

OCTOBER, 1966
VOL. 20, NO. 4



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

DINNER

DANCE

Nov. 12, 1966

**RIVERWOODS
COUNTRY
CLUB**

NOVEMBER MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1966

FORT SHERIDAN COUNTRY CLUB

FORT SHERIDAN, ILLINOIS

GOLF — BOWLING — DINNER

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

BUSINESS MEETING

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

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Walter Pieper, host Superintendent for our September meeting.

The President's Message

The entire day at Flossmoor Country Club for our September meeting was perfect. An exceptionally good attendance, some faces I haven't seen for a while; a good day for playing golf, the weather was about like you like it; a tip-top course to play on, those greens and fairways were the finest; a very fine piece of meat to sink your teeth into for supper; and everything topped off with excellent prizes for all of us "pro" golfers. Ed Braunsky and Tom Burrows did an outstanding job in their work with the prizes, and we all appreciate what they've done.

Walter Pieper, our thanks goes to you and your club for having us. We know we can count on the best in play and service at Flossmoor.

Well, we've been saying it's been the driest summer and the driest fall, but I think we all secretly hoped we were going to be wrong about the fall. There was that silent prayer that we'd get some moisture from Mother Nature to improve our situation before winter. Unfortunately, the rain never came, and the prospects don't look too good.

One thing is sure . . . we'd better check over our watering systems and sprinklers, because they sure got a workout this year.

I've heard many nice things said about our organization lately, and the spark of comradeship seems to be glowing brighter than it has for a long time. Nothing makes me happier than this. There's no reason why the days we live right now can't be the very best. Today is great, but tomorrow is going to be better.

Sincerely hope to see you all at Fort Sheridan for the November meeting.

Adolph Bertucci, President

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SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our annual golf tournament was a success from the start to the finish! When you want to play one of the top conditioned golf courses in the Chicagoland region, you have to put Flossmoor Country Club at the top of the list. Wally Pieper, our host for this well attended event — 62 for golf and 126 for dinner — had a place for everything and everything in its place, as the old saying goes. It was a pleasure to see a golf course looking and playing at its best. Again the bouquet of flowers to you, Walter! The refreshments on the course and the shrimp bowl were presented with the compliments of Illinois Lawn Equipment and Chicagoland Cushman Company.

The steak dinner which Mr. Wingfield and his staff provided was very well received, some even were trying for seconds. We certainly thank the members and staff of Flossmoor Country Club for such a pleasant day.

Our golf committee report for the day from Ed Braunsky and Tom Burrows went like this, with winners in order:

Peter Voykin, 76 — Low Gross Champion.

Roger LaRochelle, 78 — Low Gross Runner-up.

Stan Arendt — Low Net Champion.

Emil Mashie, Walter Simon, Roger Boyd, George Wellek, Bill Hargrave, Norm Stecter, Oscar Miles, Ken Lapp, Adolph Bertucci, Emil Cassier, Ken Goodman, Ben Kronn, Tom Digito, Don Gricus, Charles Schultz, Clarence Michell, Ed Burke, Paul Voykin.

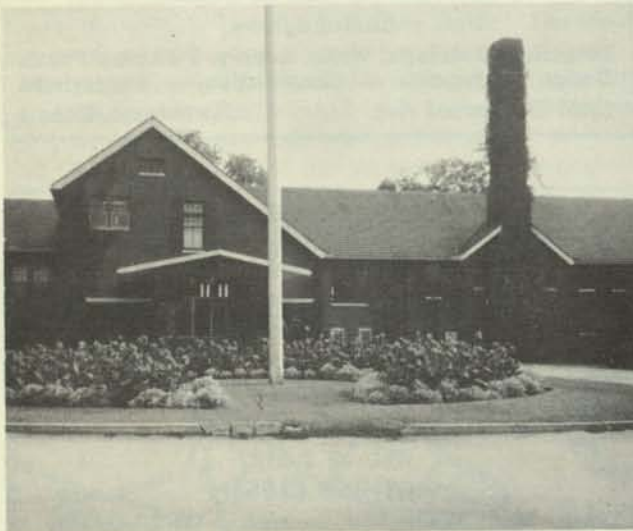
Trophies went to Pete Voykin, Roger LaRochelle and Stan Arendt.

Par-3 Tournament—closest to the pin—Bill Sialli, 18 inches from the hole, winning a \$65.00 Salon Hot Tray.

21 prizes at a value of \$325.00 were given away to finish off a good season of golf.



A foursome finishing up on No. 18 hole.



Flossmoor Country Club Clubhouse.

School Days

The third Illinois winter short course in turf and general grounds management will be held on the University of Illinois campus at Urbana beginning on January 30 and ending on March 10. Subjects offered in this course include turf management, arboriculture, landscaping recreation areas, grounds maintenance equipment, etc. Certificates are awarded to those who satisfactorily finish the course.

The estimated cost of the six weeks program is from \$235 to 300. This amount includes tuition, fees, books and supplies, as well as housing and meals which will be available in university residence halls.

For further information write the Short Course Supervisor, 104 Mumford Hall, College of Agriculture, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois.

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HOW TO CALIBRATE A SPREADER

J. R. Love

Dept. Soil Science, Univ. of Wis.

To use any applicator (whether it is a sprinkler, a sprayer or a spreader) that has not been calibrated is to invite trouble, either in the form of too much or too little material being applied. Not only do shortages and excesses waste time, material and money, they can also result in turf injury. Furthermore, since the job of calibrating an applicator is relatively simple and one that may be done in the off season, this kind of trouble can and should be avoided. It is hoped that the following article on the calibration of a spreader will be helpful in this connection.

Regardless of whether the spreader is a hand pushed or power drawn model of either the band or spinner type, the basic principles involved in the calibration procedure are the same. However, it should be pointed out in this regard that the spinner type spreader is far less likely to result in streaking (from either overlapping or skipping) and is, therefore, preferred for most jobs. Furthermore, of the two types, the spinner gets the job done faster. The steps involved in calibrating a spreader are as follows:

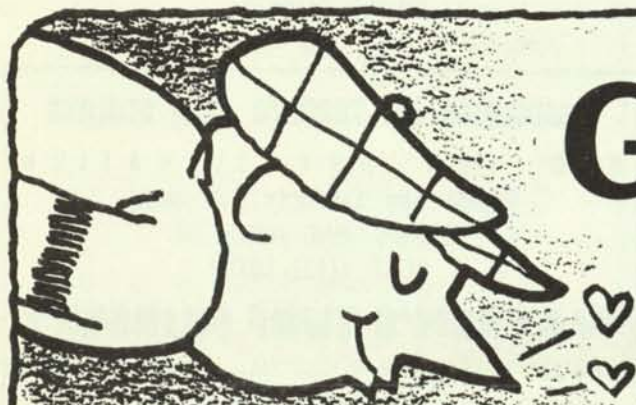
1. Select a site for the actual calibration that is off the area to be treated, for example, a driveway or the grounds around the shop.
2. Set the opening of the spreader for the desired rate according to the operator's manual or, in the case of the small hand pushed model, this information is also given on the bag of many

materials which are sold for turfgrass use. Note: To insure a more uniform application, it is a good practice to set the spreader at half the desired rate and go over the area twice (either from different directions or by overlapping each pass by 50%).

3. Add a weighed amount of material to the hopper—at least 20 pounds to the small spreader and 80 pounds to the larger ones.
4. Mark off a distance of 25 feet for the hand pushed type and 100 feet for the power drawn models. Remember: if at step 2 the setting was made at half the rate these distances must be doubled.
5. Now make a run with the spreader and observe the lateral distance the material is thrown (in the case of the band type spreader this measurement can be taken directly from the spreader). Be sure when calibrating the spreader to travel at the same speed that will be used under normal operating conditions and to turn the spreader off after each pass or include the turning distance in step 4.
6. Next weigh back the material left in the hopper and subtract this from the total amount added. The difference represents the amount of material applied. From the following formula calculate the rate of application in pounds per 1,000 square feet.

$\text{Lbs./1000 sq. ft. (equals) pounds material applied (step 6) x 1,000 (divided by) distance traveled x lateral spread in feet (step 4) in feet (step 5).}$

(Continued on next page)



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Example

Suppose 4.4 pounds of material were applied (step 6) to an area 25 feet (step 4) by 7 feet (step 5). The rate of application is calculated as follows:

4.4 pounds x 1,00 (divided by) 25 feet x 7 feet (equals) 25.1 lbs/1,000 sq. ft.

- Now then, if the calculated rate is not within 10 per cent of the desired one, adjust the setting accordingly and make another run. Usually no more than two or three reruns are needed in order to calibrate the spreader to the desired rate for any material. However, in this connection it should be emphasized that owing to differences in density and particle size, different materials may require different settings and hence a separate calibration.
- Lastly, it might be well to note that once a spreader has been calibrated it will perform as such only if properly cared for, that is, cleaned and oiled regularly and inspected for worn or loose parts periodically. Attention to these details always pay, they never cost.

ORDER LEAD TIMES GROWING

by Roger J. Thomas
Jacobsen Manufacturing Company
Racine, Wisconsin

Suppliers of equipment for use on the golf courses are finding it more difficult to purchase component parts that make up their product. Forecast requirements are much greater today than they were just one year ago and raw materials, such as iron and copper, are in big demand at this time. Components made up from these raw materials are causing manufacturers to forecast their needs anywhere from six to nine months in advance of delivery.

In our own situation, within the next thirty days some items must be ordered for next August delivery; we have the problem of not knowing how much to order. We do not want to carry excessive inventories, nor do we want to run out of products when the customers require them. Computers forecast product requirements based on past experience. There is such a variety of products along with new items that have not had a previous performance record, that shortages could appear this coming season.

There is a partial solution to this problem in that Golf Course Superintendents are the major buyers of turf equipment. As the various distributors' men call on the golf courses this fall, it would be most helpful if the Superintendent could give them some idea of his product requirements for spring or summer delivery. These do not have to be firm orders, but of course, this would help. By collecting this information, the distributor can get a better idea of what his total requirements will be and thereby help the manufacturer to plan his schedule. Planning along these lines by the superintendents can help stem off some of the rising costs and may actually result in an overall savings to them. I am sure all manufacturers are trying to prepare themselves for shortages and will try to have adequate quantities of products when the Superintendents need them, but I know our company needs evidence that our forecasts are somewhere on a level with the needs of the Superintendents.

DINNER DANCE

WHEN — November 12, 1966, 6:30 P.M.

PLACE — Riverwoods Country Club.

Gerald Rearie, your chairman for our Annual Fall Dance has again engaged Benny Dougall and his Casino Boys to play all of your favorite tunes. You will be sent a map with directions on how to get there. Since this is our only dance of the year and everyone else is coming, why don't you.

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FALL OBSERVATIONS

September 23, 1966

THE FUTURE UNCERTAIN

Our economy is certainly in a state of uncertainty where the ordinary phases of the business cycle cannot be anticipated. This results mainly from the condition of secrecy or censorship in our international affairs and to a great extent our domestic policy as well. Are we engaged in secret negotiations over ending the war in Viet Nam? Will the administration ask for an increase in taxes, balance the budget and curtail welfare expenses? The business community can only guess and individuals can profit or get hurt badly if they guess wrong.

Due to the labor squeeze, high taxes, prices on machinery are up for next season. Increases ranging from 5 - 10% have been announced by leading manufacturers. This means higher prices for mowers, tractors, sprayers and aerifiers. Most equipment depends on a number of prime manufacturers. The lead time on motors, castings, bearings etc., has become longer and longer. Place your orders early and take delivery when available.

Grass seed is down in price from 10 - 20%. Crops have been generally good. Sod has replaced lawn seed to a large extent. Quality of seed is constantly improving too. All grass seeds can be purchased 98% or better purity. This provides cleaner seed, earlier and faster germination.

On chemicals, plant foods, insecticides and fungicides no price changes are in the offing. Mercury prices have strengthened again. No immediate easing of mercurials is in sight. Competition among many manufacturers keeps the supply of fungicides as well as prices in balance.

The overall picture then on machinery and supplies is even up, the increase in machinery prices is offset by lower grass seed prices. Labor is something else again. This problem is so baffling it defies a ready solution. Your suppliers are having this problem too.

C. O. Borgmeier

From The Midwest Turf News Letter

ATHLETIC FIELDS

Recent discussions with turf managers strongly suggest repeated overseeding of athletic fields before each home game. This permits some seedlings to germinate, then perhaps escape wear during the later games. It provides repeated chances for germination. It reduces the need for renovation at a later date and requires no special equipment.

Suggestions include using a knapsack or broadcast spreader to apply five pounds of a blend of bluegrasses to the heavy wear areas one to three days before each home game. Let the cleats do the planting. It is being done elsewhere already.

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