

MECHANIC WORKSHOPS

The Midwest Association again is promoting educational opportunities for Golf Course Mechanics. Working with Midwest Engine Warehouse in the past, has given us support to provide education. The Midwest Engine Warehouse has opened up their Small Engine Service School for participation by our members. The schools are designed to give hands on maintenance of small engines along with some lectures. Emphasis is put on trouble shooting and understanding the function of small engines.

Two schools are offered, one being on Briggs & Stratton engines and the other on Kohler Engines. The 1983 list of schools for Briggs & Stratton begin on January 10, February 21, March 14, March 21, April 4, April 25, May 9, June 13, July 11, September 12, October 3, and November 13. The 1983 list of schools for Kohler begin on February 14, March 7, April 18, May 23, and August 8. All schools begin at 8:00 a.m. Monday and finishes Thursday afternoon at 4:30 p.m. There is a fee of \$75.00 which includes: 4 lunches, 1 hospitality hour, all school related materials, and a Certificiate to graduates.

For more information on the work shops you can call or write:

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Len Berg

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2. The president of the largest gas company?
3. The president of the New York Stock Exchange?
4. The Greatest Wheat Speculator?
5. The president of the Bank of International Settlement?
6. The Great Bear of Wall Street?

These men should be considered some of the world's most successful men. At least they found the secret of making money. Now, more than fifty years later, do you know what became of these men?

1. The president of the largest steel company, Charles Schwab, died a pauper.
2. The president of the largest gas company, Howard Hopsom, is now insane.
3. The president of the New York Stock Exchange, Richard Whitney, was released from prison to die at home.
4. The greatest wheat speculator, Arthur Cookon, died abroad insolvent.
5. The president of the Bank of International Settlement shot himself.
6. The greatest Bear of Wall Street, Genabee Rivermore, died of suicide.

The same year, 1923, the winner of the most important golf championship, Gene Sarazen, won the U.S. Open and PGA Tournament. Today he is still playing an excellent game of golf and is solvent.

CONCLUSION: STOP WORRYING ABOUT BUSINESS AND PLAY GOLF.

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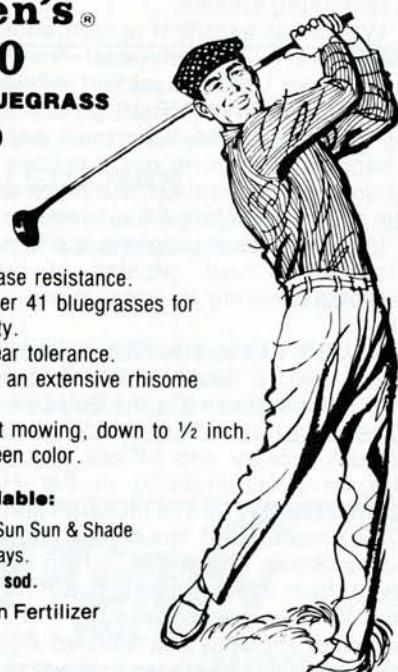
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MID-AM CELEBRATES TENTH ANNIVERSARY

For the tenth consecutive year, the Mid-America Horticultural Trade Show will host the midwest's largest horticultural exposition, featuring the goods and services of suppliers from throughout the nation.

Mid-Am/83 will be held January 14-16 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago, offering buyers the chance to inspect the products of suppliers occupying more than 400 booths and covering more than 40,000 square feet.

It is anticipated that more than 7,000 buyers will attend Mid-Am/83, purchasing more than \$2 million worth of plant materials, stock, heavy equipment, chemicals, soil conditioners, communication systems, ornamentals, tools, data processing systems and a vast array of other products.

Buyers who will attend the show will include landscape architects, contractors, nurserymen, garden center operators, florists and many other horticultural professionals.

For more information about the show contact Mid-Am/83, 4300-L Lincoln Avenue, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008, (312)359-8160.

USGA STILL WEIGHING DECISION ON MOVE TO ATLANTA

ATLANTA, GA., APRIL 7 -- The United States Golf Association is still weighing a decision on whether to move its offices, museum and library from New Jersey to the Atlanta area.

The USGA Executive Committee, concluding two days of meetings at a hotel near the Atlanta Airport, did not vote on moving the Association's headquarters from Far Hills, N.J., to one of several possible sites in suburban Atlanta.

Golf's governing body did rule out a possible move to the Kate Macy Ladd Home in Peapack, N.J., several miles from its present location. No vote was taken on the remaining options.

"We had an excellent presentation from the Atlanta people and a fine proposal from the New Jersey group," said USGA President William C. Campbell of Huntington, W. Va. "Both groups have made it clear they want the USGA very much and we feel we could be happy and perform our functions at either location still under consideration, but there are some questions to be answered before a final decision can be made.

"We made good progress the last two days and we will make a final decision at our next regularly scheduled meeting in June, if not sooner," Campbell said.

The USGA Executive Committee will meet the week prior to the U.S. Open, which will be played June 17-20 at the Pebble Beach (Calif.) Golf Links.

The Association must decide whether to build a new museum, library and offices in suburban Atlanta or build an office building in Far Hills, retaining its present facilities for the museum and library.

The present Golf House is a 19-room building on a 62-acre estate. The USGA, which was founded in 1894, moved from New York City to its present location, about 30 miles west of the city, in 1972. Since that time, the size of the staff has doubled from 41 to 82 people, forcing the USGA to lease space in three buildings near Far Hills.

"We will have to raise substantial funds to build new facilities, regardless of the location," Campbell said.

Dr. Fred V. Grau, president of the Musser Foundation, announces the formation of an expanded Board of Advisers which will assist the Board of Directors to formulate policies and programs. Geographical areas are strategically represented as well as a wide range of turfgrass disciplines.

The names read like a "Who's Who" in turfgrass research management and education.

Chas. Bowen, Paine Webber-investments

Wm. Burdick, golf course management

Dr. Jack Butter, Rocky Mt. turf

Hugh Chronister, publications

Joseph Gambatese, golf writer

Dr. Henry W. Indyk, sod industry

Dan Jones, Florida Green

Dr. Nichole O'Neill, USDA, plant pathology

A. M. Radko, golf industry

Dr. Eliot Roberts, Director, the Lawn Institute

Dr. Robert C. Shearman, Midwest and Plains turf

Alan Shuler, Executive Director, PGMS

George Toma, Sports turf (K.C. Chiefs & Royals)

Keith W. Weidler, Lawn Industry

Dr. V. B. Youngner, Western turf

The established sound judgment of these individuals, together with their broad experience, will provide a range of views and opinions that will yield calculable benefit to the Musser Board of Directors in assessing the needs of the turfgrass industry. "It is with considerable pride that we release this list of advisers," said Dr. Grau. "It is a step in the right direction in bringing all turfgrass disciplines together to cooperate for the common good. Identity of organizations will be enhanced - not diluted."

**Fred V. Grau, President
The Musser Foundation**

Dear Ray;

I was wondering whether or not through your newsletter you could help the USGA Green Section out with a problem. As you know, we had a booth at the recent North Central Turf Expo held at the Arlington Park Hilton. While at the booth, a number of golf course superintendents came up to us and asked us for various materials, letters, information, etc. All these requests were jotted down so that when we returned to the office, we could follow up on these requests from superintendents. This is our normal procedure following a conference. Unfortunately, after the conference was over and our booth was packed up (along with all these notes), it was, quite literally, thrown out by the clean-up men. That's right ... they threw everything out from our booth!

Besides the material loss, which can always be made up, we lost all these valuable notes and requests, which unfortunately can't be replaced. Therefore, could you publish a notice in your newsletter asking any golf course superintendent who requested anything from us during the North Central Turf Expo to give my office a call at 815-459-3731, as we would be more than happy to fill their requests. We certainly don't want to disappoint anyone, but under the circumstances, there is little else we can do.

Oh, well, I guess you must live and learn. The next time we have a booth, rest assured that my secretary, Lin, will perch herself on top of the boxes and defend them with her life! Best personal regards and hope this note finds you well.

**Stan Zontek
North Central Director
USGA**

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PALMER WINS PRESTIGIOUS NEW GOLF AWARD

Arnold Palmer has been named the first recipient of the "Old Tom" Morris Award, established recently by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) to satisfy the need for a significant international award that would help identify with the true heritage and traditional founding of the game.

"Old Tom" Morris, one of golf's first greats, was a greenkeeper, golf professional, club and ball maker, golf course architect and accomplished player who won four British Open Championships between 1861 and 1867.

While at the Royal and Ancient, St. Andrews, Scotland, "Old Tom" acquired worldwide fame, boosting the popularity of golf through his role as the first superstar of golf-as detailed in the November 1982 issue of *GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT* magazine, GCSAA's official monthly publication.

Selection of Palmer as the first recipient of such a significant award was an easy task, according to GCSAA President, James A. Wyllie. "Besides being a superstar like 'Old Tom', Palmer has displayed a continuing, selfless commitment to golf and furthered the welfare of the game in a manner exemplified by 'Old Tom' Morris", Wyllie said last week.

Palmer, himself the son of a greenkeeper, has made clubs and balls and designed golf courses in the course of a career studded with more than 70 tournament victories. His contributions to the popularity and welfare of the game are, according to Wyllie, "immeasurable."

Palmer is slated to accept the award at GCSAA's 54th International Turfgrass Conference and Show in Atlanta, GA, on February 24, 1983.

GCSAA, the sponsor of this premier international event in turfgrass management, is a professional association 5,500 strong representing golf course superintendents in the United States, Canada and 25 foreign countries.

The Musser Foundation Board of Directors has been enhanced by the appointment of two prominent international figures.

Dr. J. J. Murray, turfgrass scientist at the USDA facility at Beltsville, MD, has accepted the appointment. Recently he explored several Asian countries searching for new zoysia cultivars. The new germ plasm will enhance his search for plants that are resistant to many stresses.

John Souter, turfgrass consultant, will represent the United Kingdom from his base in Perthshire, Scotland, he will bring to us his vast experience in turfgrass in another clime. John regularly attends important functions in the U.S. and he expects to be with us in Atlanta. His colorful highland attire draws attention from every side.

**Fred V. Grau, President
The Musser Foundation**

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IN YOUR GARDEN PROTECT TREES FROM WINTER INJURY NOW

The fact that winters are tough on trees and shrubs is an understatement. James A. Fizzell, University of Illinois Horticulturist in Cook County says, this summer we saw the effects of the winter as plants expired from delayed reaction to damage. Plants girdled by rodents, or with roots injured by excess water or low temperatures, can live quite awhile before the stored foods are used up. Then when least expected, they die.

You can avoid many of the winter problems by preparing now. To reduce damage from mice, remove all grass and weeds around the trunks of the trees and shrubs. Use hand clippers on vegetation you can't cut with a lawn mower. Be sure not to nick the bark. Unmowed vegetation provides cover for field mice which eat the inner bark of trunks and roots, frequently killing fruit trees.

Rabbits eat the bark off the trunk and any branches within reach, particularly on young fruit trees. However, Fizzell notes, they do not bother older trees which have developed heavy outer bark. Either chemical repellants or mechanical barriers are recommended for protection from rabbits. Spray the repellent on trunk and lower branches as recommended on the label. Chemicals are more effective in protecting shrubs than mechanical barriers. For trees, use chicken wire or hardware cloth to form a cylinder around the trunk. The cylinder should be at least two inches from the trunk and high enough to provide protection in the event of heavy snow cover. Or, wrap the trunk with newspapers, waterproof paper, or tree wrap.

Wrapping the trunk will also help protect trees from winter sun scald, says Fizzell, and will benefit even older trees not subject to rabbit damage.

Trunk wrapping does not keep the trunk warmer, but provides shade from the winter sun which could elevate the temperatures of the inner bark to the point where it begins growing even in mid-winter. When the sun sets, temperatures rapidly drop to freezing or lower; this causes ice crystals to form in the inner bark, killing it. Such injury usually occurs on the south or southwest side of the trunk, the area most likely to be warmed by winter sunlight, and may not become apparent until the next summer. Maples and other thin bark varieties are very susceptible to this kind of injury. Some nurseries are investigating white paint on trunks as protection from winter sun damage.

Remove tree wraps when growth starts in the spring as they provide cover for insects which may injure the trunk during the growing season.

Of major concern in winter survival is damage, says Fizzell. Fill in low areas so water will not stand around the stems and roots during the winter months. Divert down spouts so runoff doesn't collect in shrub beds or around shade trees. Wet conditions are ideal for development of disease organisms which attack the plants at the soil line and kill them. Roots in standing water can suffocate and rot away.

It is equally important that evergreens and newly planted trees and shrubs go into winter adequately watered. Plants standing in water drown, but those in parched, dry soils won't survive either. Roots continue to grow as long as soils remain unfrozen. Evergreens lose water from their leaves on bright winter days.

**James A. Fizzell, Sr. Extension Adviser
Horticulture**

THE CULTIVAR REVOLUTION

The turfgrass world is in the midst of memorable change - the new cultivar revolution. Many turf managers of this generation are too young to remember what the situation was like only a quarter century ago when one could call upon nothing better than unselected, wild pasture grasses to seed a golf course.

This isn't to say, though, that common bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*) from the Midwest and fine fescue (*Festuca rubra*) from the Northwest were poorly adapted. After all, they had proved themselves in the crucible of natural selection for more than a century. But they did lack refinements taken for granted today. And unlike other crops, turfgrass seed was almost alone among major species - none of it had been especially selected or bred for major use as high-quality mowed turf.

Even perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*), which today includes some of the most respected turf cultivars, was little more at midcentury than a weed species in comparison to perennial swards of bentgrass, bluegrass or fescue.

The Past Reveals the Present

A hoary but valid maxim states that the past is but a prelude. Let's turn the pages of history back a few decades so that we may better understand today's cultivar situation and expectations for continued development for the future.

Until World War II, turfgrass seed was, at best, gathered by stripping pastures where livestock had been withheld for a few weeks during the seeding season. At worst, it was simply the cleanout and the leftovers from agricultural seed. Obviously, the time was ripe for change. In a country metamorphosing from a rural to an urban way of life, a tremendous homeowner and recreational market was rapidly taking shape.

Merion Kentucky bluegrass was an omen of things to come. Its advent sounded an alert heard around the world, and Europe, which had operated under a cartel system long before the United States had legalized breeders' rights, quickly recognized the opportunity to develop a market.

After the first Merion was developed in the 1940s from the test plots at Penn State, many other cultivars followed. At Tifton, GA, Glenn Burton hybridized common bermudagrass (*Cynodon dactylon*) with an African species (*C. trasvaalensis*) to yield the triploid Tifton series for the South. The series included Tiffine, Tifgreen, Tifway and others.

Arden Jacklin displayed unusual astuteness for the times by betting his business future on the chance that the market was now ready for an improved turfgrass, even if the seed had to sold at a considerable premium. Jacklin seed introduced the Swedish beauty and Fylking bluegrass after painstaking testing in America. Several American agricultural colleges nursed along breeding programs while European seedsmen scurried far and wide seeking improved cultivars mainly for the American market.

Cultivar programs at Penn State and Rhode Island continued to make progress, but the large-scale breakthrough eventually came from Rutgers University where Dr. C. Reed Funk had assembled a tremendous bank of bluegrass germplasm. His work launched the polycross concept for superior perennial ryegrass cultivars. The advent of Manhattan was, in its way, as stimulative of new cultivars as Merion had been.

Luckily, by 1971, legislation was passed in the United States to provide a form of patent protection for newly invented plants from seed. This made it possible for America to compete with Europe, and for Rutgers to release under private aegis the many superior cultivars bred there.

Today's Mother Lode

Selection of golf green bentgrasses, which antedated Merion, goes back to Dr. J. Montieth's program at Arlington, VA. Yet, the greatest strides in cultivar development have

come in the Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass species. Interestingly, with both of these species, the pitfalls of inbreeding have been avoided and still a built-in heterogeneity has been established in the cultivars.

As turfgrass breeding has progressed, breeders have selected an increasingly broader array of traits, both morphological and physiological. As great as the advances have been, more are still to come. Much research is still needed to reveal more about breeding of cultivars for insect resistance, tolerance to specific pesticides, reduced thatch formation, economy of maintenance, compatibility in blends and mixtures, response to growth restraints, allelopathy, competitiveness against weeds and many other sophisticated requirements.

Unfortunately, seed yield, which has nothing to do with turf quality and may be somewhat negatively correlated, must be given prime consideration because of its obvious influence on economics.

Perhaps because of Merion's outstanding resistance to leafspot (*Helminthosporium*) in a day when common bluegrass has suffered severely, attention has focused upon selection and breeding for disease tolerance. The spectrum of diseases against which a turfgrass should be resistant has enlarged greatly since those early days. Newly virulent fungal races are still arising and once-not-so-serious diseases tend to become epidemic as greater turf populations are planted.

MID-AM MEETING SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

With the dates for the 1983 Mid-America Horticultural Trade Show fast approaching, 215 exhibitors from throughout the U.S. and Canada are making plans to participate in the tenth anniversary edition of the show.

The show will run from Friday, January 14, to Sunday, January 16, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. The show hours will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Contact **Donn W. Stanford** for more information.

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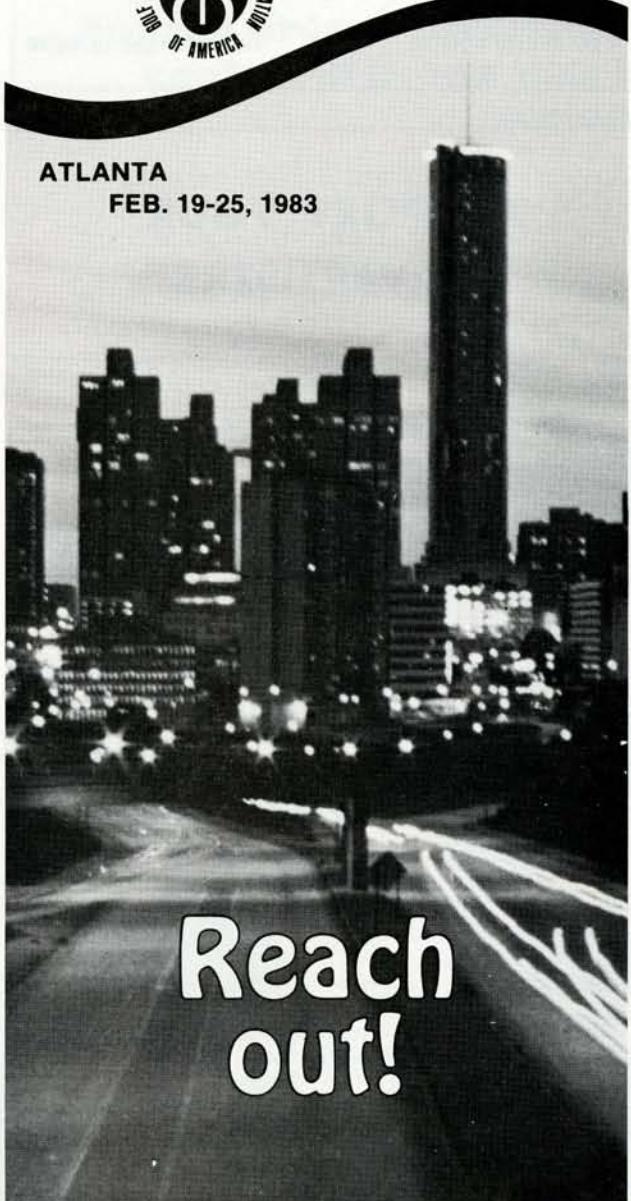
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FLOWERING SHRUBS CAN BE FORCED IN-DOORS NOW

This year spring can come early to your home. How? Just snip some branches from your flowering shrubs and force them into bloom. According to James A. Fizzell, University of Illinois Horticulturist in Cook County, by now many shrubs have flower buds that are formed and ready to bloom. The recent cold weather was sufficient to break dormancy and all they require to burst open is warmth and moisture.

This procedure is quite simple, says Fizzell. Anyone, even apartment dwellers, can succeed with this project. Start by selecting branches loaded with flower buds. You can identify the flower buds because they are more plump and more round than leaf buds. When cutting, select branches that have curves or bends that will create interesting blooming arrangements.

Since the branches will be in water several weeks, many of the clean cut ends will have a tendency to heal or form callus. This is not desirable because it restricts the water uptake. To prevent this healing, thoroughly pound with a hammer and shred the cut ends of the branches.

After the ends are prepared, submerge the bundle of branches overnight in a deep pail or tub of water, or wrap them in a damp cloth or put them in a plastic bag for a few days. This moistening and soaking loosens the bud scales and helps them to readily fall away as the flower expands. After moistening operation is completed, stand the branches in a pail of water. A temperature of 60 degrees to 70 degrees F. is best for the developing flowers. Although the branches will force at higher temperatures, the color, size, and keeping quality of the blooms will be reduced. For this reason, it is also best to keep the branches out of direct sun.

Most branches will be well on their way to full bloom in two weeks or sooner. They will stay attractive for about one week. So, if you cut a few branches each week, you can have a succession of fresh flowers the rest of the winter.

Some of the most popular shrubs to force are forsythia and flowering quince. Other good plants for forcing are flowering crab, flowering almond, and spiraea ... especially the double flowered spiraeas. Magnolia forces easily, too.

Although white flowering dogwood can be forced, it opens slowly and the bracts never develop as fully as outside. Lilac, because it is a complex compound flower, is also a challenge to force.

James A. Fizzell, Sr. Extension Adviser
Horticulture

Question: How much harm can we do by playing the regular greens this winter?

Answer: Weather conditions change so rapidly that it is difficult to give an unqualified answer. If the ground is frozen solidly or thawed beyond the depth of one inch, there is no cause for alarm as far as soil compaction is concerned. However, some grass blade damage may occur as foot traffic crushes the frozen blades. Real injury occurs when the ground thaws at the surface but not below one inch. Traffic then causes severe soil compaction, a tearing of roots from the plant and a squeezing and displacement of the soil, causing very uneven putting surfaces. The decision to play or not to play regular greens must be flexible and must rest with the superintendent, the Green Chairman and his Committee. And it may have to be changed within a few hours on any given winter day.

An old Sanskrit proverb reads:

Look to this day
For it is life
The very life of life
In its brief course lies all
The realities and verities of existence
The bliss of growth
The splendor of action
The glory of power.

For yesterday is but a dream
And tomorrow is only a vision
But today, well lived,
Makes every yesterday a dream of happiness
And every tomorrow a vision of hope.

Look well, therefore, to this day.



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This year, plan on using TERSAN 1991 in combination with Daconil 2787. It's the tank mix turf diseases can't match.

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