



**LEGACY™**  
GOLF IRRIGATION

## Now There's A Third Option...

### Backed Up With 30 Years of Experience.

In the past, golf course superintendents generally got two bids when replacing an irrigation system. But now there's a new option. Legacy, with three decades of experience. Legacy has brought together the world leader in gear-drive technology and the leader in control systems and valves. This combined track record is unsurpassed for quality products and experience.

### Century - Your Link to Legacy

Whether you're replacing just one head, an entire system or planning a new course, call a Century golf professional. With more than 30 years of experience and an impressive list of satisfied customers, Century can show you the advantages of a third option. With Legacy.

**800-347-4272**

<http://www.Rainaid.com>

**CENTURY RAIN AID**

Legacy Available from Century Rain Aid in These Major Markets  
Delaware • Florida • Georgia • Illinois • Indiana • Kentucky • Maryland  
Michigan • Missouri • New Jersey • North Carolina • South Carolina • Eastern  
Pennsylvania • Virginia • Wisconsin • Washington, D.C. • Ontario, Canada



**LEGACY™**  
GOLF IRRIGATION

On Course • May 1996

21



Recovering from "The Summer of '95"  
(continued from page 20)

### I am going to begin hand watering sooner.

As Bob Vavrek of the USGA has espoused in the past, some of us get in trouble because of water mismanagement. In the Chicago area, sustained 90°+ is unusual; but in Kansas City, for example, it isn't uncommon and, in fact, it's the norm. How do they do it? Three words: syringe, syringe, syringe. Here at Naperville C.C., we didn't take the severe summer heat seriously until heavy wilting set in. I normally get away with this because nighttime temps can be counted on to dip into the low 60s, providing relief. Believe me, this year I will have a syringe crew trained and ready to go as soon as the mercury begins to rise.

### I am going to increase my deep aeration program.

Joel Purpur at River Forest is

going to deep drill his greens twice this year instead of just once as in the past. He's not alone as the deep aeration contractors are already reporting increased interest.

### I told you so #1.

After many unsuccessful attempts to get his three to four thousand square foot push-up greens rebuilt, Kevin Deroo at Bartlett Hills will finally get his wish as the village gave the go-ahead to rebuild the worst ones. Nick Hongestino at Schaumburg C.C. is adding five new tees to an already revamped layout. "The amount of play warranted this as there simply wasn't enough time for our tees to recover from the wear."

### I need more stuff.

It looks like green covers are back in vogue. At River Forest, Joel noticed the greens which suffered from winter damage were

the first ones to give him problems when the heat began. As a result, he is going to purchase five more green covers for next year. Several Chicago area clubs covered all greens and will continue this program next winter. Selling an irrigation system was made easier as several clubs are finally upgrading their systems. Superintendents that have perimeter systems for green banks had one less worry as a major area of concern for most was juggling the water requirements for greens and adjacent areas.

### I told you so #2.

Many clubs which experienced problems maintain their predominantly *Poa annua* greens at one-eighth of an inch or lower. They don't cut low because they are masochists; superintendents respond to golfer pressure and club reputation. How many times

(continued on page 32)

## PRECISION BLENDED TOP DRESSING

Custom blended to your specifications  
by our modern equipment.

*Buy when you need —  
Eliminate costly storage*

We sell an air-dried, uniform and  
free flowing top dressing.

ASK THE MAN WHO HAS USED IT.

## HENRY FRENZER

Area Code 708  
658-5303

620 Webster St.  
Algonquin, IL  
60102

**DUNTEMAN**  
TURF FARMS  
Growers of Quality Sod

**SERVICE!**  
LOCAL GROWING FOR  
EASY PICKUP OR QUICK DELIVERY.  
DELIVERY ON TIME, EVERYTIME.

**QUALITY!**  
FEATURING  
ELITE KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS,  
BENTGRASS SOD, AND  
TURF-TYPE FESCUE

- LOWER MAINTENANCE
- MORE DROUGHT & SHADE TOLERANT
- BETTER WEAR RESISTANCE

**PRICE!**  
CALL FOR A QUOTE

**708-557-2900**

**MAIN STREET  
11 MILES WEST  
OF BATAVIA, IL**

NEW PRODUCT

Map showing location near Batavia, IL, with streets: Egin, St Charles, Rangall Rd, Geneva, Kesinger Rd, Main St, Batavia, Aurora, Dauberman Rd, WI, IL, Chicago.

We've spent over 140 years learning what works and what doesn't. Let us save you the time.



## Hinsdale Nurseries

INCORPORATED  
ESTABLISHED 1850

Hinsdale Nurseries Inc. • 7200 S. Madison • Hinsdale, IL 60521 • (708) 323-1411  
Yorkville Farm • 8111 Route 34 • Yorkville, IL 60560 • (708) 553-6411

## Let FPS Inspect Your System

A neglected pump system can fail at any time, usually when it is needed most!



### Pump System Specialists

- :We offer the most complete pump system inspections.
- :We will service all motors, controls, pumps & valves.
- :We rebuild all types of pumps.
- :Authorized Flowtronex/PSI service station.
- : 24 Hour **EMERGENCY** pager service.

Fluid Pump Service, Incorporated  
1000 Lee St  
Elk Grove Village, Illinois 60007  
Page Chris at (708) 399-9210  
or call the office at (708) 228-0750

## AERIAL MEETS YOUR EQUIPMENT, INC. NEEDS

SERVICE • PARTS • SALES



**STIHL**

**ECHO**  
THE RIGHT TOOL!



**RAYCO**  
The Stump Cutter People!

### ARBORIST & SAFETY SUPPLIES

AERIAL EQUIPMENT, INC.  
2381 South Foster Avenue  
Wheeling, Illinois 60090  
**(708) 398-0620**

#### SERVICE & PARTS FOR MAJOR BRANDS OF:

Chippers  
Stump Cutters  
Aerial Trucks  
Spray Rigs  
Dump Bodies  
Chain Saws

# CONSERV FS

**PROFILE**  
POROUS CERAMIC  
SOIL AMENDMENT



Profile a porous ceramic soil modifier that enhances your soil modification program for top dressing and construction material... profile creates the ideal root zone for stronger and healthier roots by increasing...

- ...Oxygen Retention
- ...Nutrient Retention
- ...Increased Microbial Growth
- ...Buffers Soil Temperature

Call Us Today For Further Information

TINLEY PARK  
6730 South St.  
708-532-4723

WAUCONDA  
27310 W. Case  
847-526-0007

KANSASVILLE-WI.  
4304 S. Beumont  
414-878-2048



## Pythium Root Diseases and Summer Decline Phenomena

(continued from page 16)

nondescript; there are no yellow patches or streaks following drainage paths. Instead, there is a general thinning and decline in the health of a green, especially as environmental and management stresses increase during the first full season of grow-in (green open for play).

Third, the *Pythium* species involved (*P. arrhenomenes* and *P. aristosporum*) are different from most other *Pythium* root rots, and these species are not found to be strong pathogens in controlled studies. The youngest parts of the root (tips and root hairs) are infected by these species, which apparently interferes with nutrient uptake and plant vigor. The weakness and shallow depth of the root system predisposes the plants to severe stress.

Diagnosis of this disease is extremely difficult since no distinct symptoms occur and other stress factors have to be considered. It is often difficult to tell whether the presence of other minor root parasites or severe environmental stresses are the key to this type of disease. It is also interesting to note that no fungicide program has been found to control *Pythium* root dysfunction.

## Summer bentgrass decline and *Poa* decline

In the semi-tropical southeastern U.S., growing bentgrass greens through the heat of the summer is a difficult proposition. Prolonged heat and humidity are frequently combined with many other stress factors, including root rot fungi, which results in shallow and weak root systems and plants on the brink of extinction. A disease syndrome has been described by L.T. Lucas (North Carolina State, Raleigh) called "summer

bentgrass decline." Generally, the term "syndrome" is assigned to a problem when the actual cause has not been determined or is thought to be the result of several factors interacting.

Recent research at North Carolina State has focused on root and foliar parasitic fungi, primarily *Pythium* and *Rhizoctonia* species. Stress factors that also have been implicated include high soluble salts from fertilizers (e.g.,  $K_2SO_4$ ), algae and black layer, rootzone mix problems, and restricted wind movement that causes high surface temperatures (dead air greens). Plant symptoms of summer bentgrass decline are similar to those described for *Pythium* root dysfunction, although the problem is not limited to immature greens.

Unlike *Pythium* root dysfunction, summer decline has been controlled or prevented with fungicides. Most notable is the combination of Aliette (4 oz) plus Fore (8 oz) applied biweekly as a tank mix. Aliette is a systemic fungicide that controls a broad range of *Pythium* species, while Fore is a fairly broad spectrum contact that inhibits *Rhizoctonia*.

On the surface, it would appear that both *Pythium* and

*Rhizoctonia* are important to the development of summer bentgrass decline in the Southeast. However, there remains a question as to the role of *Pythium* root infection in this disease complex. First, the *Pythium* species frequently isolated from affected turf are weak pathogens or nonpathogens of bentgrass roots in greenhouse studies. Second, recent research in the Carolinas has shown that substitution of phosphoric acid for Aliette in a tank mix with Fore provides good control of summer bentgrass decline. Aliette (phosetyl aluminum) contains approximately 26 percent elemental phosphorus, or roughly the equivalent of a 0-52-0 fertilizer. Fore (mancozeb) contains the micronutrients manganese and zinc. Further studies are underway at North Carolina State to try to sort out the fertilizer versus the fungicide effects of the Aliette/Fore control strategy.

In the upper Midwest, mature bentgrass does not undergo a summer decline (even in 1995). However, *Poa annua* surely does! Is there any connection between *Pythium* root rots, *Rhizoctonia* infections, and *Poa* decline? Probably not. After ten plus years of looking for root pathogens associated with *Poa annua* summer death, we have

(continued on page 28)



# AQUATIC WEED

## TECHNOLOGY

PROFESSIONAL AQUATIC WEED CONTROL PROGRAMS

Aquatic Weed Technology provides season-long control of aquatic weeds and algae. Through the most effective and efficient methods available, your waterways will be free of unsightly nuisance weeds and algae so you can enjoy the recreational and aesthetic values of your pond or lake.

(708) 893-0810 • P.O. Box 72197, Roselle IL 60172-0197

A division of Clarke Environmental Mosquito Management Co., Inc.





**SPECIALIST IN:**

**Club House Landscape Design/Build:**

Design and Installation of specimen plant material for high priority areas. Design and installation of perennial, annual and wild-flower displays.

**Complete Expert Maintenance Service:**

Use Mariani to renovate and rejuvenate shrubs, ornamentals and all landscape areas as you dedicate your precious time on the golf course.



300 ROCKLAND RD., LAKE BLUFF, IL. 60044  
(847) 234-2172 FAX: (847) 234-2754

# Use Greensmix.<sup>™</sup> And Breathe A Little Easier.



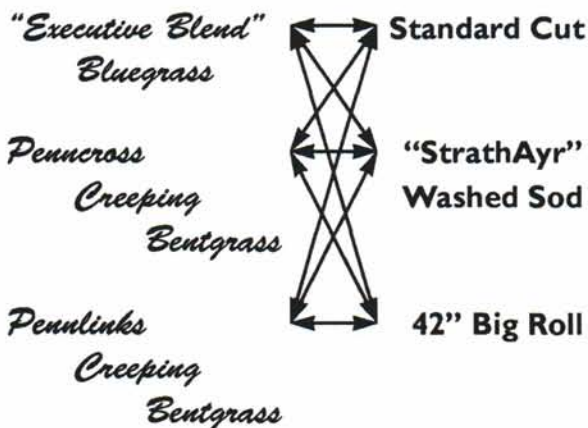
It's easy to tell which golf courses use **Greensmix**.<sup>™</sup> No rotten eggs. That's because Greensmix<sup>™</sup> has less fines than any other rootzone material. Fines mean poor drainage, plugged up greens, and black layers through the greens that give off the aromatic scent of rotten eggs. Greensmix<sup>™</sup> has less fines in the sand than any other rootzone material...and we test every load to guarantee consistency. Use Greensmix<sup>™</sup> and breathe a little easier.



THE NATION'S LEADING SUPPLIER OF ROOTZONE MATERIAL.

Company Headquarters: E3439 Hwy. 22 & 54  
Waupaca, Wisconsin 54981 • 800-537-1796

## The Sod You Want The Way You Want It



**HUBER RANCH SOD NURSERY, INC.**

23002 WICKER AVE., BOX 188, SCHNEIDER, IN 46376

1-800-553-0552 • (219)552-0552

(708)691-0552 Addison Sod Depot

# Creative Solutions For Turfgrass Management

**Soil Problems?**

- Thatch
- pH
- LDS
- Infiltration
- Sodium
- Percolation
- Leaching
- Layering
- Nutrient Availability

**Solve Them!**

By-Pass Them:  
Astron • Per "4" Max  
Knife • Renaissance  
Perk Up • NOW

Correct Them:  
Maxiplex • Pervade  
CalpHlex • Phfex-Mag  
Phfex-Man  
Thatch Buster

**Program Solutions For Top Turf Performance**

## FLORATINE PRODUCTS GROUP

179 S. Main St./Collierville, TN 38017  
(901) 853-2898

Distributed by:  
Bud Edman  
E - 3 Turf Products  
708-985-3974



## Ask the Expert

(continued from page 8)

program is my university expert. While at MSU, Bruce and colleagues conducted a number of studies concerning control and suppression of *Poa annua* with herbicides and growth retardants, including those mentioned above. Results with these products are mixed at best, with a general effectiveness rating of Embark > Aqua-gro > TGR/Cutless. Bruce also added that they have found *Poa* seedhead suppression following fall applications of Prograss (ethofumesate); plants that survived the Prograss treatment had much less seedhead production than check plots. Of course, Prograss is intended to **kill** the *Poa*, so you would want to use this approach on areas that were high percent bentgrass and cut at fairway height. Prograss is not labeled for use on green height turf.

Embark is probably the best *Poa* seedhead inhibitor we have, but it is also the trickiest to use. The window for best control is pretty narrow, and application rates are light, which means the application must be done with great accuracy. Dan Quast, CGCS at Medinah CC, has used Embark the past few years on five greens that are mostly bent but have small, blotchy spots of *Poa annua*. When the small spots seed, greens become bumpy and roll unevenly. Dan applies Embark at 0.1 oz /1000 (4.3 oz per acre) with a spray hawk in mid April. The timing is based on early seed production of marker plants (and may be a little later this year!). There is a noticeable stunting of the entire green about two weeks after application, and this effect lasts another couple of weeks. About four weeks after the application, Dan applies a fertilizer to stimulate recovery as the growth retardant

effect of the Embark wears off. Dan feels he gets up to 90 percent seed reduction if all goes well, and he has seen little injury from these light Embark treatments.

John Gurke, CGCS at Aurora C.C. has received a lot of notoriety recently for his successful use of Aqua-Gro for *Poa* seedhead suppression on his greens. Once I talked to John, however, I found that he actually got (stole) the idea from Dan Anderson, CGCS at Fox Valley C.C.! So I talked to both experts. Dan has used Aqua-Gro the past three seasons with very good results. He applies 4 oz / 1000 for the first application and follows that at 10- to 14-day intervals at approximately 3 oz /1000. The product is applied in 5 gal / 1000 water and is left on the leaf surface to dry (it is not watered in). John follows a similar program but has

(continued on page 30)

**COMPLETE LIGHTNING PROTECTION SERVICE**  
**UL LISTED INSTALLER AND MANUFACTURER**  
**SHELTER PROTECTION**  
**TREE PROTECTION**  
**SURGE SUPPRESSION FOR PUMPS AND SPRINKLER SYSTEMS**

**HARGER**  
**LIGHTNING PROTECTION, INC.**

301 ZIEGLER DRIVE GRAYSLAKE, IL 60030  
P O BOX 1000 LIBERTYVILLE, IL 60048

(847) 548-8700 FACSIMILE (847) 548-8755

## THE PROFESSIONAL'S SINGLE SOURCE - -

### • CHEMICALS •

**SIGNAL Spray Colorant**  
**INCIDE-OUT Spray Tank Cleaner**  
**TRUE BLUE Lake and Pond Dye**  
**DIRECT Drift Retardant**  
**BALANCE pH Adjuster**  
**TEE-UP Ball Wash**  
**KNOCKDOWN Defoamer**  
**PEN-A-TRATE II Spreader/Activator**

### • ENVIRONMENTAL AND SAFETY •

**CHEMSORB®**  
**SARANEX/TYVEK SUITS**  
**BOOTS**

**GOGGLES**  
**GLOVES**  
**WASH STATIONS**

CALL US FOR INFORMATION ON THESE PRODUCTS--AS WELL AS MANY OTHERS: 800-323-6280.

**PRECISION**  
LABORATORIES, INCORPORATED  
P. O. Box 127  
Northbrook, IL 60065

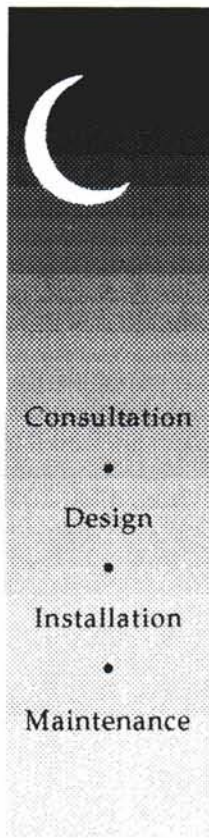


**S**ubtle,  
**S**ecure,  
**D**ramatic.

Now, Moonscape can help your grounds become more dramatic, while addressing security and safety concerns.

We creatively design & install lighting systems that elegantly highlight your landscape with the subtle glow of moonlight, creating an artistic view of shades & textures.

 **Moonscape** Inc.  
Landscape Illumination  
3710 Fairview •  
Downers Grove, IL 60515  
(708)852-2400



Consultation

•  
Design

•  
Installation

•  
Maintenance

## EXCEPTIONAL MANEUVERABILITY



Ford commercial front mowers make fast work out of big jobs. Hydrostatic rear-wheel steering, independent right- and left-hand brakes and a clutchless shift from forward to reverse makes your job easier. Stop in and put one to the test.

### MARTIN IMPLEMENT SALES, INC.

16400 S. 104th Ave.  
Orland Park, IL 60462

**(708) 349-8430**



NEW HOLLAND




NEW HOLLAND

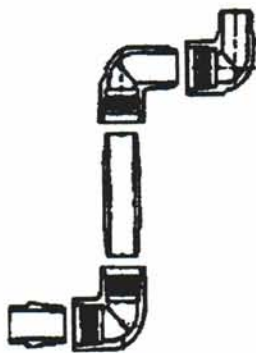
### KOELPER BROS.

**Golf Course Building and Remodeling**

444 E. Mors Avenue  
Wheeling, Illinois 60090  
FAX 847-541-4619

847-438-7881                      847-541-9182  
DANIEL I. KOELPER              VICTOR C. KOELPER

 **BPS Irrigation**



Spears, Lasco or Dura 3 Elbow swing Joints  
We have what you need  
1-800-365-2772



## Washed Sod That Fits Your Course To A Tee!

- PENNCROSS™ BENT SOD
- PENNEAGLE™ BENT SOD
- PENNLINKS™ BENT SOD
- XL-100 BLEND SOD™

Available as H & E Hydro-cut™ Washed Sod or traditionally cut sod with soil.

"Single Source Convenience"

**H & E SOD**  
nursery, inc. 

GENERAL OFFICES:  
3900 West 167th Street  
Markham, IL 60426  
Fax: 708-596-2481  
Phone: 708-596-7200

**the Bull Sheet**

(continued from page 18)

"CGCS," "TURF," "TREES," "PUTT 3," and "SUPT 1." Let me know who you are that have these plates or any others that say what we do.

.....  
Tod Hopphan is the new assistant at Eagle Brook C.C. Congratulations, Tod.

.....  
Mechanic is needed at Woodmar C.C. Call Terry Dillner at 219-844-0330.

.....  
Wanted: 36" walk-behind rotary mower. Call Mike Mumper, 708-957-6652.

.....  
Mechanic and spray technician needed at Calumet C.C. Call Jack McCormick at 708-246-0278.

**Pythium Root Diseases and Summer Decline Phenomena**

(continued from page 24)

not found consistent activity of *Pythium* or *Rhizoctonia*. More often, we find ectotrophic patch disease fungi such as *Magnaporthe*, *Gaeumannomyces*, and *Phialophora* spp. which could be a major predisposing factor for *Poa annua* summer decline. Also, several fungicide trials involving *Poa annua* summer survival have been conducted, and Aliette/Fore and other *Pythium* related treatments did not save the *Poa*. Experiences of several superintendents in the Midwest during 1995 support these research findings.

Interestingly enough, there are a couple of fungicides which appear to stop *Poa* decline, even in 1995. Heritage (azoxystrobin, ICIA5504) is a derivative of a naturally-occurring fungicide that is very active against patch diseases, *Rhizoctonia* and other basidiomycetes, plus *Pythium* blight. Lynx (tebuconazole, HWG 1608) is an experimental DMI that has good activity on root diseases and appears to reduce *Poa* decline in field tests. It looks like Aliette/Fore is not the answer for *Poa* decline, but there may yet be an answer; STAY TUNED... ■



**TURFTALK**  
708/898-6168

***CANNON TURF SUPPLY, INC.***

5104 Thatcher Rd.  
Downers Grove, IL 60515

**Where Success Is Based on a  
Commitment to People . . .**

STOCKING A COMPLETE LINE OF PESTICIDES, FERTILIZERS,  
GRASS SEED AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE TURF PROFESSIONAL

Quality Products for the Turfgrass Professional  
**TOLL FREE 800-457-7322**

**(708) 852-3200**  
**Fax (708) 852-3230**



**RAIN BIRD**

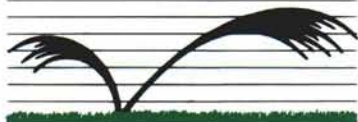
Keeping the golf world greener.™

## EAGLE SERIES ROTORS

- Closed Case
- Water-Lubricated Drive
- 3.25-inch (8.3 cm) Pop-up Height
- Top-serviceable Design



S P R I N K L E R



I R R I G A T I O N

East Peoria 800/373-4120  
Addison 708/543-0351  
Rock Island 309/786-4100



# ACCLAIM®

A selective postemergence herbicide for the control of crabgrass in turf.



*It's Your Move...  
Make It With*



A company of Hoechst and NOR-AM

Specialty Products

AgrEvo USA Company  
Little Falls Centre One, 2711 Centerville Road  
Wilmington, DE 19808

Important: Please remember always to read and follow carefully all label directions when applying any chemical.

**John Turner**

Senior Sales Representative  
708-462-9866

# Palatine Oil Company, Inc.



*We specialize in full service.*

- Gasoline
- Diesel fuel
- Motor oil
- Grease
- Anti-freeze
- Batteries
- 24 hour delivery
- Tank installation
- Design and layout consulting
- E.P.A. required tank upgrades
- Card lock pump control systems
- Leak detection systems
- Tank removal and disposal
- Contaminated soil remediation

◆ State certified & registered tank contractor ◆

Recipient  
of the I.L.C.A.

1995

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE  
AWARD**

## 847-358-3600

Palatine Oil Co., Inc. • P.O. Box 985 • Palatine, IL 60078



**Synopsis of the CDGA Green Seminar**  
(continued from page 12)

lines to keep you out of trouble. 3. On March 20, 1996, new rules and procedures were put into law concerning the "green card." All new hires that are not U.S. citizens must have the new "pink card." This card was developed to cut down on the forgeries of the "green card." The new card must have the following on it: photo (must show the right ear), a fingerprint and must be signed by the person. The "green card" is grandfathered if the person had it before March 20, 1996; but it is highly recommended that all of your non-citizen employees get the new "pink card." Cards can be procured at 10 West Jackson Street, Chicago. It is advised that the persons arrive early (6 a.m.) for the line could be blocks long. They will need \$90 cash or money order for the card and application.

**Dr. Bruce Branham**, Associate Professor of Turf Management, University of Illinois, spoke on "Nitrogen Fate Studies." The studies proved that very little nitrate is leaching from our soils. All of the hysterics accusing our industry of putting too much fertilizer on the ground and polluting the ground water, etc., are just not true. Yes, the fer-

tilizer that falls on the driveways and walks can be directly washed into the sewers and end up in our streams; but the fertilizer applied to turf stays there and is used by the plant or volatilizes into the air.

The study on rates of nitrogen to new sand greens was very interesting regarding the rates needed to establish the grow-in. Rates of .5, .75 and 1 pound were applied weekly to a green and charted. The green utilized all of the nitrogen that was applied, but in the end, the .5 pound rate was very adequate to provide the proper grow-in. This test also showed that a starter fertilizer was very important and should not be missed to save a few dollars.

**Bruce Williams**, CGCS, president of the GCSAA, spoke on "Value of Belonging and Participating in Professional Associations." Bruce gave a very good slide show talk on this subject. Very professional. A point he brought out was, "Associations provide the majority of adult education in America."

**Dr. Randy Kane**, CDGA turfgrass advisor, topic was "*Poa annua* Is, Too, a Hound Dog." Randy went on to describe some of the diseases that caused all of

the problems in summer 1995 and then touched on the winter of '95/'96 and the problems that could come about from it. From this introduction, the following gave a thumbnail outlook of what, when, and how of this past winter and maybe what to expect.

**Paul Vermeulen**, USGA, said "Don't panic" (easy for him to say). He stated that if you have a severely damaged green, keep the golfers off of it. Put a temporary green out in front to get the regular green back as fast as possible.

**Dr. Hank Wilkinson**, University of Illinois, stresses that you need to access as early as possible what you have or don't have as far as putting green turf. Your decision on what to do may depend on the budget that you have to repair any damage. But act early. If you think you may need to reseed, do so as soon as you can to gain as many days as possible for a quicker recovery.

**Dr. Tom Fermanian**, University of Illinois, reminded us that if we have to overseed in bluegrass and yet still need a pre-emergence herbicide that Tupersan is the only safe product to use. ■

**Ask the Expert**  
(continued from page 26)

a higher initial application rate (a gutsy move). The timing of the first application is critical and is based on finding seed initials or early seedhead production in protected areas of the course. There is a definite discoloration of the turf "sing", but it is not very noticeable in many years because the other turf areas have not yet come fully out of winter dormancy. Besides, John says it mows off fairly quickly anyway.

The GA inhibitor growth retardants such as TGR and

Cutless have not found much favor in suppressing seedheads, probably for several reasons. First, the timing of application for best results is early in the spring, and there are potential negative side effects of applying PGRs to plants that are just coming out of dormancy. Also, these products do not stop formation of seeds; they only slow elongation of the seed stalk. Once the retardant effect wears off, seed stalks will resume growth and you still see the seedheads. In some cases, it appears that heavier seedhead production occurs once the PGR effect wears off.

As with any chemical program, do your homework and make sure you know what the risks of these approaches are to your turf. Have your rates and timing down, and make sure your application equipment is calibrated and in tip-top working condition. Also, don't forget that "the use of brand names and any mention or listing of commercial products or services does not imply endorsement by the CDGA, University of Illinois, or the MAGCS, nor discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned." ■