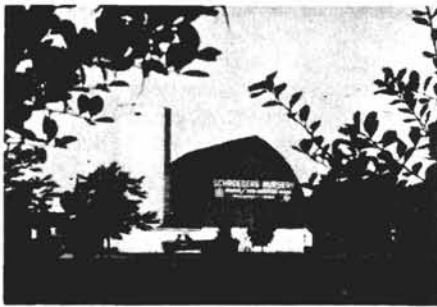


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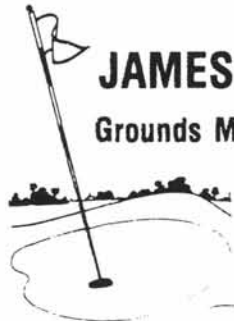
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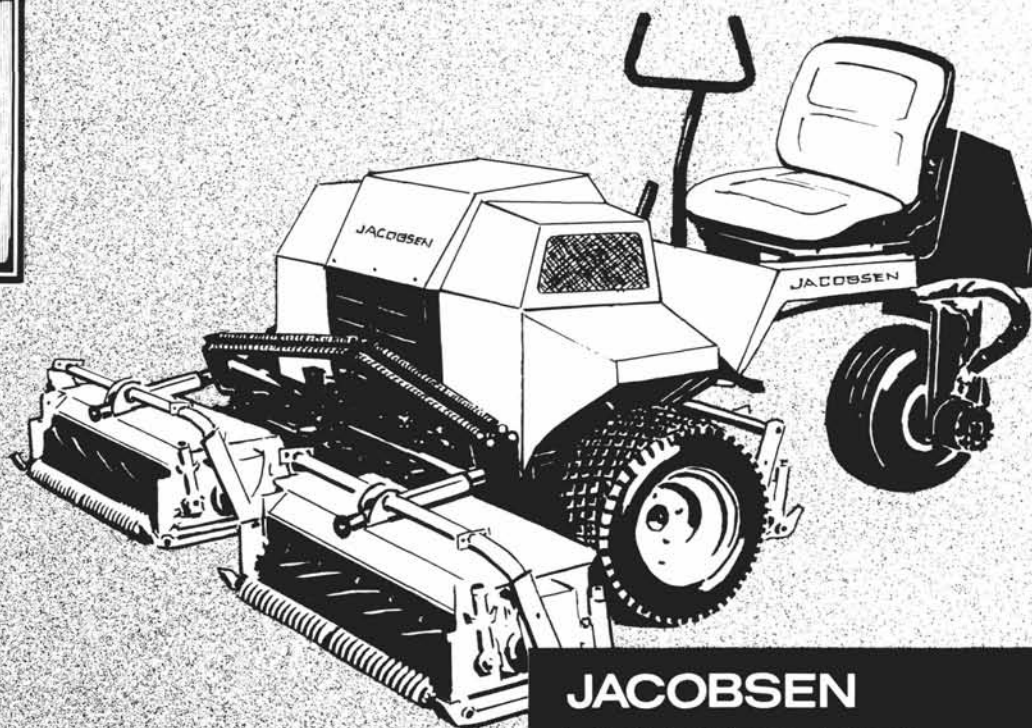
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Midwest Breezes



Upcoming Events — Mark Your Calendar

October 3 — MAGCS Monthly Meeting at Carillon G.C.

October 26 — Fall Dinner Dance, Riverside G.C.

October 30-31 — Wisconsin Turf Symposium at Pfister Hotel

November 7 — MAGCS Clinic at Medinah C.C.

November 27-29 — Turfgrass and Ornamental Chemical Seminar at Purdue

December 4-6 — NCTE in Springfield

Midwest Breezes

The Editor apologizes for omitting giving credit to the Geneva Golf Club and their staff for also hosting the ITF Golf Day. The majority of the golfers played at St. Charles C.C., but the overflow groups played further south on the Fox River at the Geneva Golf Club. Ed Braunsky and staff "Thank You" for also helping to make the day enjoyable and profitable for a worthy cause.

Tom DiGuido has come up with a new style of an organic fertilizer spreader. There seems to be minor flaw with the use of it though. For the proper application there has to be a flood on the course. It is only then that the organic fertilizer spreaders work. It also helps to have a number of the spreaders (most of us recognize these spreaders as portable toilets) spread around the course. It seems that with the past flooding of Salt Creek in late August that a newspaper ran a picture of a "organic spreader" floating past a green.

Tom at Oak Meadows was not the only one who had flooding problems with Salt Creek. Jim Meyers at Itasca and Scott Nissely at Oak Brook Golf Club were also hurt by the flooding and lost turf.

Looking for an assistant? Call or write James R. Johnson, 421 Yorkshire Square, Bolingbrook, IL 60440. Phone: 708/739-4465. He has six years experience in the horticulture field, with five years in direct supervision.

Marty Bauman at Mt. Prospect Golf Club is looking for an assistant. Call him at 708/577-9668.

Gerald Hough and his family suffered during the recent tornado that struck the Plainfield area. He and his wife were driving home and got to about ¼ mile from their home when they saw it explode. They were picked up while in the truck and the truck hit a pole about ten feet off the ground. Fortunately, no one was hurt, but they lost their home.



Bruce Williams, President of MAGCS, presenting a \$1,000.00 check to Don Johnson, Executive Director of Western Golf Association under a portrait of Chick Evans.



Tamarack Hosts: Russ Fink & his assistant Peter Mirkes, Jr.

Mike Bavier is going to Paris to the International Turf Conference of Europe in November.

For Sale or Trade: 2 Toro GM3 Triplexes, 4 Toro Series IV Greensmowers, 1 Metermatic Topdresser. Call Bruce Williams or Rick Bowden at 708/432-0088.

For Sale: 2 chest waders size 12 and 1 chest wader size 9, good condition. Call Fred Opperman, 708/428-5009.

Grandparents Penny & Dave Meyer! Greatgrandparents Marj & Tony Meyer! Penny & Dave's son & daughter-in-law Bryan & Sara Meyer are the proud parents of Kayla Meyer, born on September 14.

Necrology

It is with a deep sense of loss that we announce the death of Ray Schmitz's father who recently passed away at the age of 89 and one week.

"Octoberfest"

Feast Your eye's on October's Smile,
Enchanting beauty, delightful Style.
Giving generously It's bountiful crop,
"Have another Beer, Thanks a lot".
Octoberfest seems to say it all,
Be Thankful, Eat, Drink, have a Ball.
Yes! It's a great way of nose-thumbing,
Winter's threat of Cold Weather coming.

Kenneth R. Zanzig

Smoke Dreams & Remembering

by Edwin Wollenberg, Retired Supt.

However you may feel about it, I guess there are sound reasons for not burning leaves. Their smoke adds to the smog and air pollution, their smoldering flames create a fire hazard, and unburned leaves make good mulch and compost. Burning them is both wasteful and hazardous, so nowadays enlightened people compost autumn leaves or let the trash men haul them away, to an already overfilled landfill while waiting for the approval of a new and controversial site.

But now and then somebody forgets all these good reasons for not burning, or ignores them, and rakes a pile of leaves into some safe place and burns them, for his own good reason. When he does, other nostalgic people sniff the evening air and remember forgotten autumns when leaf raking was the incense of October evenings. Leisurely, uncrowded evenings, uninterrupted by television and unhurried by the false belief of lengthening daylight saving time.

It isn't only the leaf smoke, pungent as it is. It is all the other remembered fragrances of this season. The spiced aroma from the pickling kettle in my mother's kitchen, the acrid scent of black walnut hulls, the smell of roasting chestnuts or toasted marshmallows, the beady tang of apple cider, the savory simmer of mincemeat in the making, and the tantalizing smell of pumpkin pie in the oven.

It's frost mornings, and Indian Summer days, and the smell of wood smoke curling from an evening chimney.

It is wasteful, unwise, and in some places illegal to burn leaves. And yet it is October, autumn evenings and remembered

years. If you are middle-aged, or further along in years like I am, don't allow yourself to smell it or you will wonder as I do, and ask, "What happened to those memorable years"?



Group of Chicagoland Superintendents on a tour of Wrigley Field in early August.

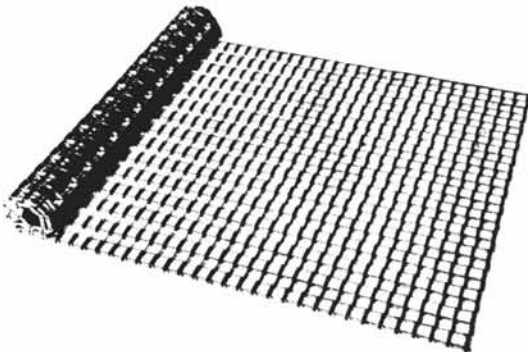


Left to right: Ed Fisher, Fred Opperman, Carl Hopphan, Mr. & Mrs. Mark Kowalczyk, Dennis Wilson and Verlyn Strellner.

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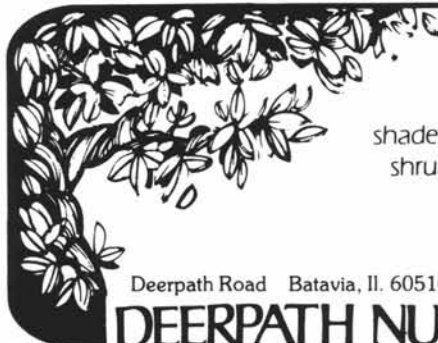


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Getting a Sky-Shot From the Ground? What a Remote Idea!

by Pat Kelly

Used to be the only way to show off fairways and greens as the birds view them was to get a helicopter or a lift-crane. Both are expensive and time consuming. A helicopter buzzing at 300 feet is not only too high for some shots, but noisy and distracting to guests. A crane goes low, damages grasses and takes a lot of time just moving a few feet. What's a superintendent to do?

Well, the 90's age of high-tech video, miniature electronics and light-weight materials has combined with 19th century aviation to provide the answer — a **BALLOON**? Not just any balloon, but rather a helium filled dirigible 17 feet long carrying a sophisticated remote-controlled camera and video system. All this controlled by the operator safely on the ground! Now you can get great images of the course with the mobility of a golf cart, the silence of a shutter, from the unique view of a birds' eye, all while your guests are playing through!

Sky-Shots, based in Kennesaw, Georgia, provides custom aerial photography from zero to 250 feet and everywhere in-between. This system, the first of its kind in the U.S., allows the operator to control altitude by letting out more or less cable, motor drives for tilting and turning, all while viewing the TV monitor for perfect composition safely from the ground. We can literally steady the camera anywhere above the course and get exactly what you want to highlight.

If the next shot includes a lower angle with golfers, we just pull down the balloon and move closer, there is no noise or damage to the course because the photographer walks with system harness around their neck. Even greens from 20 feet look better.

Trees seldom are a problem; we simply go around or above. Winds over 15 MPH can be fun, so we avoid them whenever possible. Whenever power lines have been a factor, we simply move further back and up, obviously not a factor here.

The possibilities are endless as to how this can be utilized. Advertising, design, tournament photos or a historical record are just some. Sky-Shots can certainly help get you more shots in less time from better angles than ever before.

The only danger could be a duffer driving into the dirigible, and that would indeed be a sky-shot to beat all!

Credit: "Through the Green", Sept./Oct. 1990



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Spring Flowering Bulb Selection Made Easier

by James A. Fizzell, Sr. Ext. Adviser
Horticulture, U. of I.

Are you confused by all the different bulbs sold at garden centers? More than 4,000 varieties of tulips are available but, to make your selection easier, they are grouped into several classes.

Some common types of tulips and their characteristics include:

Darwin tulips, which are late flowering and probably the most favored, growing 22 to 30 inches tall and producing large, deep-cupped, solid-colored flowers on strong stems.

Parrot tulips, with blooms featuring twisted petals with featherlike edges, and which grow 20 to 28 inches tall, and are late flowering.

Cottage tulips, long-stemmed varieties with slender buds and long, pointed petals, growing 16 inches to nearly three feet tall and blooming in May.

Kaufmanniana tulips, which are early flowering and are sometimes referred to as "water-lily" tulips because their pointed petals open horizontally like those of water lilies, growing only four to eight inches tall, and excellent for rock gardens.

Fosteriana tulips, which grow 8 to 20 inches tall and have blossoms as large as four inches. These were crossed with the Darwin tulips to procure the Darwin Hybrids, which grow 22 to 30 inches tall and are the largest and most spectacular of all the tulips.

Double Late tulips, sometimes called peony-flowered because of their resemblance to peonies, growing 18 inches to about two feet tall and very attractive.

To most gardeners, spring bulbs mean tulips, crocuses, hyacinths, and daffodils. Species tulips and species crocus are smaller yet earlier than the hybrid types. There are a number of other "minor" bulbs available that provide color in the garden and fill in among rock gardens, borders, under trees, or among shrubs. Most need to be planted in sun or part shade. Plant them in mass for the best show, 3" to 4" apart and 3 to 4" deep.

The following three are very early blooming:

Galathus or Snowdrops grow only 4 to 6 inches tall. The white flower is bell-like.

Eranthis or Winter Aconite, grow 3-4" tall and produce a deep yellow, buttercup-like flower about 1½ inches wide which grows above a finely frilled collar of bright green.

Scilla siberica Spring Beauty are best known for their intense blue, 1" star-shaped flowers on 4 to 6" stems.

Muscari or Grape Hyacinth, have tiny blossoms that appear on spikes in mid-April. Muscari come in blue or white. A showy double blue grape hyacinth is Blue Spike.

Pusdikinia is closely related to Scillas. It flowers later in spring. Pale blue and white striped flowers grow on a 5 to 6" plant.

Scilla hispanica or Wood Hyacinth/Spanish Bluebell bloom in May. Bell-shaped flowers on 10-15 inch open spikes. Colors include white, pink, and blue. They can take deep shade and bloom with the Darwin tulips.

Alliums or flowering onions vary in height from 9 inches to 5 feet. Alliums bloom in May, June, and July, with white, yellow, red, or pink flowers.

Plant the bulbs 2 to 3 inches deep, and 6 to 15 inches apart in clumps of 6 to 12 bulbs. The Allium genus is best known for its edible members — onions, garlic, chives and leeks — but it also contains many ornamental species.

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Vigorous Plant Growth Depends on Well Developed Roots

A strong, healthy root system is vital to a strong healthy plant. Plants with poor or marginal root systems are more susceptible to draught stress and secondary attacks by disease and insect pests. To promote vigorous root growth, you need an understanding of how and where roots grow.

Soil must provide a good environment for root growth, not just anchorage for the plant. In most soils, root systems are much more shallow and widespread than often believed. True taproots are rare in nature. Subsoils are usually not suitable for root growth, so there is little reason for a taproot to develop. Most of the large anchoring roots of trees are located in the top two to three feet of soil. The fine roots, which are the primary site of water and mineral absorption, are usually located within the top four to eight inches of soil — the area most conducive to root growth. The lateral spread of the root system is usually many times that of the branches. The commonly held belief that the root system mirrors the above ground portion of the plant is unfounded. This can easily be seen on trees that have been excavated by construction activity or blown over by high winds.

Root systems are dynamic. The fine roots are continually growing, dying and being replaced by other fine roots. A few of these succulent fine roots persist to eventually become woody structural roots. In nearly all plants, the fine roots form symbiotic associations with common soil fungi called mycorrhizae. These mycorrhizal roots often do not appear to be any different to the untrained eye, but are very important for nourishment of the plant. Simply stated, the mycorrhizae act as extensions of the root system and aid in absorption of nutrients from the soil, especially in infertile soils. Plants without mycorrhizae usually grow slower than those with mycorrhizae growing on the same site.

When field-grown plants are transplanted, often up to 95 percent of the root system is left behind. In other words, five percent of the root system must support 100 percent of the tree until new roots regenerate. In soils with normal drainage, this can lead to severe draught stress, which in turn can reduce root regeneration. In this situation, regular watering is imperative. In soils with poor drainage or a heavily compacted layer below the surface, the planting hole will often fill up with water from normal rainfall. Methods of removing the excess water may have to be devised and additional watering may only aggravate the situation.

When roots are cut during the transplanting process, new rootlets originate from the end of the severed roots at the edge of the root ball. Few, if any, lateral roots are formed within the root ball. In light of this, root pruning is of questionable value. It has been shown that transplanting during the period of early shoot development in the spring reduces overall root regeneration. At this time, the roots are competing with the shoots for common source of carbohydrate reserves. If transplanting is delayed until the leaves begin to expand, the leaves will be producing carbohydrates through photosynthesis, and competition for existing reserves is reduced, resulting in better root growth.

After large trees are removed, it is common to observe a long period of slow growth, often lasting many years. This extended period of reduced vigor often results in concern for the sur-

(cont'd. page 20)

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(Good Roots cont'd.)

vival of the tree. To the contrary, this period of slow growth should be expected since the plant is being supported by such a limited root system. Not until the root system is once again in balance with the above ground portion of the plant will

It is important to remember that a plant is only as good as its root system.

vigorous growth resume. The length of time required is closely related to the size of the plant, and is directly dependent on the original lateral root spread. Roots grow radially from the trunk in a linear fashion and at a similar rate, independent of the size of the plant. The longer the linear distance that must be covered to replace the original root system, the longer the period of slow top growth. Calculations show that the root system of a 4-inch tree would probably take four to five years, while that of a 10-inch tree could take as long as 13 years under the same growing conditions. It is important to remember that a plant is only as good as its root system. Care should be taken to provide adequate soil conditions for good root development. After transplanting, there is a period of slow growth while the root system catches up with the above ground growth of the plant.

Credit: OGA Notes, Summer 1987

TURFGRASS AND ORNAMENTAL CHEMICAL SEMINAR

TIME: November 27 - 29, 1990
LOCATION: Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
CCH CREDITS: Category 3B/10/3A - 9 units (requested)

Tuesday, November 27, 1990

9:00-9:30 a.m. Registration
9:30-10:00 a.m. Turfgrass Physiology - Jeff Lefton, Extension Turfgrass Specialist
10:00-11:00 a.m. Turfgrass Insect Biology - Jeff Lefton
11:00-Noon Turfgrass Insect Control Update - Tim Gibb, Ph.D., Director, Insect Diagnostic Lab
Noon-1:00 p.m. Lunch - on your own
1:00-2:55 p.m. Soil Chemistry and Pesticides - Jim Ahlrich, Ph.D., Soil Chemist
2:55-3:00 p.m. Break
3:00-4:00 p.m. Pesticides and Organic Matter - Ron Turco, Ph.D., Soil Microbiologist
4:00-5:00 p.m. Pesticides and Clothing - Cheryl Nelson, Ph.D., Consumer Products Specialist

Wednesday, November 28, 1990

8:00-9:55 a.m. Steps in the Diagnosis of Pest Problems - Melodie Putnam, Ph.D., Director, Plant and Pest Diagnostic Lab
9:55-10:00 a.m. Break
10:00-11:00 a.m. Integrated Pest Management of Turf and Ornamental Problems - Clifford Sadoff, Ph.D., Extension Entomologist
11:00-Noon Choosing Turfgrass Fertilizers - Clark Throssell, Turfgrass Research Scientist
Noon-1:00 p.m. Lunch - on your own
1:00-2:00 p.m. Micronutrients and Soil Sampling - Clark Throssell
2:00-2:55 p.m. Turfgrass Disease Identification - Jeff Lefton
2:55-3:00 p.m. Break
3:00-3:30 p.m. Turfgrass Disease Control - Zachary Reicher, Turfgrass Research Scientist
3:30-4:15 p.m. Patch Disease and Control Strategies - Zachary Reicher
4:15-5:30 p.m. Broadleaf Herbicides - Jeff Lefton

Thursday, November 29, 1990

8:00-9:00 a.m. Crabgrass Control Strategies - Zachary Reicher
9:00-9:30 a.m. Overseeding Study - Zachary Reicher
9:30-9:55 a.m. Post-Emergent Crabgrass and Nutsedge Control - Clark Throssell
9:55-10:00 a.m. Break
10:00-11:00 a.m. Root Growth Control - Clark Throssell
11:00-11:30 a.m. Growth Regulators - Clark Throssell
11:30-Noon Calibration Study - Jeff Lefton
Noon-1:00 p.m. Lunch - on your own
1:00-2:00 p.m. Ornamental Bed Weed Control - Phil Carpenter, Ph.D., Ornamental Horticulturist
2:00-2:55 p.m. Ornamental Insects and Their Control - Clifford Sadoff
2:55-3:00 p.m. Break
3:00-4:00 p.m. Ornamental Diseases and Their Control - Paul Peckzold, Ph.D., Extension Plant Pathologist

A brochure with a complete program description will be sent to various mailing lists by early November. If you do not receive information on this program please call Jo Horn at 317/494-8039.

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