgess Publishing Company, 7108 Ohms, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55435, and the USGA, Golf House, Far Hills, New Jersey 07931.

WHISKY

While Charles E. (Scotty) Stewart was on a trip to Scotland recently he was given the following advice by a native and which he passes on to the readers of the **Bull Sheet**.

"If a body could find oot the exac' proper proportion that ought be drunk every day, and keep to that, I verily believe that he would live for ever, without dying, and doctors and cemeteries would go oot o' business."

What steps should be taken by golf course superintendents to prevent winter injury? The first and most important rule is not to play on turf when it is not actively growing, especially greens. Temporary greens should be played from the time the ground begins to freeze in late fall until completion of heaving and thawing in early spring. Excerpts from "The Case For Temporary Greens," January, 1966 USGA Green Section Record, document the importance of remaining off turf during this stress period:

"So many more golfers play each course now in regular season that injury due to the increased traffic is mounting and off-season play can only add to the total traffic injury problems.

"In late fall or early winter when frost enters the ground, turf becomes frozen and the upper fraction of soil becomes moistened with frost. Traffic at these times will break or crack the stiff and frozen blades of grass, weaken them, and *Poa annua* or other weeds could subsequently encroach, and so the turf is generally weakened. Traffic imposed upon moistened soil results in a cementing of the soil due to the lubricating action of the moisture. This undoubtedly adds to compaction.

"In winter when the ground is frozen solid, turf blades would suffer only if play were allowed while the grass, too, was frozen. The danger here is that during the day while players are on the course, sufficient thawing could occur in the upper fraction of soil to cause footprints and a cementing action of the soil. This occurs when air temperatures are higher than normal and, of course, these are the very days when golfers prefer to play.

"The most difficult time for turf is in late winter and early spring, from mid-February through March when the top one inch of soil (or less) is thawing but the soil beneath is frozen. Traffic on greens at this time will result in severe compaction.

"Any time water stands on a green in winter, no play should be allowed. This results in extreme softness of the upper fraction of soil and turf.

"All told, any amount of play in winter generally means more rigid management during the growing season, especially more aeration and more topdressing to true and level greens. If play is allowed on regular greens, we cannot stress too vigorously that the days must be very carefully chosen; that someone must make these day-to-day decisions; and that your course must be treated as an individual problem. It should not be kept open or closed simply because a nearby course is open or closed.

"The only way to insure against possible trouble is to have temporary greens. It has often been suggested that the word 'alternate' be used in place of 'temporary,' because the latter bears a negative connotation."

Second, drainage conditions must be at an optimum if sound turf programs are to be carried out and followed to prevent winter injury. And, third, an adequate budget, good source of labor and communication between the golf course superintendent and his immediate superior must become a reality when facing the winter injury problem in the cool temperate zone of the United States.

USGA Green Section

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