

SEPTEMBER, 1965

VOL. 19, NO. 3



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

FALL

GOLF

CHAMPIONSHIP

SEPTEMBER MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1965

OLD ELM COUNTRY CLUB

GOLF — DINNER

— NO —

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

THE BULL SHEET, official publication of THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

DOUG JABAAY, Editor
P. O. Box 305
Naperville, Ill. 60540

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The President's Message

I would like to bring your attention, as members of the Midwest Association, to your membership directory and by-laws booklet sent to you as members.

Let us all read and reflect upon the code of ethics and purpose of this association. It is not the purpose or function of the association or the Bull Sheet, the association publication, to criticize any organization or anyone personally, directly or indirectly.

The officers and directors of the Midwest Association sincerely regret the recent deviation from policy which has caused distress to some of our members and friends.

We continue to welcome all articles, educational or otherwise, with the reminder that strict accordance to the code of ethics as set forth in the by-laws still is the policy of the Bull Sheet.

The Bull Sheet is the official voice of the Midwest Association to be used for reporting functions of the association, announcing educational or related programs, timely topics of interest to the entire membership which would benefit golf, golf course maintenance and the position of the golf course superintendent.

As a member, I ask each other member to reflect on how each may endeavor to work collectively for the betterment of the association.

Al Johnson, President

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS



HAROLD MICHELS
Superintendent McHenry Country Club

AUGUST MEETING

McHenry Country Club did it again! That is, played host for another joint meeting with our friends from Wisconsin. Looking through some of the old issues I find that they have done this before. Even with the heavy rain in the morning the course dried off by noon and Superintendent Harold Michels had the entire place in fine shape for this exchange meeting. The Badgers came in force with an attendance of 25 which is a goodly number for the way the weather started out.

The refreshments on the course were supplied by the Geo. A. Davis Company. The Hor D'oeuvres were with the compliments of Mr. Kaiser of Terra Green.

Manager Bob Hurst turned out a terrific family style dinner of chicken, ribs and roasting ears with all the trimmings. If anyone left the table hungry it was his own fault. This was one of our better attended meetings with 121 members in attendance. Again we wish to thank Management and the members of McHenry Country Club for a good show.

DINNER DANCE

Now that we are near the time of our annual dinner dance, Walter Fuchs, chairman of this gala social affair, has asked that we bear in mind that this is going to be the biggest and best yet. He said that most of our suppliers and friends have come up with some nice door prizes.

Benny Dougall and his Casino Boys will again play all your favorite tunes, and there will be accordion music during pre-dinner hour.

The place: Edgewood Valley Country Club
The time: October 4, 1965, starting 6:30 P.M.

Your Host: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fredickson

You will be sent a map with directions on how to get there. Since we now have only one dance a year, no excuse will be accepted. Everyone else is coming, why don't you?

New Editor

As the new editor of the the Bull Sheet I would like to thank the board for the opportunity to edit such a fine publication. I hope that I can do as good a job as your previous editor Ted Woehrle has done for the last four years. At the last board meeting Ted gave the directors his resignation as editor. I wish to thank Ted for the help he gave me in getting this edition ready for press.

I would like to give a thumb nail sketch of myself as an introduction. I'm an Illinois farm boy who went to school in Colorado A & M College. Spent 10 years in my own landscaping business, sold out when I became dissatisfied with the profession. Went to work for Bert Rost at Butterfield Country Club in Oak Brook, Illinois. Under his direction, I was able to learn the finer points of turf management and construction. From Butterfield I took on a job of construction superintendent at Cross Creek Country Club in Naperville, Illinois. This is where I have stayed on after completion of the course. I'm married to a lovely gal named Jan, and I have two girls, 16 and 9, two boys, 12 and 6, one, I hope, will follow in my footsteps.

It will be a pleasure as well as a challenge to do the best I can to make this one of the top newspapers in our profession, but I will need your help. When I call on you for a hand, please say yes.

Thank you!

Doug Jabaay

Golfing News

We had a total of 64 players trying to take Harold Michel's course apart, but the rain held down that long roll and you had to get every inch with a club. Outside of a little water left on the first fairway the course was in beautiful shape and a credit to Harold's handiwork.

The 24 hail and hardy representatives of Wisconsin were not quite enough, they went down fighting by a score of Illinois 634 — Wisconsin 675. Next year they will have us on home ground and no doubt retaliate.

Scores for the day are as follows:

Low gross: Wisconsin — Irving Johnson, 76; Illinois — Benny Kronin, 75.

Low net: Wisconsin — Albert Johnson, 59; Illinois — Al Prusue, 54.

The balance of the winners of the Peoria System event were: Walter Fuchs, Bob Saielli, Ron Schumacher, John Crewe, Gary Jury, Fritz Reinhart, Ray Mertens, Wes Updegraff, Carl Hopphan, Dudley Smith, Frank Kiniger, Bill Saielli, John Ebel, Russ Reed, Charles Shiley, Bill Sell.

A redwood sign made by Bob Howe, for the maintenance shop, was presented to Harold Michels for a job well done.

Do not forget there will be a Seniors championship award (over 50) as well as our regular championship trophy. The place is Old Elm on September 27th. NO GUESTS PLEASE! There is only enough room for our members, so do not disappoint someone by bringing them with you as they will be refused. Your co-chairmen Ed Braunsky and Doug Jabaay plan to outdo themselves with the prizes for this meeting.

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In September

Well, it's over the hump for Summer, and just around the corner for Fall. That scalping by the greens mowers, the fluffiness and the mat that you have been strewing about are an indication that you will have to move out with the verticutter, and maybe do some topdressing. Aerifying, of course, is an other big job facing many of us this month after our big Labor Day weekend. One thing, Rome wasn't built in a day so save some of the work for Spring, too.

This is the time to start thinking about where to plant the trees that will replace those damaged by the ice storm, wind, as well as the Dutch Elm casualties. While the surrounding area is still in foliage you can picture where your replacement should go. Take some measurements so it will be easy to stake out later.

Remember, September can be hot, so watch the weather man and not just the season of the year. The way the grass is growing looks like there will be no let up in our cutting routine. So let's hope we have a decent Fall for all the work that you want to do.

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ANNUAL FALL OUTING AND DINNER MEETING

Monday, October 4, 1965

Woodmar Country Club, Hammond, Indiana

Once again, the members of the Greater Chicago Chapter of the Club Managers Association and the Midwest Golf Course Superintendents Association will have a joint meeting and outing on Monday, October 4, 1965. The location is the Woodmar Country Club, at 181 - 177th Street in Hammond, Indiana.

Activities will include: Lunch - Golf - Dinner - Meeting and after dinner speakers. We suggest you plan on playing golf early, so as to be in the clubhouse by 5:00 P.M. for individual meetings of the two Associations. At 6:30 P.M. dinner will be served, and the speaker will be over by 8:00 P.M. sharply.

The event will be held "Rain or Shine . . . Hot or Cold" and you will be through with dinner in time to attend the Harness Racing at nearby Washington Park, which boasts of "In by 8 out by 11".

Since weather is not a factor ALL RESERVATIONS must be in by the 24th of September, so talk to your manager right away. Mr. Ed Kocur, our host for the day, guarantees us a fun filled day.

COMING EVENTS . . .

- Sept. 10 and 13 - Illinois Turfgrass Field Day - University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, J. D. Butler, Dept. of Horticulture.
- Sept. 14 - Northern Michigan State Turfgrass Field Day - Michigan State University, Traverse City, Country Club, Traverse City, Michigan. Dr. James Beard and Dr. Paul Rieke, Dept. of Crop Science, East Lansing, Michigan.
- Sept. 15-16. - Pennsylvania State Turfgrass Field Days Noon to noon on Campus, University Park, Pa. Dr. J. M. Duich, Dept. of Agronomy.
- Sept. 21-22 - Lawn Ornamental Days - Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Wooster, Ohio. Dr. R. R. Davis, Dept. of Agronomy, Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Wooster, Ohio.
- Sept. 27 - Annual Fall Golf Tournament, Midwest Golf Course Superintendents Association. MEMBERS ONLY. Old Elm Country Club.

WANTED: BARTER - EXCHANGE - SELL

This section will be used whenever any one who wishes to dispose of, swap, sell or buy any thing of value.

YOUR RIGHT TO SAY IT!

(Editor's Note: Our members are invited to contribute letters for this column. Here is your chance to sound off on any subject pertinent to turf management - including the Bull Sheet. Please specify if you prefer that your letter appear without your name and address. Selection of the letters for publication will be at the discretion of your editor.)

Midwest Turf Field Day

On Monday and Tuesday, August 16-17, the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation held its Field Day presentation at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana. Following are some of the highlights taken from the report.

Creeping Bentgrasses. Since 1951 twelve selections, and since 1959 three additional selections have been

maintained in 4 x 12 foot plots. In previous years the north half of each plot received fungicide protection. In 1965 fertility, greens-airing and fungicides have been uniformly used.

From this research Evansville bentgrass has been released as a variety. Growers of stolons include Godwin, Chester Hybrids, Link's, Warren's and Lynde and Rowsey nurseries. Evansville appears to need less nitrogen to maintain adequate color and vigor.

Penncross seed continues to be widely used and to perform about average of the vegetative selections. Currently much less is being said about the vegetative varieties, although C-7, C-15, Washington, C-1 and C-19 mixed continue to be favorites.

Those that appear puffy under management practices should not be discounted if one is willing to increase aeration and break up plugs to increase frequency of topdressing, or to use machines for vertical manicuring.

Preventing Poa annua and Crabgrass. Always there are two questions when considering using a chemical on a putting green.

1. Will the chemical damage the turf?
2. Will the chemical positively control the weed infestation for a considerable period?

When Betasan came on the market we started treating plots with heavy rates to observe bentgrass tolerance. Already there have been four applications at three times recommended rate with no damage showing. If bentgrass has already started to grow, it seems tolerant to most of the pre-emergent materials when used at the recommended rates. Generally it is wise to have the bentgrass start growing before applications are made.

Poa annua restriction. In the spring of 1965 calcium arsenate at 10 lbs. F. per 1000 sq. ft. was applied as a liquid spray on an area of 8ft. x 12 ft. Three replicates were used for three locations. Partial weakening and control has been achieved. Additional application will be made at 5 lbs. per 1,000 in the fall of '65, and 3 lbs. per 1,000 in the spring of '66.

Wilt Reduction. Seven materials have been used as wilt reduction sprays in laboratory, greenhouse and putting green experiments. Two commercial formulations, Sun Oil Company Foli-cote and Miller Chemical Company Vapo-gard, gave best results. From one to four applications were made in the same series over the same area. Water was withheld until severe wilting in adjacent areas was evident. In laboratory test all fungicides observed, except Dyrene, seemed to mix well with these wilt reducers. Dilution rates of 1 - 20 giving one pint per 1,000 sq. ft. seemed adequate. Lighter rates may prove satisfactory.

The turf manager needs to develop a program utilizing these materials, for each has a definite toxicity and residual so he may benefit from using residuals from previous applications with several materials.

Timing has always been important. Generally applications are best made after the desired grass has started to actively grow and its root system is extensive. A general summary of our research is made at the spring conference and current recommendations on materials are published now in the Lawn Bulletin.

Research has been initiated using gypsum in twice-a-year applications on areas having extensive thatch buildup. Additional work in laboratory and greenhouse will be continued.

TURF FIELD DAY (Continued)

Bluegrass research Review. Currently many Experiment Stations and numerous companies recommend blends of different bluegrass varieties. These may include Marion, Delta, Newport, Park, Common, Windsor, Prato, etc.

Our research background extends to 1945 when Merion and Common were planted adjacent. In 1952 Delta was added, and S-2 (now Windsor), plus other experiments were observed. In 1954 experimental bluegrasses from Musser's work of Pennsylvania were included. In 1955 the crosses of different bluegrass species from the Carnegie Foundation were planted. During the same year Newport and Park were first planted. In 1956 vegetative pieces of bluegrass were collected, sub-divided and planted for turf plots. Over 100 clones have been selected from turf areas throughout the Midwest. By 1959 seed from foreign sources was added. About 1962 new herbicides made the interest in improved bluegrass strains possible.

Basically we are still looking at individual clones. The research work of graduate students, E. Melkerson, C. Lobenstein and C. Berry, serves as a background for current work of Terry Riordan. A few apomorphic selections have been observed, but variation in numerous progenys provide much opportunity for selecting genetic and phenotypic types.

With financial support from Highway Research, we are actively looking for coarse, vigorous, aggressive bluegrasses which might replace tall fescue for roadsides. The same variety might serve well for heavily worn areas, including athletic fields, playgrounds. Concurrently we are looking for petite, disease-resistant, low-growing bluegrasses which can be mowed closely for fine lawns and fairway turf. Much progress has been made.

Close-cut Bluegrass. The best of the commercially available foreign and experimental selections have been maintained under good management and close cutting for two years. Note crabgrass invasion and density of turf. Plots cut at $\frac{1}{2}$ " April 1 to August 1 showed good survival. However, a $\frac{3}{4}$ " cut gave better turf, better playing conditions. Leaf density of 100 leaves per sq. inch have been found under good management in some varieties.

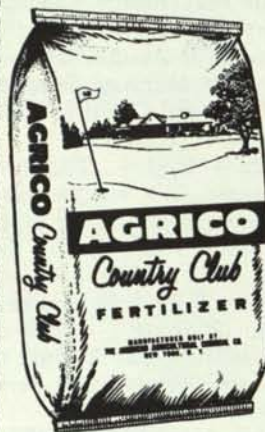
Summertime Bluegrass Seeding with crabgrass prevention. Two dates, three rates of Tupersan have been used on bluegrass planted in late May 1965. At 9 lbs. active per acre excellent crabgrass control was observed; yet, bluegrass seed germination and seedling survival appears normal. Of materials tested only Tupersan permitted adequate bluegrass seedling establishment under the conditions of this test.

Bluegrass Kill and Turf Renovation. Herbicides offering promise for quick bluegrass kill, plus additives for improved herbicide activity, have been sprayed over old bluegrass sod. Those plots giving best control still do not have complete bluegrass kill. Sufficient thinning is achieved so new varieties could be introduced by use of Aero-blade, Aero-thatch, or similar vertically grooming machinery.

Seeding and Mulching. Machinery including a Hydro-seeder was used to apply seed alone, shredded sod alone, plus mixture, over prepared soil; then wood fiber mulch was hydro-seeded over these.

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TURF FIELD DAY (Continued)

FamcoMat, Ludlow Soil Saver, Excelsior mulch, straw mulch and Erosionet were used to conserve moisture and improve germination. Excelsior results look outstanding as was the Hydro-seeder wood fiber.

Nitrogen Release. Prestige, advertising, ease of handling, non-burning, long lasting, quick release, unavailable, soluble, many words describe fertilizers and their responses. Coated, impregnated, incapsulated, blended, hard, soft, flaky, soluble, insoluble, dusty, free flowing are attributes of interest when considering tomorrow's fertilizer for turf.

In 1965 we have compared two lots of fertilizer for their performance, color, yield of clippings, density of turf. Under grant support we are comparing four experimental materials from Sun Oil Company, plus experimentals from four other companies that have previously supported research. Further applications will be made this fall.

Midwest zoysia. First released in 1963. Continuous supplies have been available. Approximately forty sales of materials have been made in twelve states in 1965 by the Agricultural Alumni Seed Improvement Association, 2336 Northwestern Avenue, West Lafayette, Indiana. They maintain original increase and sales. Observations made on Zoysia heavily fertilized in the fall, as on athletic fields, golf course tees, indicate that fertilization after September 15 is to be discouraged if maximum chance of winter survival is desired. Perhaps this is why Zoysia on tees has often failed.

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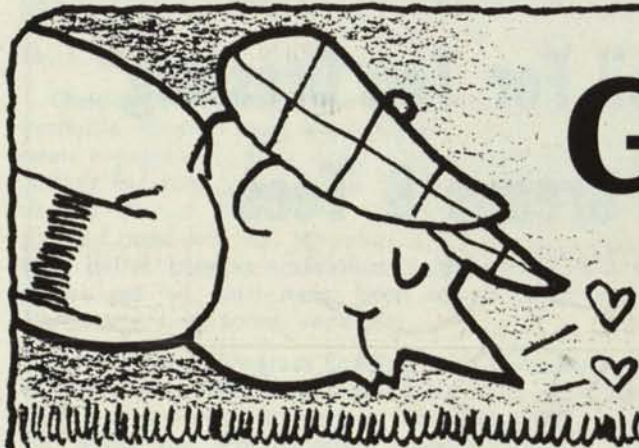
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