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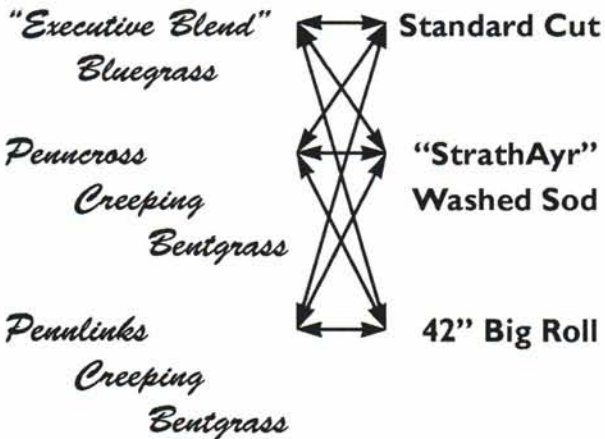


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Charity Gin Tournament
(continued from page 14)

Association, tell you the story. I quote from his letter:

I have just returned from an eye-opening experience. I went to Westgate to meet Ron Austin and give him our gin summary proceeds and inquire about his daughter, Rebecca. Rebecca is 9 1/2 years old (10 maybe in September). Her younger sister, Rhonda, is 4. Becky had epileptic seizures at 18 months and went to Christ Hospital emergency. She was put on a machine for 29 days and developed pneumonia. Her tiny lungs failed, turned into leather, perhaps brain damage occurred then also. Today, Becky is a total wreck: mentally retarded, crippled, fed through a tube, 24-hour nurse care and diapers.

Becky lives at Mark Finch Children's Home on Lake Street by Medinah Country Club. On Friday nights, Ron picks her up in a wheelchair and takes her to Tinley Park (home) for the weekend, returns her Sunday night. Today, Becky does not recognize her father's voice anymore or the Easter Bunny. Doctors' bills are over 2.5 million dollars. Insurance companies have canceled Becky's health insurance. Want some more? Sister Rhonda now has seizures, same as her older sister, Becky. This Ron fellow is a saint, works 7 days as a greenkeeper. Ron's wife is a nurse. Today when I went over with John Lebedows to meet him, Ron was covered with mud working on a pipeline in his pump hose. Our \$1,500 was a token contribution. This guy and his

wife should have tickets to *Showboat*, lobster at Nick's Fishmarket and a check for \$25,000 to put a smile back on his wife's face. God! Are we fortunate, Paul. This guy needs our help and is very gracious and thankful. I was unaware, and he is only three miles away.

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Dudley, we are all aware now. Please send your checks to Dudley or to me. Make them out to Ron Austin, Benefit for Rebecca Austin. Put Account No. 230055236 on your checks. Thank you. ■

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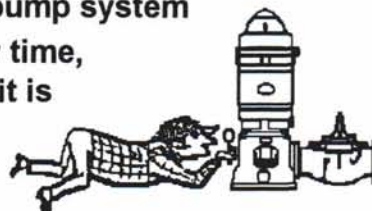
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Japanese Beetle Pest Management

Considerable effort has been expended in finding reliable control measures for adult Japanese beetles. Unfortunately, none of these efforts have been totally effective.

Plant Selection

One way to avoid Japanese beetle problems is to select plants that the beetles will not feed on. Examples of plants that are less susceptible include white and green ash, holly (all species), tuliptree, magnolia, white and red oak, rhododendron, common lilac, junipers, arborvitae, hemlock, and flowering dogwood, just to mention a few.

Chemical Insecticides

As for chemical control, only a few organophosphate (i.e., malathion) and carbamate (Sevin) insecticides have shown to be effective against adult beetles. Usually, weekly applications may be necessary due to the short residuals of these materials. Highly preferred, rapidly growing plants will be hard to protect. Protecting these plants with netting during peak feeding activity may be helpful. Even though local grub populations may be controlled, the adult beetles are capable of flying several miles resulting in beetles flying in from adjacent areas.

Chemical control of the grub stage is usually quite effective. Soil insecticides should be applied in early to mid August (Illinois) or when grub densities exceed 10 to 12 grubs per square foot. In order to insure effective control, thoroughly drench the material into the root zone and thatch layers. Usually one application is sufficient.

Trapping of Adults

The use of traps to protect susceptible plants has been shown to only be marginally effective at best. Unless the traps can be placed considerable distances away from the vulnerable plant, more damage may occur than if nothing was done. In most home landscapes, using traps will probably be more harmful than beneficial.

Future of the Japanese Beetle

The Japanese beetle is here to stay and will probably continue to spread into suitable areas. Current estimates state that initial infestations spread at a rate of 10 to 15 miles per year. However, with the extensive movement of plant material throughout the country, the rate of spread may be greatly increased. Climatic factors such as temperature and moisture will also play a role in the spread of infestations. The beetle is adapted to regions where the mean summer soil temperature is between 64°F and 82°F and winter soil temperature is above 15°F.

Summer precipitation levels of at least ten inches are critical for egg hatch and larval development. Because of these factors, northern limits of the beetle appear to be elevated areas of the northeastern

U.S., extreme northern Michigan, and west of the Great Lakes to the Missouri River. Semiarid regions of the western U.S. will be spared as well as areas of the Gulf Coast and Florida.

Managers should always carefully inspect incoming shipments of plant material, particularly those coming from known Japanese beetle infestation areas. Beetles can be hand-picked or sprayed with an insecticide before the plants are shipped to other areas to avoid infesting existing inventories.

Remember! Prevention and exclusion are key. Once an infestation is present, eradication can very difficult to obtain. ■



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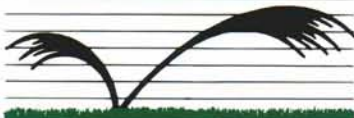
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do the owners want in the golf course? Will it be a private, members-only course with unlimited construction funds, or public with a specific dollar limit to be spent? Is the course built for land developers to attract homesite buyers? These are the first questions that are addressed.

Dr. Hurdzan likes to also find out and pin down the owners on a dollar figure they are willing to spend, not only on original construction but on maintenance after the course is built. He believes this information vital in giving clients the best plans based on future expenditures and maintenance costs and, therefore, will design the golf course accordingly.

Once the preliminary discussions have taken place between owner and architect, the designs are begun. After the plans are rendered and approved, the architect's wishes must be interpreted by the contractor. This demands some intuitive understanding of the ideas presented and of the land on which the golf course is being built. As one person has said, it is just as easy to use nature in your plans than to fight it. Good golf courses complement nature rather than detract from it. This is an old philosophy, but one that is fast becoming the current philosophy of today. That is why Dr. Hurdzan believes in being environmentally friendly whenever possible.

Some architects go for the visual, i.e., to make a bold statement at whatever the cost in terms of complete terrain alteration. Dr. Hurdzan prefers to design courses that are appealing but are also harmonious and complement nature. He challenges himself to work with the land to achieve a satisfactory result. He prefers to design courses that are very playable no

matter what the skill of the golfer. This means he prefers strategic as opposed to penal design. Penal punishes every bad shot. Strategic design gives both the amateur and professional interesting possibilities or alternate routes, some safer for the beginner, some more challenging for the better player.

Every green on a golf course is different and has its own individual requirements because of such factors as orientation, air movement, shade, and the many temperature and humidity changes.

As for green design, he believes that a green should provide a sufficient target area for approach shots and be of consistent putting surface to test all skill levels of golfers. The design must provide enough cupset space to allow the turf to recover. He believes that it takes 21 days for an area of a green to heal; therefore, it should have at least 21 cup setting positions. The damaged area around a cup usually falls within 16 feet in diameter. This equates to 200 square feet times 21 cup settings equals 4,200 square feet. Add another 25 percent for the perimeter and some additional surface for undulations that are

unfair pin placements, and the total green area should be about 6,000 square feet.

On the construction of greens, Dr. Hurdzan mentioned the most common mistakes made in this area. They are: (1) the depth of amended soils not uniform; (2) improper drainage, or crushed tile lines after installation; (3) use of improper materials or wrong mixing of material (He suggests laboratory testing of all materials to be used.); or (4) the improper use of construction equipment, especially when dealing with complicated greens construction.

On maintenance, Dr. Hurdzan wrote some ten years ago that "perfect" turf surfaces, especially greens, are virtually impossible to maintain all season long. Every green on a golf course is different and has its own individual requirements because of such factors as orientation, air movement, shade, and the many temperature and humidity changes.

New technology in such areas of soil science, plant physiology, genetics, and equipment over the last fifty years has played a key role in creating the high-quality golf course and greens conditions of today. Golf course superintendents, he believes, are the people who have the knowledge and skills to manage and care for the greens playing surfaces but seldom get the credit they deserve.

Dr. Hurdzan has remodeled and designed over a hundred golf courses. He holds a Ph.D. in environmental turfgrass physiology, a masters in turf studies and a bachelors in turfgrass management. He has written many articles about golf course design and earlier this year published a book titled *Golf Architecture*. ■

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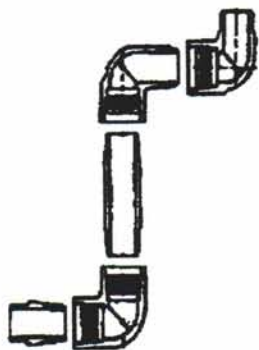
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the Bull Sheet
(continued from page 18)

and built Calumet C.C., a small club on Ridge Road in Gary, IN. His son-in-law, Al Travis, now runs Calumet. When the poker game started at Adolph's Christmas party (Lake Shore C.C.), Oliver Miles, Paul Voykin, Wayne Trometer, James Hallaron, and Jimmy Murphy usually sent a lot of Illinois money back to Indiana in Coker's pocket."

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Congratulations to Robin and Bob Kohlstedt on the birth of their first child, Kelli Marie Kohlstedt, born April 9. Bob is the assistant at Calumet C.C.

A very Happy 92nd Birthday to Jo Gerber (Mrs. Ray Gerber) on June 12, 1996!

With that Happy Birthday to Mrs. Gerber, it reminded me to say that there are only two more months for the superintendents to enter the "Ray Gerber Editorial Award." The deadline for this year's award will be August 1, 1996. The award period is from September through August each year.

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Boston Marathon 1996 — Chicago connection: Tom Wilson, assistant superintendent at Deerpath C.C. in Lake Forest,

completed the 26 miles in the 100th running of the Boston Marathon on Monday, April 15. Tom's time was 2 hours, 58 minutes. His brother, Rick Wilson, finished the Chicago Marathon in fifth place years ago before there was prize money awarded. Proud parents, Dudley and Marlene Smith, accompanied Tom to Boston for this special event.

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Peter Voykin on May 14, had Pallieotomy surgery to help control Parkinson disease. Peter is doing well, we all wish him a speedy recovery.



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see poor quality turf in June. Even damage from diseases and insects, which are active during this time of the year, is not often reported.

Remember: Turf that is growing strong can tolerate a lot of stress before it will decline!

In late June (this can vary depending on where your turf is located in the cool season turf growing region), the soil and air temperatures continue to climb to near or above 80°F (25°C), and the amount of natural precipitation declines. In addition, the length of daylight hours is changing. Of the three climatic conditions (temperature, moisture and daylight), temperature is the most influential. When the cool season grasses heat up, they want to slow down their growth. Generally, root and leaf growth are dramatically reduced, while rhizomes or stolons continue to grow. This is the time that other stresses are going to be much more damaging to the turf. There are three reasons for this: (1) disease and pest activities will be at their highest during this time, (2) the turf cannot produce new tissues as fast as they can be destroyed, and (3) use of turf is intense.

Diseases of turf destroy grass tissues. If the rate of destruction is greater than the rate of plant growth, you will see the symptoms of the disease. This is the case in the summer. The turf simply cannot recover from losses due to disease. Likewise, insects chew on the roots and crowns of turf during the summer months. When the rate of insect injury exceeds the rate of turf growth, the plants will suffer and show it. This, too, occurs during the summer months. Finally, the use of turf increases in the sum-

mer. Foot traffic, wear, compaction, and general damage from various sports activities all add to the pressure on the turf. If the plant cannot respond, which is difficult and slow, at best, in the summer, the turf will show the symptoms of stress: thinning, blue-green color, brown leaves, stunting, and death. The challenge for the turf manager is to both revive the grass and reduce the severity of the various stresses.

A practice that most turf managers attempt is to try and force the turf to grow, even during the summer months when the grass is trying to go dormant. Yes, in the summer, cool season grasses will go partially dormant. This is a natural response to heat and drought. The plant will shut down the leaf growth and put its limited reserves into growing rhizomes, stolons, and crowns. The reason is simple: These are survival structures, and they will prevent the turf plants from dying should the heat and drought of summer persist for months. For example, during hot summers without rain, grass only needs about one-fourth of an inch of water per month to remain viable. It will look dead, but in fact, its rhizomes or stolons are alive and waiting for cooler temperatures and moisture. Managers that continue to supply turf with water and nutrients during the summer will force the grass to grow, but the activities of diseases, pests, and humans also increase. As most managers know, staying ahead of problems during the summer is a challenge.

Here are a few suggestions to consider for managing your turf in the summer and reducing the effects of stress:

1. In the spring and early summer, encourage the grass to grow. This can be achieved in part by maintaining moist soil around the roots and keeping an adequate

supply of nutrients in the root zone soil. In addition, practices that reduce compaction and increase aeration and drainage will improve the health of the turf.

Remember: Turf that has grown strong in the spring will tolerate the stresses of summer!

2. In the summer months, water the root zone, i.e., that depth of soil in which the roots are found.
3. Spoon-feed your fertilizer; apply a balanced (N:P:K) fertilizer and/or other nutrients as needed, but do not oversupply them.
4. Do not make dramatic cultural changes during the summer. For example, do not change the height of cut dramatically but continue to mow the grass as needed.
5. Use preventative pesticide programs for those areas with a history of disease or insect problems.
6. Distribute use patterns on the turf as much as possible to reduce compaction and wear.
7. If you have the opportunity to renovate or reestablish turf, select those cultivars that have good summer quality ratings for your area.

Summer stress on turf is brought about by a combination of the natural growth patterns of cool season grasses, climatic extremes of heat and drought, your cultural practices, the use of the turf, and pest pressures. A strong turf with plenty of roots, rhizomes, or stolons and crowns will resist stress the best. To manage stress, you must try and establish balance in your turf, thus avoiding dramatic changes which could exceed the ability of your turf to tolerate stress. ■