

Editorial

The golf course mechanic situation in South Florida has now reached emergency status. How can we continue to ignore this situation hoping it will go away?

It will not go away! General Motors estimates the mechanic shortage (just to do preventative maintenance, not repairs) for automobiles at 275,000. Japan has one mechanic for every 54 cars. Germany has one mechanic for every 82 cars. The U.S. has one mechanic for every 275 cars. Now where does that leave golf courses?

Our only logical choice is to train qualified young people to become golf course mechanics. This is where I believe Toro and Jacobsen have completely let the golf industry down. Great strides have been made to sell the red and orange machines but very little effort is made to insure their serviceability.

I would like to see Toro and Jacobsen have roving teams that tour the U.S. training mechanics. Even if this required adding a \$5.00 surcharge to each piece of equipment sold, it would be well worth it.

Alone we are lost in this issue. Segmented we can be average. Together we can come up with the answer.