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Golf Turf Snow Molds

(continued from page 16)

first portion of the disease season, you are not able to predict with any confidence what the disease damage will be. I know because I have tried to project disease damage levels and mostly have failed. The best one can do is to consider the long-term disease levels recorded/experienced at a location and plan for the same.

Snow mold treatment is a preventative program in Minnesota, and seldom in the past have spring applications produced positive results. Fungicide programs of the past with products like mercury, chloroneb and PCNB have given season-long control well into the spring. Additional applications after the snow melted were not needed as the persistence of

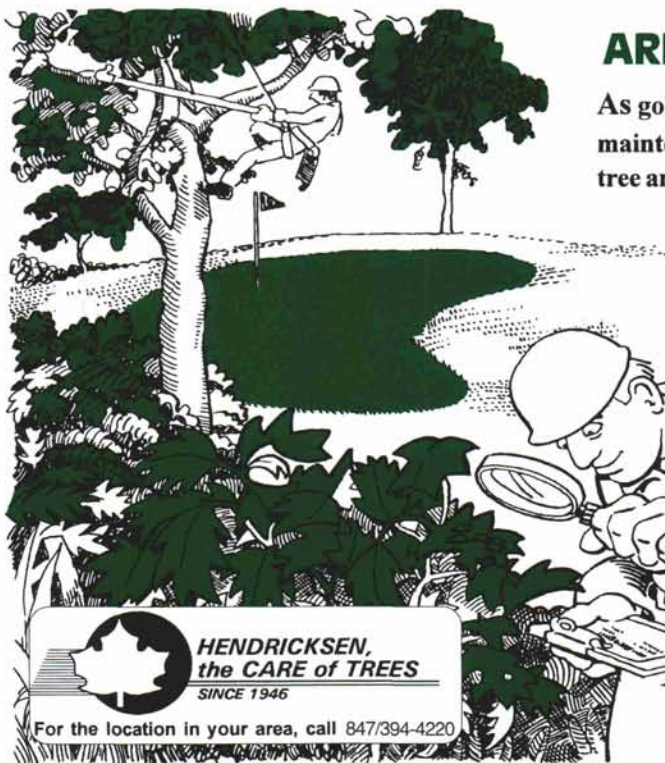
these products was good, and most often the conditions for extended cold/wet periods were limited. Spring developed rapidly, and turf seldom was exposed to cycles of repeated freezing/thawing. Some would say we had no spring and moved quickly from winter into summer. Most golf turf managers had very little spring leaf spot problem either.

The second trend is the development of spring/winter disease problems associated with the reduction in mercury use. Two factors are possible explanations: less persistent products have been applied, or the spring season is developing differently. One cannot clearly separate these factors. As the rates of mercury and PCNB products have been either reduced or eliminated, so also our spring season has

become longer with more periods of wet and cold temperatures. I believe the environment in central Minnesota has clearly become more favorable for spring/winter disease development; and even if the old product lines and rates were used, we would have more reports of spring/winter disease. Therefore, an early season application of products for management of Pink Patch (Pink Snow Mold) has become necessary. Good results are reported with DMI products.

The third trend is a much wider distribution of *Typhula ishikariensis*. The fungus most commonly reported in the past was *T. incarnats*, and I believe it was easier to control than this species. Fungicide control of snow molds in the '95/'96 test plot at Duluth,

(continued on page 28)



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The Next Step in Golf
(continued from page 6)

greens at courses, such as Wynstone Golf Club, has reached an unprecedented level of turf quality. Specifically, the greens are as good for the last group of the day as they have always been for the group with the privilege to follow the maintenance staff in the early morning.

In regard to the age old topic of *Poa annua* encroachment, while it has not been shown in scientific studies that steel-spiked shoes cause its invasion, the fact that it is most prevalent in the vicinity of the common hole locations indicates that there is, at least, some correlation. The link between the hole locations and *Poa annua* invasion is likely due to the physical destruction of the turf canopy by steel-spiked shoes that creates the opportunity for seeds already lying in the soil to

germinate and establish. If so, spikeless shoes are likely the best means of slowing the invasion of *Poa annua* into new areas of each green. For the *Poa annua* that is already firmly established, it is doubtful that spikeless shoes are the answer to its eradication.

While traction is not a significant issue for most golfers, a small minority may have difficulty walking on sloped areas and, therefore, may wish to continue wearing traditional spikes. These individuals should not, however,

miss the opportunity to continue testing the new spikeless spikes that are appearing in pro shops on an almost monthly basis. In time, they will, hopefully, find a spikeless spike with which they are comfortable and that balances the scale between putting quality, turf quality, and traction. As the twenty-first century approaches, it is important to note that a course cannot have the best greens in town without golfers taking their next step in shoes that do not damage the putting surface. ■

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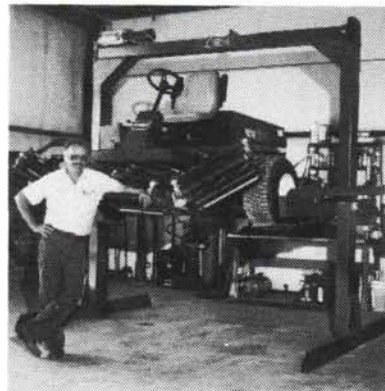
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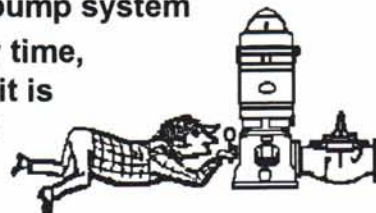
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the Bull Sheet

(continued from page 20)

Brian Comiskey at Pinecrest G.C. has been busy adding and rebuilding 13 bunkers around the course.

George Ott at Hillcrest G.C. is rebuilding their par 3, 17th hole. That means building a new tee, realigning the fairway, and enlarging the pond by 20 percent by cutting into the right side of the present green and extending the green to the left to compensate for the pond enlargement. All new bunkers will be added. Plus George will be relandscaping the clubhouse area and parking lot.

Ernest Corsi at Royal Fox G.C. is looking for an assistant and a mechanic. Please send resumes to: Ernest C. Corsi, Royal Fox G.C., 4405 Royal & Ancient Drive, St. Charles, IL 60174. Phone 630-584-4000.

Congratulations to Melora and Tony Kalina, proud parents of Andrew Olson Kalina. Andrew was born August 9, weighed 8 lbs. 3.5 oz., and was 20.5 in. long. Tony reports everyone is doing great.

Over the Labor Day weekend, John Meyer happened to be at the Naperville Jaycees "Last Fling" and ran into Dan Anderson (Fox Valley C.C.). Dan and a couple of his friends for the past four years have been cooking ribs at this event. It turned out that Dan and his friends won First Place in the event. John states that the ribs were delicious; the meat fell off the bones. Although Dan won't revel the exact "secret recipe," he did mention it changes a little bit every time they cook. John is wondering if it changes due to the variety or quantity of beer used or consumed!



Who is our executive secretary? Well members, here is a face to put with the name. Please meet George Minnis (on the left) and our own standup comic, Vice President Ed Braunsky.

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Golf Turf Snow Molds

(continued from page 22)

Minnesota, show that a three-way mix of Chipco 26019F at 4 fl. oz. with Pennstar at 4 oz. and Daconil 2787F at 8 fl.oz. resulted in 1.5 percent disease while the check plots averaged 87 percent disease.

This treatment and other products were applied October 26 with a delivery system providing two gallons of water at 35 psi per 1,000 sq.ft. April 23, the first evaluation period was due to a very late snow melt off; therefore, no spring disease problems were seen. The last several years, evaluations dates were late March, which did allow for disease development in the spring period.

The last trend I'm concerned about is the low water volume application of fungicide products. In past years, I applied products in four or five gallons of water per 1,000 sq.ft. This may have been excessive, but it did cover up several application errors. For winter disease control, I believe one gallon per 1,000 sq.ft. is not adequate. At two gallons per 1,000 sq.ft., coverage and penetration are better. Fungicide dose is determined by the amount of product that is taken up by the plant at the initial wetting. When one uses higher pressure to cover the area with less water volume, the droplet size is reduced and canopy penetration is also reduced. High pressure and high travel speeds increase the opportunity for drift. Product not at the site of action is product wasted. If your spray system produces a mist of materials that tend to float, I believe it is set up wrong. ■

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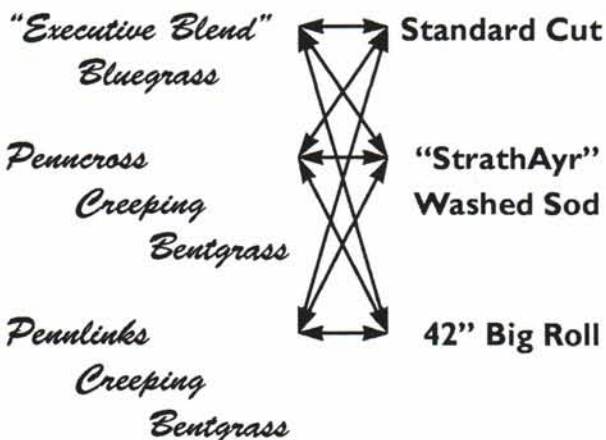
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