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the Bull Sheet

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On Course With the President

Said Thoreau, "A single gentle rain makes the grass many shades greener. So too our prospects brighten on the influx of better thoughts". So, too, do the prospects of the new golf season brighten with each day.

Or do they?

The GCSAA Mortality Study will cause anyone who takes the time to read the printed matter and accompanying data to take pause and ponder the possibilities. The very real possibilities. What may be inferred from the published material? What is really there and what is not? With a broad scope of thought (not easy to come by these days) the mental picture should be of the wide angle variety, and not necessarily limited to whatever compounds might be encountered only on the golf course. They will see the references to the trends and begin to seriously consider the possible consequences of any long term exposure to any material. That is **any** exposure to **any** material at **any** location. But, no doubt, the focus will be on materials for use on and applied to golf courses and that focus shall be most intense. My guess is that it's because the golf "community" is easy to target and arguably is the most vulnerable.

So be it. We all know that we, as Golf Course Superintendents, are among the most careful and most educated of any applicator of any material. We judiciously and sparingly treat the turf, waterways, ornamentals, and trees of our golf courses with the correct amount of material at the correct time.

So be it. We all know that we, as Golf Course Superintendents, are among the most careful and most educated of any applicator of any material.

We are very comfortable with the implementation and practice of virtually every facet of Integrated Pest Management. Many of us consider ourselves to be stewards of the environment. We continue to tell ourselves that very fact, and, in fact, we do a hell of a good job telling ourselves just how good and conscientious we are. But it doesn't seem like anybody else is buying the notion. That will do us no good if the populous thinks of these (our) vaunted golf courses as nothing more than toxic material sinks, pay no attention to the amount of care and conscience with which the materials were and are applied.

It is probably inevitable that we, as Superintendents, will be on the receiving end of a wide variety of pesticide issue and mortality study related questions. Let the inquiries come but be prepared! It helps to be ready with a little "spin" of your own. As the questions come forth from the golfers and the Paul Harveys of the world broadcast their version of the news, have the accurate answers and statistics at hand. Let the people know what we know and how the studies and statistics may be used to further clarify an old, old issue. Prepare yourselves well for the onslaught of questions, know your material and it's content, and have some salient thoughts in mind.

(continued page 4)

(On Course With the President continued)

It's all about sharing accurate information and keeping the correctness of the issue at the forefront. Accuracy is of paramount importance and being very familiar with the early conclusions of the GCSAA Mortality study. People will ask, we know they will, and well they should. My phone has already been ringing, "About that Superintendents study???"

Prepare yourselves well for the onslaught of questions, know your material and it's content, and have some salient thoughts in mind.

So ... may the gentle rains of Spring bring on the warming and nourishment of the good earth. And may the grass grow lush and verdant and those many shades greener, and may we all have better thoughts of golf as the days brighten on the influx of the warm, soft rains ...

I wonder, to what extent Thoreau pondered golf and golf courses ... mortality studies ..., and such.

I think I'll go ponder things for a while on the practice tee.
ATF



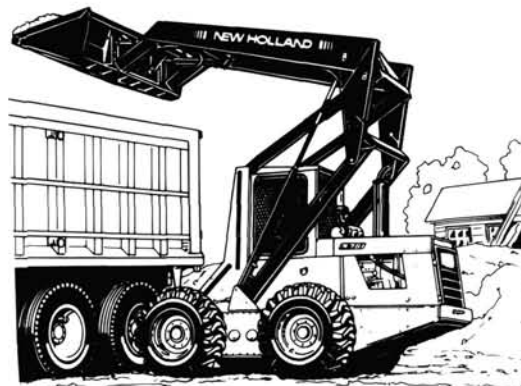
A Useful Tool

by Bruce Williams

A useful tool I have used for dealing with members' lawns and friends that have questions about their turf is a simple and inexpensive soil test. I don't use this for the golf course but it works well for the homeowner. The test is called the Lawn and Garden Soil Diagnosis Kit and is available through The Soil Doctor, 106 N. Cecil St., Bonduel, WI 54107. The phone number is (715) 758-2178. The cost for the soil test is \$10 and they will send you some empty containers for testing if you ask. Once again, I think this test is fine for the homeowner and covers all of the basics. If you want testing for Calcium-Magnesium, Boron, Manganese, Sulfur, or Zinc there is an additional charge of \$3 per nutrient per sample. There is also an additional \$10 charge for soil composition % sand, silt, and clay. So if you are looking for something simple with pH, potassium, phosphorus, lime requirements, and fertility recommendations then this is your simple answer.

(Taken off the MAGCS computer bulletin board)

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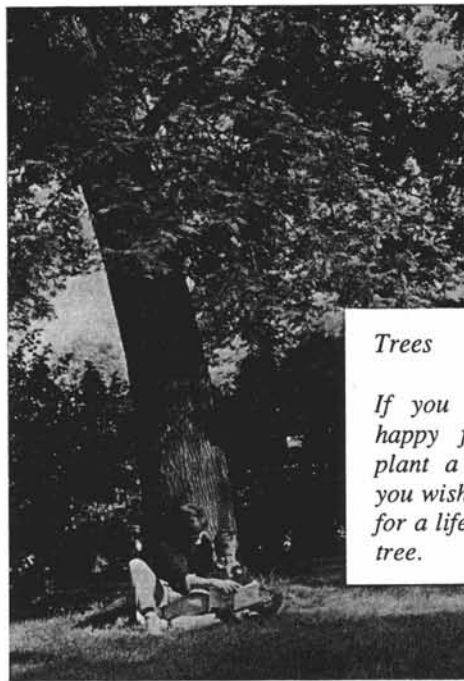
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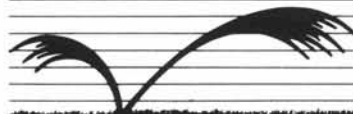
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Common Courtesy

by Ed Braunsky

Do you every wonder why there's not a lot of common courtesy anymore?

I know this may sound like Andy Rooney of **60 Minutes** fame, but it bugs me that people are not courteous. We, as golf course superintendents, are trained to "kill people with kindness" — a phrase I picked up from my father. I am fortunate to be superintendent for a club where the members display a lot of C.C.!



In contrast, when you are out and about and allow a car to pass or turn or allow someone to cross in front of you near a shopping area, you rarely get any kind of acknowledgement. People just are not courteous. Hold a door open for someone and they look at you like you are a mass murderer. All it takes is two simple words to make your day! Now I'm sounding like Dirty Harry, but my two year old daughter and six year old son exhibit more courtesy than a lot of people I know. Maybe we should run over people or slam doors in their faces to get a response out of them. Try and pass a group of teenagers these days without catching a hard stare or smart remark. People need to learn and use common courtesy.

A news story on the radio the other day told of a group of people, sharing an apartment, who set up their refrigerator with certain foods belonging to certain people. A new fellow, not knowing the system, came along, took two eggs belonging to a roommate, was shot seven times, and died. If he'd had the common courtesy to ask about the eggs, he might still be around today. Of course, the roommate wasn't very courteous either. I know this is an extreme example, but it just goes to show you!

Here's an example everyone can relate to. You are going through an unbelievable day where everything from Pythium to smelly ballwashers are driving you nuts and some peddler shows up out of the blue wanting to sell you a product that's guaranteed to loosen up everything from a rusted bolt to your frigid love life. This guy had no common courtesy and, therefore, did not make the sale. For the most part, people who call on MAGCS members do call first and I do say "for the most part" because we still need to work on a few.

It's a shame that the common courtesy we try to teach people on the golf course cannot be carried over into everyday life. Letting someone play through or waving a group to play away on a crowded par three is no different than holding open a door or allowing someone to cut through your lane of traffic.

Start off this golf season by "killing people with kindness". We, as golf course superintendents, are always looking for more respect so show your members or golfing public common courtesy ... and stress the same to your staff! A little bit will go a long way in a short period of time.

As always, here's wishing your 1994 golf season is right down the middle of the fairway and not in the rough. Thanks for taking time to read this. I hope the common courtesy bug bites you right where it hurts.

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Museum to be Dedicated to Mascaro & Steiniger

The Pennsylvania State University and The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council announced at the Penn State Golf Turf Conference recently that a new Turfgrass Science Museum will be formally dedicated to **Thomas Mascaro** and **Eberhard Steiniger**. The museum will be named the **Mascaro/Steiniger Turfgrass Museum**.



The 40,000 square feet museum is being constructed on the Penn State Campus at University Park, PA and will display many inventions, including those developed by **Mascaro** and the collection of **Steiniger**. The need for a museum was conceived by Dr. Joseph Duich, now retired from Penn State. His tireless efforts to accumulate this priceless collection of equipment and tools made it possible for people to view the past in order to meet the challenges of the future.

Mr. **Mascaro** was president of WestPoint Products for 55 years. In 1986 he and his son, John, formed Turf-Tec International which designs diagnostic turfgrass instruments for golf course superintendents to obtain factual information. The business is located in Oakland Park, FL.

Mr. **Steiniger** was Golf Course Superintendent at Pine Valley Golf Club, Clementon, NJ for 57 years. He is known for converting a sand waste layout with only scrub pine into the number one golf course in the world. **Steiniger** collaborated with **Mascaro** on all of the over twenty inventions in testing and evaluating their performance. His private collection of equipment will also be on display in the museum.

The formal dedication of the museum will be held at the Penn State Turfgrass Field Days, August 10-11, 1994 at University Park, PA. For more information, contact Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council, P. O. Box 1078, Lemont, PA 16851-1078, (814) 863-3475.

Paw Paw Tree Joins Cancer Fight

Another obscure tree may hold one of the keys to curing cancer. Researchers have isolated a powerful chemical found in the twigs and small branches of paw paws, a small tree that grows on moist sites in eastern United States. According to Jerry L. McLaughlin of Purdue University, early tests indicate that the paw paw substance is one million times as potent as the widely used cancer drug Adriamycin. Like the lowly yew of the Northwest, paw paw is a tree that has received little attention in the past but could hold the key to life for cancer victims.

Reprinted from the Monmouth County Shade Tree Commission's December 1992 newsletter.

You'll like what you don't see in the landscape.



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1964 Bull Sheets

by Pete Vandercook

After the article on the 1954 **Bull Sheets**, it was suggested that I write additional articles on the 1964 **Bull Sheets**, the 1974 **Bull Sheets** and the 1984 **Bull Sheets**. The thought being that each successive article would be more interesting to more people as more people would relate to the names and activities with each successive decade.

1964 as it turns out, is a great year to review. The Midwest President was Warren Bidwell of Olympia Fields; 1st Vice President - Al Johnson, Park Ridge; 2nd Vice President - Bill Stupple, Exmoor; and Secretary/Treasurer - Roy Nelson of Ravisloe. Directors included Adolph Bertucci, Lake Shore; Tony Meyer, Woodridge; Walter Fuchs, Glen Eagles; Dudley Smith, Silver Lake; Ken Lapp, Fresh Meadows; and John Ebel, Barrington Hills. Ted Woehrle, Beverly Country Club, was the **Bull Sheet** Editor.

The President's Monthly Messages were the highlight of almost every **Bull Sheet** (although this might be prejudiced by my personal regard for Warren Bidwell). His messages were interesting, well thought out and masterfully written. Most of them could be reprinted today and would still be timely.

Although most **Bull Sheet** ads were 1/4 page or less, the 1964 **Bull Sheets** did feature some full page Chicagoland Cushman ads featuring the NEW "Cushman Turf Truckster". 1964 was the first year the "Turf Truckster" was available. During 1962 and 1963 you could buy an Industrial Cushman with an estate package (wide tires and fenders), but that unit had minimal acceptance and, as a result, Cushman developed a version designed for use on turf called the "Turf Truckster" and promoted it in 1964 with real vigor.

Articles and contributions by 'The Mole' were considerably fewer than they had been in 1954. The Mole did relate several homey stories. It seems that Medinah Superintendent Gerald Dearie, Jr. was crossing the golf course with his small son when they noticed a flock of Canadian geese swimming in the lake. The lad also noticed some smaller ducks and said, "Look Daddy, there are some baby ducks". Gerald looked and said, "The big ones are Canadian geese and the little ones are Wood Ducks". The lad then said, "No Daddy, they're not wooden ducks. I saw one move his head."

Also announced — that the village of Glen Ellyn had voted 1.5 million dollars in bonds for construction of a new golf course to be built south of Roosevelt Road and west of Park Avenue. We, of course, know this course today as Village Links.

Meetings were held at River Forest - Ed Stewart, Host; The Flying Carpet - Andy Voykin, Host; Brae Loch Country Club - Harry Nielson Jr., Host; Calumet Country Club - Jack Smith, Host; Lake Shore Country Club - Adolph Bertucci, Host; Woodridge Country Club - Tony Meyer, Host; Olympia Fields Country Club - Warren Bidwell, Host (noted was the fact that Warren, the Club Manager - Jim DeSanto, and Pro - Chuck Tanis, had a combined 110 years of service to the game of golf). The Combined Wisconsin Meeting was held at North Hills C.C. in Menominee Falls, Wisconsin - Charles Shiley, Host (this was an exact rerun of 1954); Briarwood Country Club - Paul Voykin, Host; Silver Lake - Dudley Smith, Host; and Glendale Country Club - Clarence Mueller, Host.

(continued page 18)

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