

## Let's Tip Our Hats to the Area's Golf Course Superintendents

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One gent who has been particularly overlooked by this department is Wayne Lippold, golf course superintendent of The Forest, the fine 18-hole development course which opened up just off U.S. 41, south of Gladiolus Drive two weeks ago.

Lippold has done an incredible job in gradually bringing the entire playing area of The Forest into superior condition. The Forest could well have opened for play several months before the gates actually swung open on Dec. 13 — that's the kind of job Lippold accomplished.

"Wayne has been working for several months along with the construction crew on irrigation installation, grass planting and attending to the 1,001 details of a new crew and maintenance procedures," Sanderson said. "His experience bringing in new courses, not only in this area, but also up north, should make the The Forest a super layout by opening day."

It did.

"Another superintendent who has been equally hard at work bringing in a new golf course is Mark Tallmadge at Burnt Store Marina," Sanderson says. "This course may be ready for play in February, depending on the germination of the overseeded grasses. It will be a very exciting, demanding short course with 18 holes initially and plans for 27 soon."

Sanderson reports that Toby Strahan, course superintendent at Bear's Paw, "spent all of the past year bringing that course to its peak for the opening day a few weeks ago. From what has been said about Bear's Paw by those lucky enough to play there, it is a real test of any golfer's ability. It features several grass covered fairway traps and water placed in very strategic areas and conditions are excellent."

They certainly are.

"Mark Hampton, superintendent at the new Wyndemere course and vice president of the Everglades Golf Course Superintendents Association, is also approaching opening day," Sanderson said. "And he's been spending many months worrying whether everything would come together at the right time to make his 27-hole golf course look its best after the ribbon cutting."

Hampton has not only been worrying and sweating the opening of the magnificent Arthur Hills-designed Wyndemere layout, he has been practically sleeping with it. But Hampton and his crew's dedicated works will come to at least partial fruition this Friday when 18 of the Naples' course's 27 holes are opened for play.

And if the year 1980 was a satisfactory period for the golf course superintendents of Southwest Florida, 1981 is looming every bit as challenging since more new development courses will be in various phases of construction.

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To name a few: Quail Creek, Fiddlesticks, Alden Pines, Wildcat Run and Sandhill Pines. These will be comparable to The Forest, Burnt Store Marina and Wyndemere and one of the most vital roles played in their building processes will be the dedication of the golf course superintendents.

And the Everglades Golf Course Superintendents Association has an abundance of this commodity on hand. ■

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## Growing Turf-Grass Under Shade

By UDAY K. YADAV

In most landscapes, turfgrasses are grown in association with trees, shrubs or buildings. This association involves shading which reduces the light intensity and alters the quality of the light reaching under a canopy of trees, shrubs and other structures. Grasses differ in their ability to endure shade. The relative shade adaptation is as follows:

Excellent  
St. Augustine grass

Good  
Zoysia grass

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## Growing Turf-Grass Under Shade

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Medium  
Centipede grass  
Bahia grass

Poor  
Bermuda grass

In spite of these limitations, shade tolerant grasses or plants can be established and maintained under shaded conditions. Following practices are likely to improve turf-grass performance under these conditions:

1. Use shade tolerant grass. The shade adaptation of St. Augustine grass is excellent in Florida. In northwest Florida, zoysia grass has shown good shade adaptation.
2. Light intensity can be improved by pruning the tree limbs below 10 ft. or through selective pruning of branches in the crown of the tree. Undesirable trees may be eliminated from the landscape.
3. Remove grass clippings, pine needles and other debris to encourage turf establishment. Fallen tree leaves may smother the grass or provide a home for insect and disease organisms.
4. Air circulation can be enhanced by the elimination of thick underbrush and judicious pruning of overgrown shrubs. This would create drying conditions, lowering relative humidity and retarding disease development.
5. Prune shallow tree roots to reduce competition for water and nutrients.
6. Deep and infrequent irrigation to increase deeper root system.
7. Raise the cutting height to increase the leaf area index.
8. Control application of nitrogen fertilizers to avoid depletion of carbohydrates and to produce tougher tissues.
9. Redirect or control traffic in shaded areas to protect turf from wear injury.
10. Fertilize established trees by drilling or punching holes 12" deep to soil 2 to 3 feet apart from trunk to drip line.
11. Maintain a favorable soil reaction for the grass.
12. Maintain a regular weed control program to reduce plant competition and to improve the appearance of overall landscape.
13. In hard to mow or hard to establish situations, use a suitable ground cover. Monkey grass (*Liriope Muscari*) and Mondo grass (*Ophiopogon Japonicus*) excel as a ground cover in heavy shade and beneath trees (such as live oaks) which have shallow, competitive root systems. Plants such as English Ivy, Algerian Ivy, and Periwinkle are also suitable ground covers. ■

## Pesticide Ban Stirs Controversy

By LOUIS RUKEYSER

Are all well-meaning U.S. environmentalists contributing to a coming global food catastrophe?

Many objective observers have come to think so and, if they're right, an early test of Ronald Reagan's resolve to curb governmental overregulation may hit him directly in the breadbasket.

Right now, Americans are being spared any serious effects from this problem. Indeed, it has helped swell the demand for U.S. farm exports, which in turn has contributed to a strengthening dollar.

But as with the energy crisis — which most Americans refused to believe, even when it was staring them right in the gas pump — the food crisis that is taking shape is entirely authentic and is likely, in the end, to hurt us, too. And not just with rising prices.

The millions facing famine, social disruption and political instability today in lands of exploding populations and squandered resources in Africa, Asia and Latin America will need no convincing. A Presidential Commission on World Hunger, appointed by Jimmy Carter but ignored by him, termed the frustrated desire of the poor for food and other basics "the most potentially explosive force" on earth today — and a growing threat to U.S. security.

One experienced journalistic analyst of foreign affairs, Stanley Karnow, concludes bleakly that "it may already be too late for effective measures against this coming catastrophe.

So what does all this have to do with environmentalists? More than you might think. The fragile ability of many nations to feed their people has been set back by the growing list of restrictions placed on the use and sale of certain agriculture chemicals produced mainly in the U.S. Moreover, pending proposals by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would ban still more farm chemicals.

Clearly, it would be a grotesque exaggeration to focus solely on this aspect of the world food crisis, which is exacerbated by factors as diverse as the rising cost of oil, the cutback in agricultural acreage and an addiction to discredited economic policies. But the contribution of environmental extremism increasingly is being recognized, too; as one shrewd Washington observer put it to me, "the more unreasonable restrictions are placed on the use of pesticides and other farm chemicals, the closer we inch to disaster."

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