

# The Florida Green

SUMMER 1982



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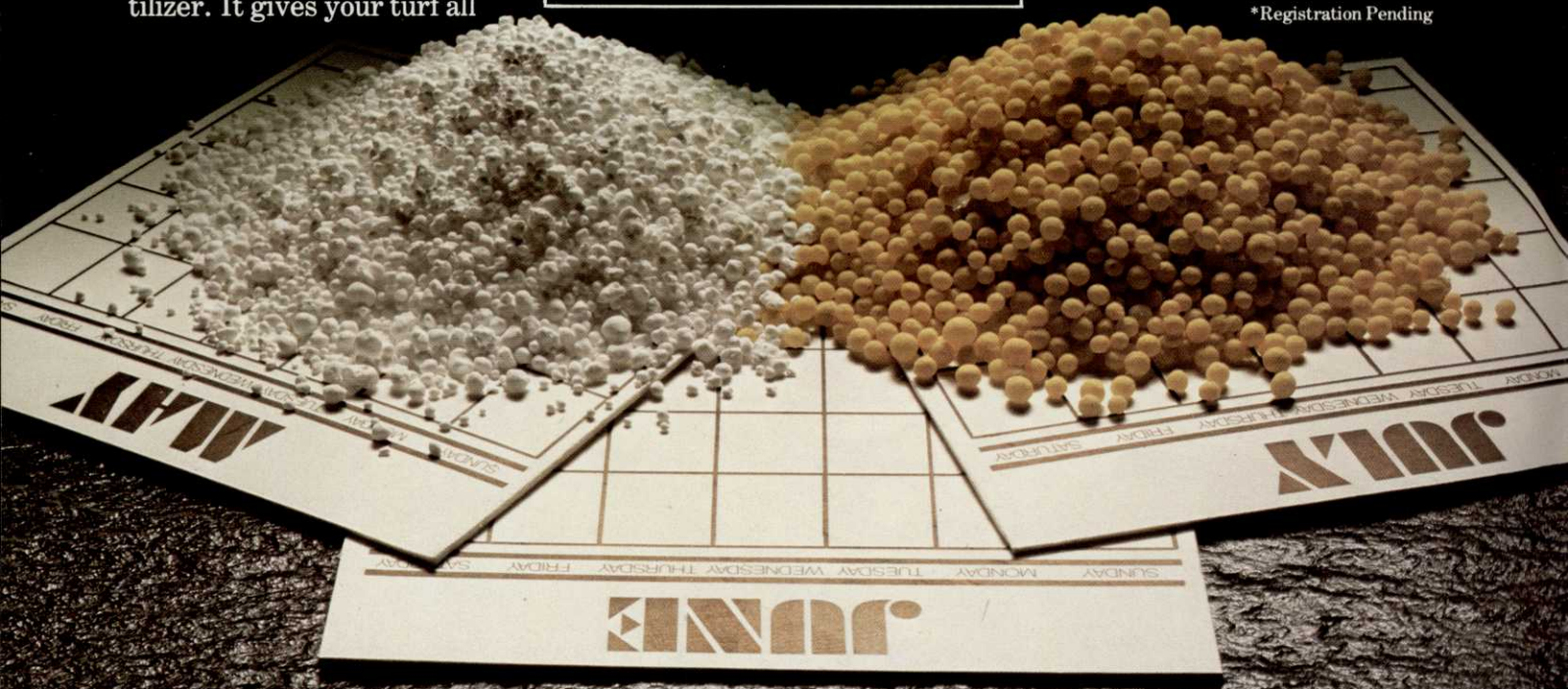
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A man with glasses and a goatee, wearing a dark jacket over a light turtleneck and dark pants, stands in a laboratory. He is leaning on a black stool with a white lab coat draped over it. To his left is a wooden lab bench with various glass bottles and equipment. Behind him, a large open doorway reveals a vast, green golf course with rows of young grass plants in the foreground. The scene is lit with warm, indoor lighting.

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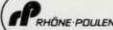


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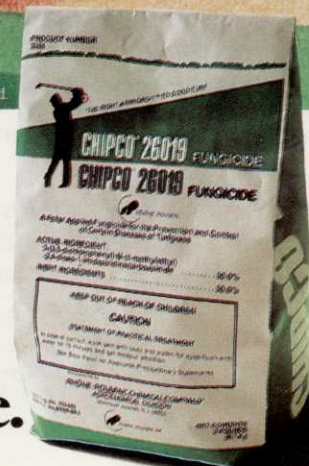
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## President's Message

After my recent comments on becoming active in the organizations which contribute heavily to the life blood of our profession, the following remark may sound contradictory.

"I think there are too many meetings."

"Let's back up and start in the beginning so we can analyze the situation and perhaps realize why those words are not inconsistent with my thoughts on effectual participation—rather they are germane to the fact.

Everyone must, yes must—not should, belong to a local superintendent's association. If you have chosen this profession as your career, then how can you honestly expect to take advantage of all the benefits without offering any contribution in return. "It's not what my country will do for me but rather it's what I can do for my country" may sound square, but it does hold true in all levels of existence. Certainly you don't just take from your family life without offering anything in return. Hopefully, while receiving, you contribute to your community, your church, your work, and anything else of importance and value to you. But how much can anyone give of themselves? And I am talking about a combination of money and time—both essential to the culmination of any cause.

In my opinion, a superintendent must also belong to the State association, the FT/GA, and the GCSAA—all absolutely vital segments in the wheel of successful maintenance of a golf course. That superintendent must make every effort to attend the GCSAA Turf Conference. This association is the outer rim which holds the industry wheel together. It cannot be a successful binder without your money and talent when requested.

That same superintendent must make an even greater effort to attend the FT/GA Turf conference. This association is one of the essential spokes in that success wheel due to the close affiliation with IFAS, our local potential supply of expertise, and the ability to gather and disseminate information of value for us. Again this association needs your money and your time and; your talent to enable it to hold up its portion of the wheel.

The FGCSA and the local chapters are the other essential spokes with the individual superintendent being the hub. The rim is a needless hoop without spokes or a hub. The spokes are useless pegs without an attachment at both ends. And, although nothing can start to roll without the hub, it in itself is confined to rotating in its own tiny circle and would be ineffectual without the spokes and rim. It takes all to be a successful wheel.

Participating in and/or partaking of the GCSAA conference requires at least five days; the FT/GA conference, Golf Tournament, and FGCSA annual meeting four days. These events amount to what should be classified as required meeting time. There are now two other well established and managed golf tournaments—Poa Annua and Crowfoot. These must be supported as they contribute to our social well being and business survival. More required time of the superintendent—time important to both the event and the participant.

I personally think the local chapter meetings should be reduced to four per year—fewer and, hopefully, better. Many monthly meetings have and continue to amount to a social outing, lunch and golf, a very inexpensive and enjoyable day away from the job.

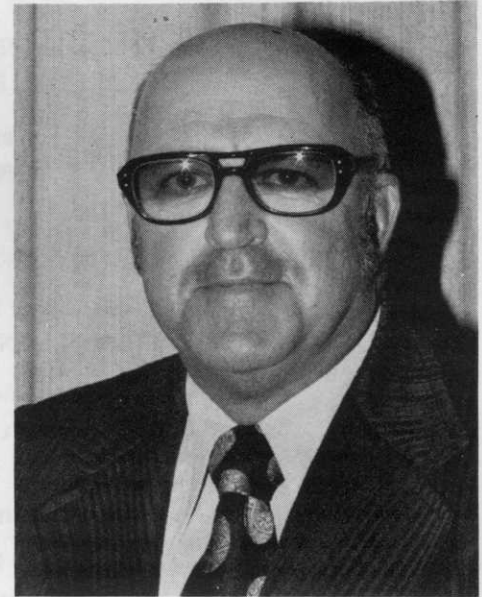
Try on this schedule for a year:  
Four good, one day, educational programs  
Four informal golf outings (seperate from above)  
Two golf tournaments  
FT/GA conference and tournaments  
GCSAA conference

Six educational opportunities—seven golf opportunities

An individual would be **REQUIRED** to attend three of the educational sessions to qualify him for participation in the golf events. Too drastic, too demanding, too restrictive—I don't think so.

The greatest reward for man's toil is not what he gets out of it, but rather what he becomes from it.

Maybe, just maybe, we all can become slightly better superintendents and better contributors to our society.



*Bill Wagner*



# The Florida Green

The Official Bulletin of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association  
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## ABOUT OUR COVER

Hole No. 9 of the Gold Course at Wyndemere Country Club, Naples, Florida. Mark Hampton is the golf course superintendent. See page 37.

**NOTICE:** All correspondence concerning business matters, circulation, editorial and advertising should be addressed to the Editor, P.O. Box 5958, Lake Worth, Fla. 33461. Opinions expressed by writers in by-lined editorials are not necessarily those of this publication. "The Florida Green" is published quarterly: the 1st of January, April, July, October. Closing date for advertising and copy is 45 days prior to publication. Not copyrighted. Please credit the author and "The Florida Green."

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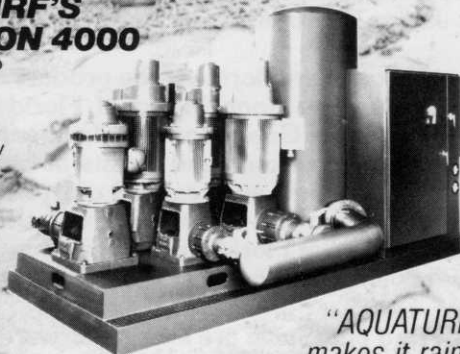
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# Watching Your Tees & Q's

by Steve Batten and Bud White  
United States Golf Association—Green Section  
Southeastern Region



## MONTY MONCRIEF RETIRES

As of June 30, 1982, James B. (Monty) Moncrief, Director of the USGA Green Section, Southeastern Region, will officially retire. For more than 25 years, Monty through the Green Section, has served over 100 golf courses in Florida. Monty always said he was in the "information sharing business" as he talked about growing turfgrass with his colleagues.

During this time, he was responsible for bringing the first Tifdwarf bermudagrass plug to Dr. Glen Burton in 1961 for field evaluation. Since then, he has continued bringing plugs of natural mutations from golf courses to Tifton, Georgia, hoping to help further improve the section of fine bladed bermudagrasses.

Monty is a member of the American Society of Agronomy and is a certified profession agronomist. He has always supported superintendents association efforts, which is reflected by his membership in 13 of these organizations. Monty has consulted in 19 states and 6 countries outside the U.S. He has just received the A.W. Crain Diamond Award, the highest turfgrass award given in Texas. Other honors include the indoctrination into the Oklahoma Turfgrass Research Foundation Hall of Fame Award in 1977.

When asked what he will do after retirement, Monty said he's going to join the big league and play all those golf courses he visited. That should keep him busy for the next 25 years. If you see Monty playing golf, be sure to remind him of a few simple rules he often spoke of. That is, play the course as you find it, and the ball where it lies.

Monty will remain very active in the Green Section and the turf industry after his retirement. He is part of the new USGA Turfgrass Research Foundation Committee which will fund hundreds of thousands of dollars for turf research over the next years. He will also frequent superintendent association meetings and accept speaking engagements.

Monty Moncrief may get a chance to catch his breath, but he will never retire...we won't let him! ■

Charles "Bud" White, Southeastern Senior Agronomist, will become the Southeastern Regional Director for the USGA following Monty's (semi-) retirement. The office will still be housed on the University of Georgia campus in Athens, Georgia. Since last fall's football season, Bud is the only Clemson grad allowed near the University of Georgia campus.

## NEW USGA OFFICE IN FLORIDA

The Southeastern Region of the Green Section now has a new sub-regional office in Florida. This office will be headed by Steve Batten and located in Lake Worth. Steve joined the USGA on February 16, 1982—25 years to the day after Monty began his USGA career. Steve is originally from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and has a BS and MS in agronomy from Oklahoma State University. During the past four years he has been the research associate for Dr. James Beard at Texas A&M University.

The new office in Florida is the product of over ten years of promotion by Monty Moncrief. Florida has over 30% of the total USGA Green Section Membership in the Southeastern Region alone, and boasts of more than 700 golf courses. The new sub-regional office is unique in being one of only two sub-regional offices in the United States. This means that Florida golf course superintendents can take advantage of having local USGA benefits.

Both Bud and Steve are looking forward to sharing their information and talents with the Florida golf course superintendents. ■



Mr. & Mrs. Monty Moncrief

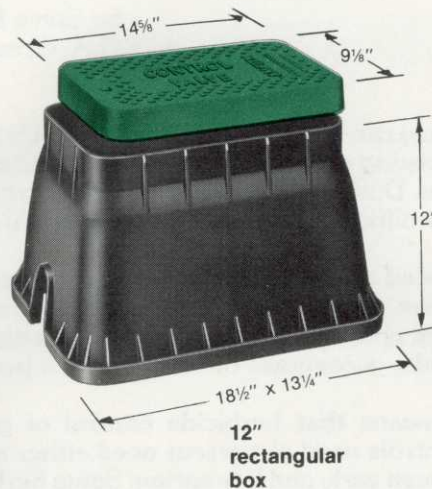
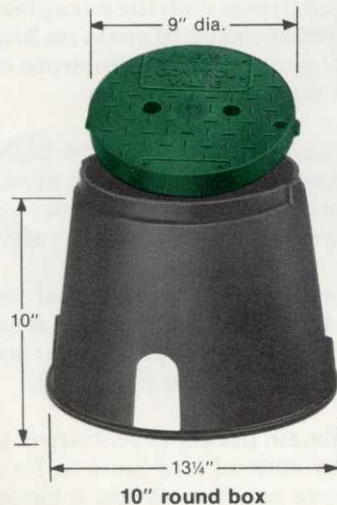


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# Goosegrass

by Steve Batten  
U.S.G.A. Green Section

Goosegrass (*Elusine indica*) can be found throughout the United States with the exception of the mountainous regions and northern plains. Persisting on compacted soils, it is most often visible of areas on heavy traffic, such as along foot paths, and golf cart trails. Due to its prostrate growth habit, goosegrass will tolerate closely mowed putting green heights, and can be most difficult of control under these low mowing conditions.

An annual grass reproduced by seeds, a single mature plant can product between 20,000 to 50,000 seeds on 3 to 7 fingerlike racemes per spike. Seeds germinate when daily average soil temperatures at or near the surface are 65 to 67 degrees F. This means that goosegrass can germinate throughout the summer growing season, and starts in February in Florida. In South Florida, goosegrass often acts like a perennial, and is present year round.

Long seasonal growth means that herbicide control of goosegrass needs critical timing, for best results. Pre-emergence herbicide controls used at present need either a long residual during a single application, or two safely applied applications between early and late spring. Some herbicides used at present for goosegrass control are benefin (Balan), oxidiazon (Ronstar), or a combination of oxidiazon plus bensulide (Betasan).

Post emergence control of goosegrass with MSMA plus metribuzin (Sencor) or Asulam (Asulox) is usually applied in late spring/early summer. Often mature plants are difficult to control and have to be spot treated by hand with a non-selective herbicide such as glyphosate (Roundup). Because goosegrass has a fibrous root system, one control often used is to cut out the crown of the plant with a sharp tool. New herbicides are being evaluated constantly for safer, more selective control. ■



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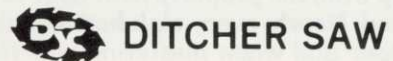
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# The Gator Growls

By DAN L. HALL JR.  
Imperial Golf Club



Over the years, much controversy has arisen over this topic and the controversies are varied:

- To topdress or not-
- Mixed to straight materials-
- Purchase or blend in house-
- Light-Medium-Heavy rates-
- Sterilize or not; frequency-
- Add organics or not-
- and on AD INFINITUM!

This one operation is probably the most effective tool, excepting the verticut and greens mower that will give the Superintendent and his members the most desired results for time and expense on the golf course. Golf courses with small budgets can see better results in many instances, from a well-done job of topdressing than from a fertilizer application.

In fact, in the early years, when budgets were low and the soil mixing was done in-house as a part of keeping the crew busy on rainy and/or cold days, topdressing was, on many Southern courses, the only plant food source ever applied on Bermuda.

Animal manures were plentiful and near-by and often had, just for hauling away. Native top-soil just had to be scraped up from the property next door and hauled to the mixing shed. Nearly every club had a lumber yard owner as a member and when plastering was the popular wall finish, you could get his contaminated or discolored white plaster sand, just for cleaning it up and hauling it to the course.

Grass clippings and the fall leaves were mixed with the top-soil and manures, then allowed to compost. The mix was blended with the sands to the desired results of the superintendent. Generally, it was screened through  $\frac{1}{2}$ " and again through a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " mesh screen after being stored inside and allowed to dry; or at least under cover of either canvas or straw if a building with a roof and at least three sides was not available; as was more likely the case.

This topdressing was then applied, usually every 4 to 6 weeks by hand, for both fertilizing as well as smoothing and leveling the surface. As a youngster, and for many years as a superintendent, this was the only time that our Bermuda greens ever received any type of plant food. We

used a starter fertilizer of say, an 0-12-12 or 0-20-20 prior to sowing rye, a little Nitrate of Soda, Ferrous Sulfate, or Nitrate of Soda Potash dissolved in water to feed the rye early in the A.M. in the spring to burn out the rye. That was it as far as plant food goes, except the monthly topdressings from April through September or October depending on how far South you were.

Golf greens, even though not planted to the fine hybrid bermudas we have today, at clubs with conscientious superintendents, offered putting surfaces equal to and in many cases, better than those of today as far as lack of grain, quickness, and trueness of roll. This was primarily due to lack of water, little or practically no chemical nitrogen and FREQUENT TOPDRESSING, WELL WORKED into the surface.

One of the most difficult things I had to cope with when I came to Florida, was the membership complaining about topdressing. While in Savannah, the Carolinas, and Atlanta, the golfers really looked forward to topdressing and you just could not DO IT ENOUGH to suit them. The high rollers would load the course for about 2 to 3 weeks right after topping then wane off until the word was out; "the man just topdressed this week," and back they would come. In Jacksonville, it was just the opposite, not only at my club, but at the other clubs except Ponte Vedra; that club had a number of golfers from Alabama, Georgia, and the Carolinas, since there were not any seashore links except for Sea Island and Ponte Vedra. Put out topdressing in Jacksonville, and there would hardly be a golfer out for 2 to 3 weeks until that, "damned dirt would be worked down." To some extent, that feeling still persists today throughout Florida.

Primarily due to the fact that many of us look upon topdressing as a deadly duty and therefore, to cut down on complaints; do it quite INFREQUENTLY and QUITE HEAVILY. The coming of the aerifier and verticut brought the advent of, "there is now no need to topdress," from basically the non-golfing academia. Their stand was, the verticut could control grain and thatch, the aerifier controlled thatch and brought up soil, so therefore, there was little or no need of topdressing, plus the fact that Nitrogen fertilizers were quite plentiful and cheap compared to an in-house mix and storage of topping materials.

(Continued on Page 22)



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# Central Florida Crowfoots



By GARY MORGAN  
Spruce Creek Golf and Racquet Club

## TOPDRESSING

Topdressing is one renovation process that is sometimes overlooked or just plain taken for granted. There are so many different kinds of soil mixtures and other possibilities that you can do, depending on your particular conditions. For example: if you have an organic subsoil you may want to incorporate sand into your soil. If you have sandy greens you may want to keep them as is or add 10%-20% organic to them - maybe in the peat moss form. Whatever you choose depends on your own conditions - your budget and your personal experience.

Topdressing is becoming very involved with the newer technology of today's times. You can find different particle size, variances in sand & organic mixes - (ex. 80% sand - 20% organic), you can have additives such as charcoal and vermiculite added if you desire these in your topsoil mix.

As you can tell by now, the more additions to your topdressing, the higher the cost will be. Another costly item these days is the freight charge. A supplier closer to you, will make all the difference as far as the total charge will be.

Here are some superintendents and what their conditions are and what they use.

### I. The Bayhill Lodge & Golf Club Jim Ellison - Superintendent

- A. 1. Age of greens - 20 years - 18th green 4 years old.  
2. Age of tees - 20 years.
- B. Conditions of subsoil.
  1. Greens - 90% sand, 10% organic.
  2. Tees - 100% sand.
- C. What topsoil used & why.
  1. Greens - when aerified uses 95% sand and 5% organic mix. Aerifies 2 times per year. Other months topdresses once per month with 100% sand mix. These topdressings are done along with verticle mowing.
  2. Tees - aerified uses 100% sand mix for topdressing. Aerify 2 times/year.

### D. Comments:

1. Greens - speed being accomplished range somewhere between 7-8. Very satisfied with results of topdressing. Only change that may be made is to go to a 100% topdressing of sand after aerify instead of 95%-5%.
2. Tee - no change - very satisfied.

### II. Mt. Dora Golf Club

T.G. Boyd - Superintendent.

- A. 1. Age of greens: - 9 holes 23 years old.  
9 holes 21 years old.  
2. Age of tees: - 9 holes 23 years old.  
9 holes 21 years old.
- B. Conditions of subsoil.
  1. Greens - from surface to 6" deep there is a layer of 100% organic dirt plus peat. From the 6" deeper is the regular Florida Sand.  
Tees - older tees - same subsoil as greens. Newer tees - 80% sand - 20% organic soil.
- C. What topsoil used & why.
  1. Greens - most topsoiling done is along with aerifying. Uses a 60%-40% mix 2 times/year. a 3rd topsoil is applied of 100% coarse trap sand. Where thinning of turf may occur then spot treatments of topdressing are done.
  2. Tees - same program as greens.
- D. Comments:
  1. Greens - since there is such a high amount of organic in the soil, Boyd is trying a new approach to mixing the subsoil - rather than to completely rebuild his greens. He is "Subsoiling" to the 6" depth to mix the Florida Sand with high organic subsoil. He has attached irrigation wire to a sod cutter (specific attachment) and injects the wire into the ground like you would a sod cutter. He then uses the wire underneath the soil as a mixer of soil. After this is done he topdresses with sand. He has done one green and is getting excellent results.
  2. Tees - not a problem.

(Continued on Page 31)



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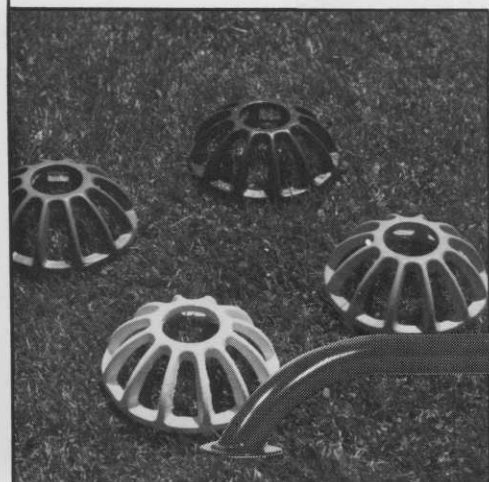
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# West Coast Buccaneers



By REED LeFEBVRE  
Pines & Palms Management Corp.

When you speak of taking care of greens top dressing rates among the top priorities. But along with everything else, the cost of performing this necessary function has gone way up! Supers who have top dressed with a top-dress mix, on a regular basis, are having a hard time justifying the cost of this material.

Our costs for equipment, labor, and materials have far out-paced our income, consequently we have to find newer and more economical ways of accomplishing the same ends. One way many are now using is the substituting of regular white or trap sand for top-dressing. With its cost at about half of what a mix would run, it seems to be the logical answer. There are those circumstances when you have to use a mix, either for the organics, or to have amendments such as charcoal etc. in an easy to apply form. Conversations I have had with Superintendents who use one or both, found the majority felt very good about the results of straight sand as a top-dressing.

John Luper at Countryside Country Club prefers a mix but uses sand in his top-dressing every three weeks program. He used top-dressing along with light verticuting, and has been on this program for three years.

At Clearwater Country Club, Joe Clay uses an 80/20 mix when he top-dresses lightly each month.

Sugar Mill Woods where Richard Mann is Superintendent, was using builders sand but found it to be a little too fine. Now he is using a 90/10 mix just when aerifying.



Lee Todd at Dunedin Country Club uses a 90/10 mix four times a year. He uses the 90/10 very lightly. Lee likes to use his core processor for top-dressing material when he aerates.

At Plant City Golf and Country Club we have been using trap sand with good results. The only drawback are the occasional pea sized chunks in the sand. We are planning to screen our sand or perhaps look into D.O.T. spec sand which I understand is pretty well screened when you get it. We are now using a vicon spreader to top-dress, and as long as there are small rocks in the mix we have to drag it in to remove them, where we had no chunks, dragging was unnecessary, as about five minutes of irrigation settles the sand right down in. ■

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# ON THE NATIONAL SCENE

by: John P. Hayden CGCS  
Director, GCSAA



Having just returned from my first board meeting in Lawrence, Kansas, I feel that GCSAA is on the verge of many new and exciting plans and programs for its members.

The staff in Lawrence has been organized in a very professional and productive manner. We, as members, will benefit by the many and varied programs that will be forthcoming from this very competent organization.

Already I think you see the improvement in our International Golf Course Management Magazine. Our Membership Department has set its goals for us to expand from the present 5,000 members to perhaps 10,000 with future goals ranging to possibly 15,000 in the next 10 to 15 years.

The Marketing Department will be shortly offering a number of items with the GCSAA logo so we all can show our pride in being members of the national organization.

The Education Department will be undertaking great strides in the advancement of our profession. One of the most interesting of these will be the telecasting of seminars, via satellite, to different locations in the United States. These seminars can be attended by up to 50 superintendents without the cost of travel, hotel rooms, etc. In

this way the association will offer you greater programs at a lesser cost to the individual. Look for this department to more than offset the cost of membership in GCSAA.

One other department that has been recently added is the Show & Conference Department. With this department the association will be able to provide us the best possible show sites and give us the best possible rooms at a price we can all afford.

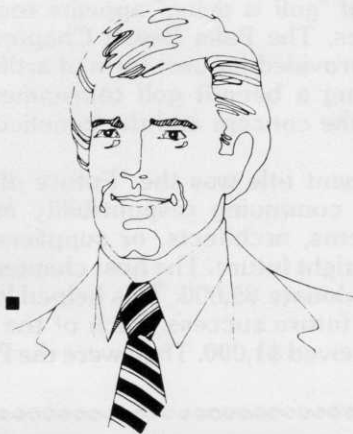
I would be shirking my duty if I also didn't convey to you the possibility of the movement of National Headquarters to some other site. Current locations under consideration are Lawrence, Kansas;—Denver, Colorado;—Connecticut;—Atlanta, Georgia;—Philadelphia, Pennsylvania;—New Jersey and two Florida sites, Ft. Myers and Orlando.

Hopefully GCSAA will have all the information available this fall and will be able to present to the full membership a site that will fill our needs for the next two decades.

If you have any problems or ideas that I could help you with please feel free to give me a call... I am working with you. ■

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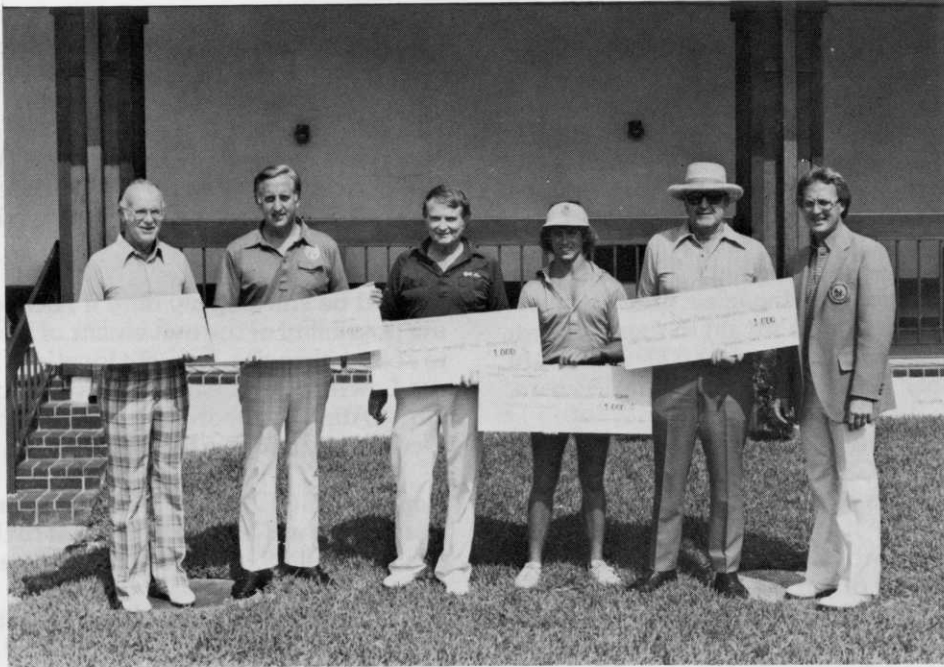
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# PALM BEACH CHAPTER Golf Course Superintendents Association



*Kevin Downing, far right, awards five \$1,000 checks.*

The adage of "golf is dying" appears too many times in golfing circles. The Palm Beach Chapter of the Florida GCSA has provided its own form of artificial respiration by conducting a benefit golf tournament. That is not unique, but the concept and the beneficiaries were.

The tournament title was the "Future of Golf". This relates to the continuing responsibility as golfers, pros, superintendents, architects, or suppliers to ensure the game has a bright future. The host chapter used the event proceeds to donate \$5,000. This helped local golf groups secure their future success. Each of the following organizations received \$1,000. They were the PGA Junior Golf

Program, Palm Beach County Youth Golf Program, Palm Beach Junior College golf team, Palm Beach County Amateur Golf Association, and the Florida Turfgrass Association Research Fund.

Kevin Downing, CGCS, from Atlantis Golf Club, President of the Palm Beach Chapter, stated: "We need to encourage, instruct and provide means for our youth to learn and enjoy golf. The future is also in research which aids us to find new ways and materials to perform our jobs more efficiently. We feel that those organizations will benefit from our tournament, and with their help we can ensure a bright future for golf. ■"



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## Nine Functions of a Consultant

Have you ever thought of becoming a consultant, for your present company or others, now or sometime in the future? It's a common daydream—one that comes true for a great many people.

Dr. Jeffrey Lant, a professional consultant and author, has looked at the consulting business and concluded that true consultants, as contrasted with those given that title by former employers who wanted to let them down gently, traditionally perform one or more of nine basic services for their clients:

- They bring to an operation knowledge or skills not held by the permanent staff.
- They supplement talents of the permanent staff for a special assignment or limited period.
- They indoctrinate or teach the staff a new skill.



- They supervise or oversee an operation, possibly without getting personally involved in carrying it out.
- They serve as a catalyst — causing things to happen that would not

otherwise occur or would not come about so quickly.

- They bring to bear an objective, impersonal, third-party point of view, providing fresh insights into a situation.
- They serve as troubleshooters, putting a finger on a weakness or deficiency not otherwise fully perceived.
- They exercise political pull or bring other special influence to bear.
- They perform unpleasant chores, such as wiping out a department or firing a popular employee, which if performed by a permanent member of the staff might lessen the long-term effectiveness of that individual.

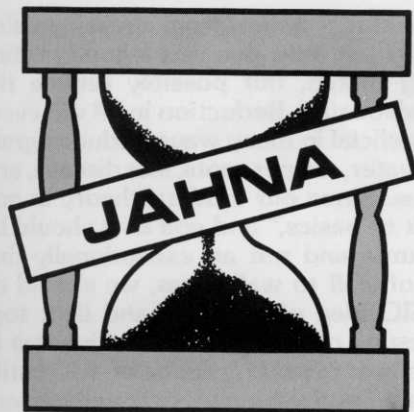
## Rhone Poulenc Names New Chipco Product Manager

Rhone-Poulenc Inc., Agrochemical Division, announces the appointment of Jerry Garnett as the Product Manager for Chipco® 26019 fungicide and the Chipco range of phenoxy herbicides.

Jerry brings 14 years of turf and horticultural industry experience to his post at Rhone-Poulenc. He was previously Market Development Manager for the May & Baker Garden Products and Environmental Products Department in Brentwood, England. (May & Baker, the United Kingdom's leading turf chemical manufacturer, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Rhone-Poulenc.) Prior to joining May & Baker, Jerry was Technical Sales and Marketing Manager for a large United Kingdom distributor and specialist turf contractor, where he gained considerable experience designing and installing Toro irrigation systems in golf and landscaped areas. Before that he held the positions of Technical Salesman and National Accounts Manager with Fisons Corporation. Jerry earned a National Certificate in Turf Culture at the Teachers Training Colleges of Bristol, England, while serving as Superintendent of Grounds and Gardens at the institution.

In addition, Jerry is editorial consultant to THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF BRITISH GOLF GREENS KEEPERS ASSOCIATION and its special correspondent to the new TURF MANAGEMENT journal.

Jerry is married and he and his wife, Christine, have two children. ■



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(Continued from Page 14)

I remember years ago when this controversy was at its height, Drs. O.J. Noer, Al Radko, and Fred Grau, all used to show slides of some of the old timers who had never gotten away from a frequent and light topdressing program and always used the slides as an example of a fine appearing as well as a true putting surface on minimum N<sup>2</sup> feedings. The main secret was the same materials were always used frequently and there were never any layers in the soil profile.

Dr. Noer had slides of E.B. Steiniger's Pine Valley in New Jersey, showing the most beautiful soil profile you could every want. "Doc" used to say, "the USGA would never approve of this mix," but Eb's grass has liked it for 50 years, and the grass doesn't know the USGA, but it sure as hell knows the loving care Eb and his staff put in the aging, mixing, and applying the mix and has responded to this care all these years and after all, "the grass tells the story." Never could truer and more prophetic words have been spoken. The last time I saw the slide, the profile was over 2 feet thick with roots all through the profile.

Proof of topdressing's many benefits has now and again come to the fore-front. The stimpmeter has proven the results of the mechanics of properly applied dressing, and many fine courses have gone back to the old means how be it with modern ways. Had the equipment been available in past years that we have today, we would have probably topped the greens EVERY MONDAY or EVERY OTHER MONDAY at the LEAST.

So the basics of good dressing has not changed that much over the years:

- A. Use materials closest to that of your existing soils you can purchase or create.
- B. NEVER CHANGE THE MIX.
- C. Do it lightly.
- D. Do it frequently.
- E. Do it well so that the end results, even that day, are apparent to both the eye and the roll of the ball.
- F. NEVER CHANGE THE MIX.

The stimulation of bacterial action from dressing using the above formula can not only give you a good putting surface, by reducing thatch, but possibly reduce the amounts of N<sup>2</sup> now advocated. Reduction in N<sup>2</sup> will eventually prove most beneficial in many ways; reduced grain and thatch, reduced water, deeper roots, less disease, and fewer insect problems. Since our modern theory in golf maintenance is "back to basics," and golf as it should be played on a golf course and not an exceptionally fine manicured expanse of wall to wall grass, we should all reconsider this BASIC idea of frequent and light topdressing. The end results of its use and effectiveness in giving our golfers the best of putting surfaces, will justify any expenses involved. Topdressing is back, and personally I feel this time, to remain one of our primary tools in fine putting surface production. ■



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# MOLE CRICKETS: YOUR ENEMY BELOW

## How To Keep These Prolific Insects From Destroying Your Grass

During the next three months, many Florida golf course superintendents will find their grounds invaded by hordes of destructive visitors—insects barely more than an inch long with shovels for forelegs. Mole crickets are not strangers to Florida, but, more than ever, superintendents are becoming personally acquainted with these pests that chew and tunnel recreational turf to the tune of millions of dollars in damage annually. Golf courses, owing to grasses with shallower root systems, apparently rate highest on the crickets' menu.

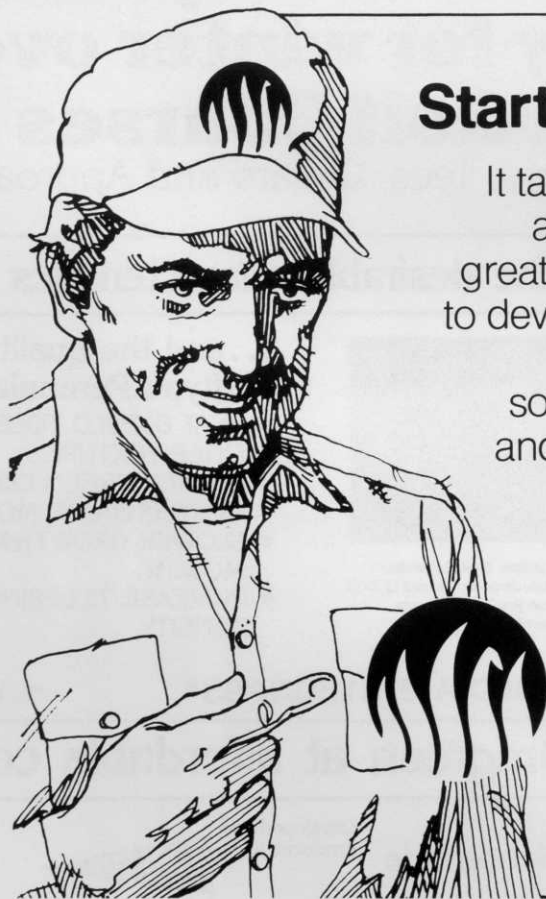
Superintendents and entomologists alike agree that this prolific, mysterious pest has become the state's major insect threat to turf. Yearly, the mole crickets' sphere of destruction reaches further southward: they are common in Jacksonville, Orlando and Gainesville and well-established on many courses in the Fort Lauderdale and Miami areas.

"Next to water problems, insects are our biggest headache. And insects, to us, now mean mole crickets, above all," says Brad Kocker, superintendent at Inverrary Golf Club, Fort Lauderdale. Adds Al Jewett, Vice-President for landscaping and maintenance at Miami Lakes: "Mole crickets keep us alert, and they're our biggest insect problem. We've been fighting this battle from the time the course opened in 1962.



1. **MOLE CRICKET DAMAGE** at Miami Lakes is pointed out by Al Jewett, Vice-President for Landscaping and Maintenance, left, and Richard Bilyard, technical representative, Woodbury Chemical Company. Jewett says mole crickets, a problem ever since the course opened in 1962, require prompt attention to control. He uses Sevin 20% Bait because "it is less erratic" and gives "better uniformity of control."

*(Continued on Page 25)*



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(Continued from Page 24)

## APPLY INSECTICIDES NOW

University of Florida entomologist Dr. James Reinert points out that mole crickets complete their spring flights in April or May and have set up "housekeeping" in turf. Thus, he says, July is the best time for applying insecticides, because the newly-hatched nymphs are smaller and near the soil surface. While the immature crickets are not yet capable of doing extensive damage, if left unchecked the larger nymphs will soon begin chewing and tunneling, resulting in areas that can appear "roto-tilled."

Caught on the horns of this insect dilemma are the superintendents, who are charged with keeping grounds healthy and playable while, at the same time, battling the one pest that can undo their best work. Golfers, concerned only with avoiding bogeys, expect well-kept tees, fairways and greens and invigorating air not contaminated by insecticide odors.

Not every course has experienced mole crickets, says Dr. Reinert. But he adds that, with cricket populations on the rise, the likelihood of infestations developing on courses with no history of infestation is very probable. Inverrary's Kocker points out that, while "most superintendents are aware of the problem," once it strikes, no part of the course is immune. "We have had large turf areas that were just annihilated. When you see the start of some damage, a week later you find no turf remaining. It's incredible."

Jewett finds the fairways at Miami Lakes hardest hit, with less activity on the dryer slopes. He keeps a close check on the crickets' progress by riding the course each morning, while Miami Lakes superintendent Sam Green goes on cricket patrol once a day. Jewett and Green are especially watchful on their shorter 18-hole par 3 course, because its lights serve as a nighttime lure.

### RESEMBLES MOLE, GOPHER DAMAGE

The tunneling leaves mounds of soil resembling miniature ground mole or gopher damage, Reinert notes. He says the loosened soil uproots plants and promotes killing of exposed grass. Damaged turf appears to be cultivated, and crickets sometimes physically drag the uprooted grass into the ground and make a nest of it. The industrious insects can tunnel 10 to 20 feet in a single night.



**2. FAIRWAY OR ROUGH?** In a short time, mole crickets can transform a section of well-maintained fairway into a "rough," as shown by this damage at Miami Lakes. Al Jewett, Vice-President for Landscaping and Maintenance, says "mole crickets keep us alert."

(Continued on Page 26)



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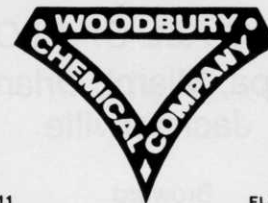
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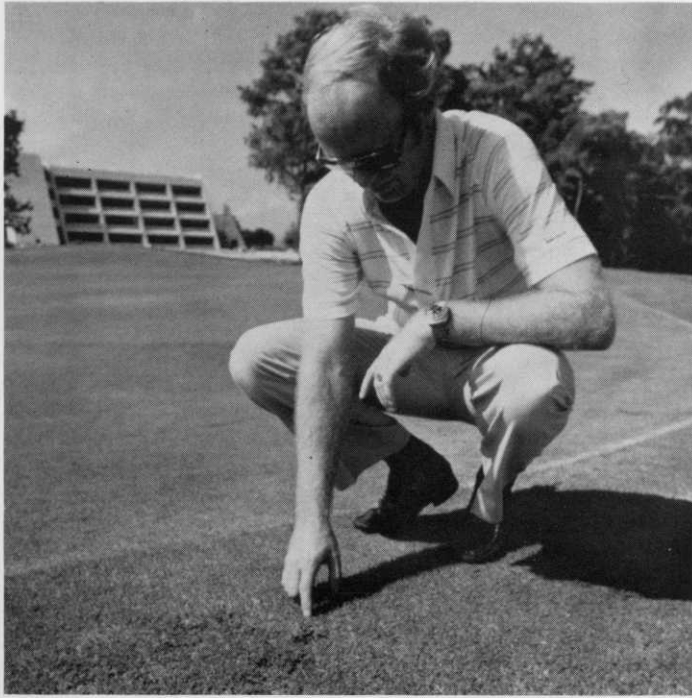
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3. **MOLE CRICKETS** prefer the shallower root systems of golf course turf, as Superintendent Brad Kocher learns while examining the edge of a green at Inverrary Golf Club, Fort Lauderdale. Besides maintaining desired levels of control, non-odorous and safe pesticides should be used to prevent players' discontent, says Kocher. The Inverrary superintendent says Sevin 20% Bait can "pull mole crickets out of the ground in 30 minutes to one hour." ■



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Crickets also put additional strain on weed control programs and increase the need for herbicide investments, Kocher points out: "If you get crickets into an area and you start losing healthy grass, watch out. Before you know it, weeds will start creeping in."

Close-cropped Bermuda grass, with shallower root depths, are especially susceptible to feeding, says Reinert. Bahia grass also invites damage, owing to its open growth habit, he adds. St. Augustine grass can also be attacked, but doesn't show damage as readily because of its more canopy-type growth habit, says Reinert. Pastureland, football fields, baseball diamonds, home lawns and vegetable gardens and farms also can become targets of mole crickets, says Reinert.

#### SPOT TREATMENT BEST

The university of Florida researcher says insecticide treatments usually produce desired results, once superintendents have ascertained the extent of infestations.

"I discourage anything but spot treatment," says Reinert. "It makes no sense to treat wall-to-wall for mole crickets. Eighty to ninety percent of the population is confined to the area where you are seeing the damage."

One way to test for crickets' presence, he says, is to use a soap flush; mix one fluid ounce of liquid detergent in two gallons of water and apply over four square feet of turf. If the irritant drives more than two mole crickets to the surface within three minutes, then control probably is needed, he says. The entomologist stresses that this method is only an indicator. A more accurate method, but one not usually practiced on golf courses, he says, is to physically remove a soil ball, go through it and get an accurate count of crickets. A single cricket per square foot is indicative of a dangerous infestation, says Reinert.

The seriousness of the problem has wrought havoc with budgets. "I'm spending thousands of dollars trying to control crickets," says Kocker. "I can no longer say that I have so many dollars for a chemical budget. You have to spend what it takes to control the pest, even if it means cutting out something else."

Kocher and Jewett say they have obtained best control of mole crickets with Sevin carbaryl 20 Percent Bait at the maximum recommended label rate of 10 pounds per acre (four ounces of bait per 1,000 square feet). The label for Sevin 20 Percent Bait specifies treatment of two to four ounces of bait per 1,000 feet (five to 10 pounds per acre.)

Kocher suggests a thorough watering of the area 15 to 20 minutes before application. "Let it dry just a little before putting out the Sevin bait and hope it doesn't rain that night. Rain is our biggest problem during our control season, so it helps to keep an eye on the weather forecast."

Reinert points out that an insecticide bait applied when the soil is dry will not be consumed, because the crickets are deep in the soil and not feeding at the surface. "So, irrigate before the bait goes on to draw them to the top. However, a sudden heavy rain after treatment can leach the bait and render it ineffective," he warns.

(Continued on Page 27)



A decorative border of stylized green grass blades, drawn with simple, sketchy lines, frames the top and sides of the text.

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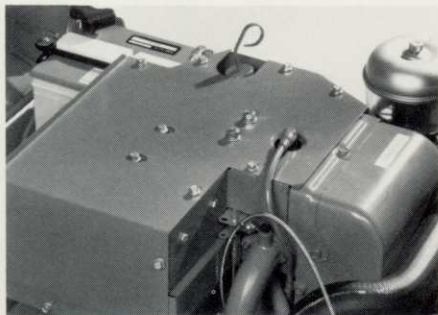
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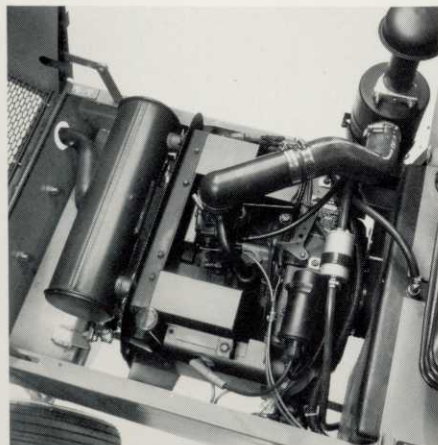
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Shown with floating 52" deck. Driven by a 16 HP, 32.4 cu. in., cast iron, air cooled Briggs and Stratton engine. Designed for mowing up to 2.8 acres/hour. Ideal for mowing small areas, or as a trim mower when maneuverability is most important. Offers variable ground speed up to 8.5 m.p.h. Hydrostatic drive for single pedal operation of forward and reverse. Excellent stability from 4 wide stance wheels plus low center of gravity. Front drive wheels and rear wheels are equipped with 4 ply rated tires. Both drive wheels have drum brakes with individual pedals for greater trimability that reduces an uncut circle to 0". Operator station has adjustable, molded cushion seat or a deluxe suspension seat for smooth ride all day long. PTO drive shaft makes accessory changes a snap.



## GROUNDMASTER 52 FLOATING DECK.

This three bladed, front mounted rotary unit offers full flotation in all directions, with rollers in front and back for reduced scalping. Ideally suited to cutting situations that involve hilly, uneven terrain. The Groundsmaster 52 with floating deck is capable of mowing up to 2.8 acres an hour at 5.5 m.p.h. Deck offset 10 1/4" to the left for greater trimability. Capable of a 0" uncut circle with brake assist. Has a 51 3/4" width of cut. Can cut from a height of 1" to 4" in 1/2" increments and has simple adjustment without tools. 5" deep 12 gauge stamped steel Wind Tunnel® housing for easier cutting and clippings discharge even on wet grass.



## GROUNDMASTER 52 STANDARD DECK.

The Groundsmaster 52 with standard deck is capable of mowing up to 2.8 acres an hour at 5.5 m.p.h. Unit has 51 3/4" width of cut with the three blade front mounted rotary deck. Deck offset 10 1/4" to the left. Can cut a 0" uncut circle with brake assist. Can be adjusted easily for a height of cut, from 3/4" to 4" in 1/4" increments, without tools. Has 5" deep, 12 gauge stamped steel Wind Tunnel® housing for easy cutting even on wet grass.



## GROUNDMASTER 52 FLOATING REAR DISCHARGE DECK.

Designed for controlled discharge of clippings to the rear center between wheels. Has full flotation design with front rollers to reduce scalping. Constructed from 12 gauge steel and is 3" deep. The 51 3/4" deck can mow up to 2.3 acres/hour at 4.5 m.p.h. Three bladed front mounted rotary is offset 10 1/4" to left for close trimming around obstacles and under overhangs. Adjusts from 1" to 4" in 1/2" increments without tools. Lifts hydraulically for transport.





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**GROUNDMASTER 52**

52" floating cutting deck  
52" standard cutting deck  
52" floating rear discharge cutting deck

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**GROUNDMASTER 62**

62" floating cutting deck  
52" floating cutting back  
52" standard cutting deck  
52" floating rear discharge cutting deck

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**GROUNDMASTER 62  
PRIME MOVER.**

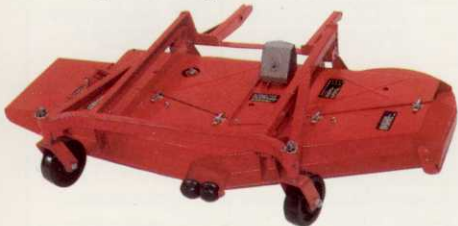
Shown with floating 62" deck. Driven by a rugged 20 HP, 47.7 cu. in., twin cylinder, air cooled Onan engine. Designed for mowing up to 3.4 acres/hour. Ideal for mowing small to medium sized open areas, and for trimming in medium to large areas. Variable ground speed up to 8.5 m.p.h. Hydrostatic drive for single pedal forward/reverse. Four wide stance wheels with 4 ply rated tubeless tires. Front wheel traction drive. Rear wheel steering for greater maneuverability. Individual drum brakes for left and right traction wheels to allow for brake assist steering that makes possible trimming up to a 0' uncut circle. Operator controls designed for easy access and operation. Molded foam seat or deluxe suspension seat offer operator comfort even on the toughest terrain. Donaldson air cleaner standard. Tough commercial strength construction. PTO drive shaft for easy interchangeability of decks and accessories.



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**GROUNDMASTER 62  
FLOATING 62" DECK.**

Capable of mowing up to 3.4 acres an hour at 5.5 m.p.h. Front mounted, three bladed, rotary deck has 61 $\frac{1}{8}$ " width of cut. Deck is offset 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ " to the left for greatly increased trimability. Capable of 0' uncut circle with brake assist. Deck easily adjusts without tools for a height of cut from 1" to 4" in  $\frac{1}{2}$ " increments. Rugged 5" deep 12 gauge steel welded construction for greater durability even in tough mowing conditions.



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**GROUNDMASTER  
GRASS COLLECTING SYSTEM.**

Designed to fit the Groundmaster 52 floating deck, the Grass Collecting System allows on-the-unit bagging of grass clippings. Utilizes a separate 16" diameter blower attached to the deck's discharge port that virtually eliminates clogging. A durable one-piece, high-density polypropylene chute directs the grass clippings back through a hinged hood mounted to the bag support system. A rear-mounted polyester bag for clippings is positioned inside the path of the cutter deck for easy maneuverability. Hinged hood on top of bag support opens easily for quick removal of grass bag. The grass collecting system comes standard with a polyester bag capable of holding 7 bushels of grass clippings. An optional dry condition polyester bag that will hold up to 10 bushels of clippings is also available.





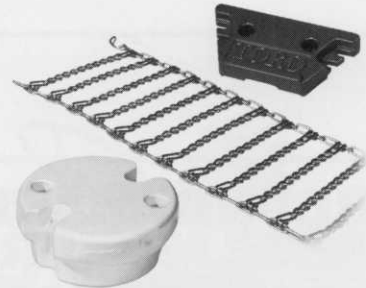
# These accessories make our Groundsmaster 52 and Groundsmaster 62 professionals for all seasons.



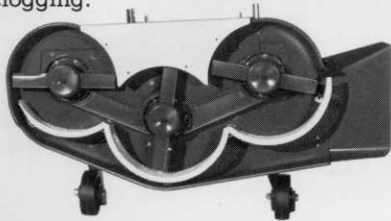
**SNOWTHROWER.** Big 48" two stage snowthrower with adjustable side skids and discharge chute. Electric chute rotator comes standard. Driftbreaker auger and oversized second stage clears snow in a hurry and prevents logging.



**CAB WITH ROPS.** Completely enclosed vinyl cab turns your Groundsmaster into an all-weather vehicle. Includes ROPS. Heater and light kit available.



**WHEEL WEIGHTS/REAR WEIGHTS/TIRE CHAINS.** Toro offers wheel weights and tire chains for better traction when using accessories. Rear weights will help counterbalance front mounted accessories for better operation.



**LEAF MULCHER.** Made of heavy gauge steel, the leaf mulcher mounts under side discharge decks allowing blades to vacuum and pulverize fallen leaves.



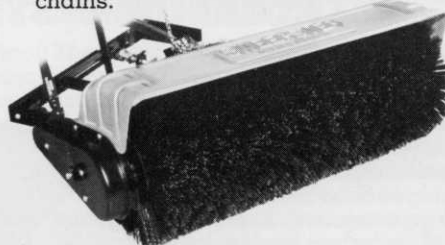
**V-PLOW.** Rugged, 48" V-plow for snow has front skid and reversible/replaceable scraper blades for low cost snow removal. Requires special mounting kit which includes tire chains.



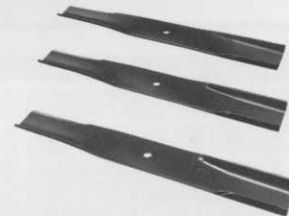
**SPARK ARRESTOR MUFFLER.** Minimizes spark emissions.



**ROLL OVER PROTECTION SYSTEM.** Certified roll over protection system (ROPS) for greater operator safety conforms to OSHA regulations, includes seat belt for greater safety.



**ROTARY BROOM.** Tough 48 inch rotary broom sweeps parking areas, paths and walkways, saves hand labor.



**HIGH LIFT BLADES.** Provides additional lift for improved appearance in wet or heavy grass.



**SEAT OPTIONS.** Choose from adjustable, molded foam seat or deluxe suspension seat for operator comfort on your unit.

**PLUS,  
OUR MOST IMPORTANT  
ACCESSORY OF ALL.  
YOUR FULL SERVICE  
TORO DISTRIBUTOR.**

When you need reliable maintenance and repair service, turn to your full service Toro distributor. He has highly trained people ready to serve you fast. A complete inventory of replacement parts. Plus other valuable services, like technical training for your operators. Whatever your needs in professional turf equipment, call your full service Toro distributor.



## GROUNDMASTER® 52 PRIME MOVER (MODEL NO. 30775)

<b>ENGINE</b>	Briggs & Stratton, 1 cylinder, 4 cycle, air-cooled 16 HP @ 3600 RPM, electric start. 32.4 cu. in. displacement. Splash oil system. 2 qt. oil capacity, 1-beam alloy aluminum connecting rod, cast iron cylinder block, mechanical flyweight governor limits speed to 3200 RPM, vacuum fuel pump. Heavy duty remote mounted Donaldson Cyclopac air cleaner. Extra large muffler for reduced noise level. Optional spark arrestor muffler available from Briggs & Stratton.
<b>ELECTRICAL FEATURES</b>	12 volt, 66 plate, 57 amp-hour capacity battery. Dash-mounted ignition switch. 3.2 amp., 12 volt dual circuit alternator with 60-100 watt A.C. lighting circuit. Seat switch, PTO and traction interlock switches.
<b>WEIGHT</b>	770 lbs. prime mover with seat.
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	Certified to meet ANSI specifications B71.1b. — 1977, and applicable Federal and State OSHA regulations based thereon.

## GROUNDMASTER® 62 PRIME MOVER (MODEL NO. 30790)

<b>ENGINE</b>	Onan twin opposed cylinder, 4 cycle, air cooled, 20 HP @ 3600 RPM, electric start. 47.7 cu. in. displacement. Gear driven oil pump for full pressure lubrication, remote mounted replaceable oil filter, and remote mounted engine oil cooler. 2 qt. oil capacity. System also incorporates low oil pressure shut-off switch and high cylinder head temperature shut-off switch. Alloy aluminum connecting rods. Pearlitic iron cylinder liners cast into block. Mechanical flyball governor limits speed to 3200 RPM. Vacuum fuel pump. Heavy duty, remote mounted Donaldson Cyclopac air cleaner. Extra large muffler for reduced noise level. Optional spark arrestor muffler Part No. 46-2390.
<b>ELECTRICAL FEATURES</b>	12 volt, 42 plate, cold cranking 300 amperes at 0°F, 50 minute reserve capacity at 80°F, maintenance free battery. 15 amp. alternator with regulator. Seat switch, PTO and traction interlock switches.
<b>WEIGHT</b>	810 lbs. prime mover with seat.
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	Certified to meet ANSI specifications B71.4-1980 with 62" deck, ANSI B71.1b. — 1977 for all 52" decks, and applicable Federal and State OSHA regulations based thereon.

## SPECIFICATIONS COMMON TO GROUNDMASTER 52 AND 62

<b>FUEL CAPACITY</b>	6.0 gallons gasoline.
<b>TRACTION DRIVE</b>	Variable hydrostatic transmission mounted on Dana GT20 axle — 20.9:1 ratio. Single foot pedal control of forward/reverse ground speed. 25 micron replaceable filter. 5 qt. oil capacity.
<b>GROUND SPEED/CLEARANCE</b>	0-8.5 MPH, infinitely variable. Ground clearance 6"
<b>TIRES/WHEELS/PRESSURES</b>	Two rear steering tires 15 x 6.00 — 6, tubeless 4 ply rating. Two front traction drive tires 20 x 8.00 — 10, tubeless 4 ply rating. Demountable rims. Recommended tire pressure 10-15 P.S.I. depending on mowing conditions.
<b>MAIN FRAME</b>	All welded formed steel reinforced with square tubing.
<b>BRAKES</b>	Individual 7" x 1 1/4" drum type wheel brakes and parking brakes on front traction wheels. Dynamic braking through traction drive.
<b>STEERING</b>	Automotive steering gear assembly. 15" steering wheel.
<b>CONTROLS</b>	Hand operated throttle, choke, PTO, and hydraulic implement lift.
<b>GAUGES</b>	Hour meter and ammeter.
<b>SEAT</b>	Optional: Molded foam seat with leaf-spring suspension, Model No. 30765. Deluxe suspension seat, Model No. 30766. Both adjustable 4 1/2" fore and aft.
<b>IMPLEMENT DRIVE</b>	1" diameter splined PTO shaft clutched by two "HA" torque team section tight-slack V-belt.

### 52" STANDARD CUTTING UNIT (MODEL NO. 30545)

<b>TYPE</b>	51 1/4" width-of-cut, three blade, front mounted rotary.
<b>MOWING RATE</b>	Mows up to 2.8 acres/hour at 5.5 MPH depending on conditions.
<b>TRIMMING ABILITY</b>	Deck offset 10 1/4" to the left from center line; deck offset 10 1/4" to the left from outside of tire to trim side; 26" uncut circle left; 0" uncut circle with use of individual wheel brakes.
<b>HEIGHT OF CUT</b>	3/4"-4", adjustable in 1/4" increments in front and 1" increments in rear.
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	12 gauge stamped steel, 5" deep, Wind-Tunnel® housing.
<b>CUTTER DRIVE</b>	PTO driven spiral bevel gear box. "AA" section belt drive to all spindles. 3/4" regreasable spindles with two ball bearings.
<b>BLADES</b>	Three 18" long, 3/16" thick, heat treated steel blades.
<b>SUSPENSION</b>	Two 8" front wheels. Suspended off the prime mover at rear.
<b>LIFT</b>	Two hydraulic cylinders.
<b>WEIGHT</b>	190 lbs.
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	Certified to meet ANSI B71.1b — 1977, and applicable Federal and State OSHA regulations based thereon.

### 52" FLOATING CUTTING UNIT (MODEL NO. 30555)

<b>TYPE</b>	51 1/4" width-of-cut, three blade, front mounted rotary.
<b>MOWING RATE</b>	Mows up to 2.8 acres/hour at 5.5 MPH depending on conditions.
<b>TRIMMING ABILITY</b>	Deck offset 10 1/4" to the left from center line; deck offset 10 1/4" to the left from outside of tire to trim side; 26" uncut circle left; 0" uncut circle with use of individual wheel brakes.
<b>HEIGHT OF CUT</b>	1"-4" adjustable in 1/2" increments by relocating four pins at each corner of cutting unit.
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	12 gauge stamped steel, 5" deep Wind-Tunnel® housing.
<b>CUTTER DRIVE</b>	PTO driven spiral bevel gear box. "AA" section belt drive to all spindles. 1" regreasable spindles with two tapered roller bearings.
<b>BLADES</b>	Three 18" long, 3/16" thick, 2.5" wide, heat treated steel blades.
<b>CARRIER FRAME SUSPENSION</b>	Two 8" phenolic resin front wheels with regreasable roller bearings. Suspended off the prime mover at rear. Front and rear deck rollers. Deck counterbalanced by spring between cutting unit and prime mover.
<b>LIFT</b>	Two hydraulic cylinders.
<b>WEIGHT</b>	220 lbs.
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	Certified to meet ANSI B71.1b — 1977, and applicable Federal and State OSHA regulations based thereon.

### 52" FLOATING REAR DISCHARGE CUTTING UNIT (MODEL NO. 30560)

<b>TYPE</b>	51 1/4" width-of-cut, three blade, front mounted rotary.
<b>MOWING RATE</b>	Mows up to 2.3 acres/hour at 4.5 MPH depending on conditions.
<b>TRIMMING ABILITY</b>	Deck offset 10 1/4" to the left from center line; deck offset 10 1/4" to the left from outside of tire to trim side; trims on both sides; 26" uncut circle left. 0" uncut circle to left with use of individual wheel brakes.
<b>HEIGHT OF CUT</b>	1"-4" adjustable in 1/2" increments by relocating four pins, one at each corner of the cutting unit.
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	12 gauge welded construction, 3" deep.
<b>CUTTER DRIVE</b>	PTO driven spiral bevel gear box. "AA" section belt drive to all spindles. 1" regreasable spindles with two tapered roller bearings.
<b>BLADES</b>	Three 18" long, 3/16" thick, 2.5" wide, heat-treated steel blades.
<b>CARRIER FRAME SUSPENSION</b>	Two 8" phenolic resin front wheels with regreasable roller bearings. Suspended off prime mover at rear. Front deck rollers. Deck counter-balanced by spring between cutting unit and prime mover.
<b>LIFT</b>	Two hydraulic cylinders.
<b>WEIGHT</b>	230 lbs.
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	Certified to meet ANSI B71.1b — 1977 Safety Specifications, and applicable Federal and State OSHA regulations based thereon.

### 62" FLOATING CUTTING UNIT (MODEL NO. 30562)

<b>TYPE</b>	61 1/4" width-of-cut, three blade, front mounted rotary.
<b>MOWING RATE</b>	Mows up to 3.4 acres/hour at 5.5 MPH depending on conditions.
<b>TRIMMING ABILITY</b>	Deck offset 10 1/4" to the left from center line; deck offset 16" from outside of tire to trim side; 18" uncut circle left; 0" uncut circle with use of individual wheel brakes.
<b>HEIGHT OF CUT</b>	1"-4" adjustable front and rear in 1/2" increments by relocating four pins at each corner of cutting unit.
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	12 gauge steel, 5" deep Wind-Tunnel® housing, welded construction.
<b>CUTTER DRIVE</b>	PTO driven spiral bevel gear box. "AA" section belt drive to all spindles. 1" regreasable spindles with two tapered roller bearings.
<b>BLADES</b>	Three 21.5" long, 2.5" wide, 3/16" thick, heat-treated steel blades.
<b>CARRIER FRAME SUSPENSION</b>	Two 8" phenolic resin front wheels with regreasable roller bearings. Suspended off prime mover at rear. Front and rear deck rollers. Deck counterbalanced by spring between cutting unit and prime mover. Deck includes one 35 lb. rear weight.
<b>LIFT</b>	Two hydraulic cylinders.
<b>WEIGHT</b>	335 lbs.
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	Certified to meet ANSI B71.4 — 1980, and applicable Federal and State OSHA regulations based thereon.



**IMPLEMENT AND ACCESSORY COMBINATIONS**

	30545 CUTTER	30555 CUTTER	30560 CUTTER	30562 CUTTER	30570 SNOWTHROWER	30750 V-PLOW	ROTARY BROOM	CAB W/ROPS	ROPS	30765 STANDARD SEAT	30766 DELUXE SEAT	SPARK ARRESTOR MUFFLER
<b>PRIME MOVER MODEL NO. 30775</b>	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	—	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.
<b>PRIME MOVER MODEL NO. 30790</b>	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.
<b>GRASS COLLECTING SYSTEM MODEL NO. 30557</b>	—	Opt.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>LEAF MULCHER MODEL NO. 30700</b>	Opt.	Opt.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>LEAF MULCHER MODEL NO. 30792</b>	—	—	—	Opt.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>V-PLOW MOUNTING KIT MODEL NO. 30755</b>	—	—	—	—	—	Req.	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>SNOWTHROWER ADAPTER KIT MODEL NO. 30572</b>	—	—	—	—	Req.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TIRE CHAINS PART NO. 28-5470</b>	—	—	—	—	Opt.	Incl.	Opt.	—	—	—	—	—
<b>WHEEL WEIGHTS PART NO. 28-1270</b>	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	—	—	—	—	—
<b>REAR WEIGHT KIT PART NO. 24-5780</b>	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Opt.	Req.	Opt.	Opt.	—	—	—	—	—
<b>HIGH LIFT BLADE PART NO. 44-5480</b>	—	Opt.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

**LEAF MULCHER**

Optional attachment of 12 gauge steel with 1/2" diameter staggered holes. Mounts under side discharge deck. Model No. 30700 fits cutting units #30545, 30555; Model No. 30792 fits cutting unit #30562.

**GRASS COLLECTING SYSTEM (MODEL NO. 30557)  
FOR 52" FLOATING CUTTING UNIT**

**CONSTRUCTION**

**Blower assembly housing** is 16" diameter; three piece welded construction. The blower assembly attaches to the discharge port of Model #30555 cutting unit. Impeller speed is 1650 RPM max. @ 3200 RPM engine speed.

**Chute** is one piece, made of black, high density polypropylene material used to direct debris into bag.

**Hinged hood**, Mounted to bag support assembly, is made of black high density polypropylene. Air exhausted through riveted metal screen in hood.

**Rectangular bag support** is welded to frame of steel tubing. Bottom pan is black high density polypropylene riveted to a welded tubular steel frame. The bag support assembly mounts to the right side of traction unit and supports a polyester grass bag.

**Bumper** of steel tubing is bolted to deck suspension frame to protect blower housing. Includes deck baffling and mounting bracket.

<b>CAPACITY</b>	Polyester bag 20" dia. x 46" high — approximately 7 bushels. Optional dry condition polyester bag 24" dia. x 46" high — approximately 10 bushels. Part No. 43-0980.
<b>OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES</b>	18" high lift blades for improved wet grass bagging. Part No. 44-5480. Elastic retaining cord allows use of 30+ gallon plastic trash bags, Part No. 36-7770.
<b>DIMENSIONS</b>	57" high, 120" long, 68" wide, installed.
<b>WEIGHT</b>	123 lbs. — grass collecting system only.
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	Certified to meet ANSI B71.1b. — 1977 and applicable Federal and State OSHA Regulations based thereon.

**V PLOW (MODEL NO. 30750)**

<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	48" heavy gauge steel construction with front skid and reversible/replaceable scraper blades.
<b>WEIGHT</b>	210 lbs.

**V PLOW MOUNTING KIT (MODEL NO. 30755)**

<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	Consists of push arm attaching brackets. Required for mounting V Plow.
<b>WEIGHT</b>	50 lbs.
<b>ACCESSORIES</b>	Tire chains included (Part No. 28-5470).

**SNOWTHROWER (MODEL NO. 30570; 30572 ADAPTER KIT)**

<b>TYPE</b>	48" two stage with adjustable side skids and discharge chute.
<b>WEIGHT</b>	340 lbs.
<b>ACCESSORIES</b>	Two optional rear weight kits required (Part No. 24-5780).

**ROTARY BROOM**

<b>TYPE</b>	48" wide. Consult with your Toro distributor for manufacturer's specifications.
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**CAB WITH ROPS**

<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	4 post ROPS all steel tubular frame construction with contrasting steel canopy. Includes seat belt, seat retention kit and perforated foam headliner. <b>OPTIONAL</b> Vinyl enclosure kit consists of reinforced heavy duty vinyl fabric with left side heavy gauge wire frame door. Enclosure kit includes tinted safety glass windshield, velcro fastening kit, latching door handle, and floor mat.
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	Certified to meet OSHA standard 1928.51(b)(1).
<b>ELECTRICAL FEATURES</b>	<b>OPTIONAL</b> Light kit includes front headlight rear work light, and roof-mounted flashing amber beacon. <b>OPTIONAL</b> Single speed windshield wiper and defroster fan for cab installation.
<b>WEIGHT</b>	4-Post ROPS with canopy-110 lbs.; enclosure kit — 60 lbs.

**OVERALL DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHTS (APPROX.)**

	LENGTH	WIDTH	HEIGHT	WEIGHT
<b>TRACTION UNIT #30775</b>	74"	42"	48"	770 lbs.
<b>W/30545 CUTTING UNIT</b>	95"	65"	48"	960 lbs.
<b>W/30555 CUTTING UNIT</b>	97.5"	65"	48"	990 lbs.
<b>W/30560 CUTTING UNIT</b>	97.5"	53.5"	48"	1,000 lbs.
<b>W/GRASS COLLECTING SYSTEM</b>	97.5"	68"	57"	
<b>W/SNOWTHROWER</b>	102"	51"	48"	
<b>W/V-PLOW</b>	99"	48"	48"	
<b>W/BROOM</b>	119.5"	53"	48"	
<b>W/ROPS</b>	N/A	42"	74.5"	
<b>W/CAB</b>	N/A	42"	74.5"	
<b>TRACTION UNIT #30790</b>	78"	42"	48"	810 lbs.
<b>W/30562 CUTTING UNIT</b>	106"	74"	48"	1,145 lbs.
<b>W/30545 CUTTING UNIT</b>	99"	65"	48"	1,000 lbs.
<b>W/30555 CUTTING UNIT</b>	101.5"	65"	48"	1,030 lbs.
<b>W/30560 CUTTING UNIT</b>	101.5"	53.5"	48"	1,040 lbs.
<b>W/GRASS COLLECTING SYSTEM</b>	101.5"	68"	57"	
<b>W/SNOWTHROWER</b>	106"	51"	48"	
<b>W/V-PLOW</b>	103"	48"	48"	
<b>W/BROOM</b>	123.5"	53"	48"	
<b>W/ROPS</b>	N/A	42"	74.5"	
<b>W/CAB</b>	N/A	42"	74.5"	

**ACCESSORIES**

DESCRIPTION	MODEL/ PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	MODEL/ PART NO.
<b>TIRE CHAINS — 20 LBS.</b>	28-5470	<b>STANDARD SEAT</b>	30765
<b>WHEEL WEIGHTS — 100 LBS.</b>	28-1270	<b>DELUXE SUSPENSION SEAT</b>	30766
<b>REAR WEIGHT KIT — 70 LBS.</b>	24-5780	<b>SPARK ARRESTOR MUFFLER — MODEL NO. 30775</b>	See Briggs & Stratton 46-2390
<b>HIGH LIFT BLADE (ONE BLADE)</b>	44-5480	<b>MODEL NO. 30790</b>	

\*Specifications and design subject to change without notice.

**COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS**



**THE PROFESSIONALS  
THAT KEEP YOU CUTTING.**

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(Continued from Page 26)

Jewett stresses that prompt attention is necessary: "You can't say, 'I'll get this area on the way back'—you have to get it in now. Something may happen that keeps you from returning." The Miami Lakes superintendent says he likes Sevin 20 Percent Bait's control because "it is less erratic. You get better uniformity of control."

### GOLFERS DISLIKE ODORS

Kocker says respect for the playing members cannot be overemphasized: "We have a lot of traffic at Inverrary and that always creates problems in pest control. You try to use treatments during times that won't interfere with golfing. I don't want players smelling pesticides or tracking through any of it, safe as it may be. Some insecticides labeled for crickets pose an odor problem. Sevin has no odor. What's more, with Sevin, it takes 15 times less material (at the 10 pound rate) to cover the same space as Dursban. In a heavily infested area, I've seen Sevin pull mole crickets out of the ground in 30 minutes to one hour. You see dead ones all over the place, but, more importantly, you know there are many more dead ones underground that won't come up."

"The baits all do a good job in certain situations," says Reinert. "There will always be failures, no matter what. Sometimes you get a good treatment, at other times not so good. It just happens. Spray applications using high-pressure injections have been used successfully by several people, but we have no research experience to support this method of application."

While cricket populations are typically higher in late summer, a lesser peak of egg-hatching occurs in late January to mid-February, says Reinert. This is the result of a second flight, usually in September to November, he adds. Thus, golf course superintendents who may enjoy a late fall respite may experience a return of their problem in springtime. But in many cases, says Reinert, the cycle appears unbroken: Nymphs of crickets can be found year-round.

### MOLE CRICKETS: YOUR ENEMY BELOW (cont)

Fortunately, all hatchlings do not survive, Reinert says: The insects are cannibalistic and often are preyed upon by fire ants, ground beetles, earwigs, spiders, birds and small animals. A parasitic wasp, credited with reducing mole cricket populations in Puerto Rico, has been introduced to Central and Southern Florida, but several years of testing remain before its controlling effect will be known.

The bad news is, Florida probably has not seen the worst of its mole cricket problem, says Reinert. He points out that, as an "imported" insect, no natural predator sufficient for ideal levels of control exists in this country. Also, pastures, gardens, lawns and local ball fields may continue to "warehouse" future generations owing to lack of adequate control information or resources.

But the good news is, Florida's golf course superintendents, by addressing the seriousness of the problem, can continue to keep their grounds in enviable shape—with help from insecticides, their weatherman and the club treasurer. ■



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# GCSAA

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June 7, 1982

William G. Wagner  
22 Pinetree Circle  
Tequesta, FL 33458

Dear Bill:

Just a brief note on behalf of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America to thank the Florida GCSA for donating bound copies of its magazine, THE SOUTH FLORIDA GREEN, to the GCSAA library. We are honored and pleased to accept these books with the expectation that they will contribute handsomely to an expanding Association library concept.

Should it be possible, we would appreciate receiving future bound copies of THE FLORIDA GREEN. As always, your members and key Chapter Chairmen continue to represent the game and the profession so well. Best wishes for continued success and a good summer.

Sincerely,

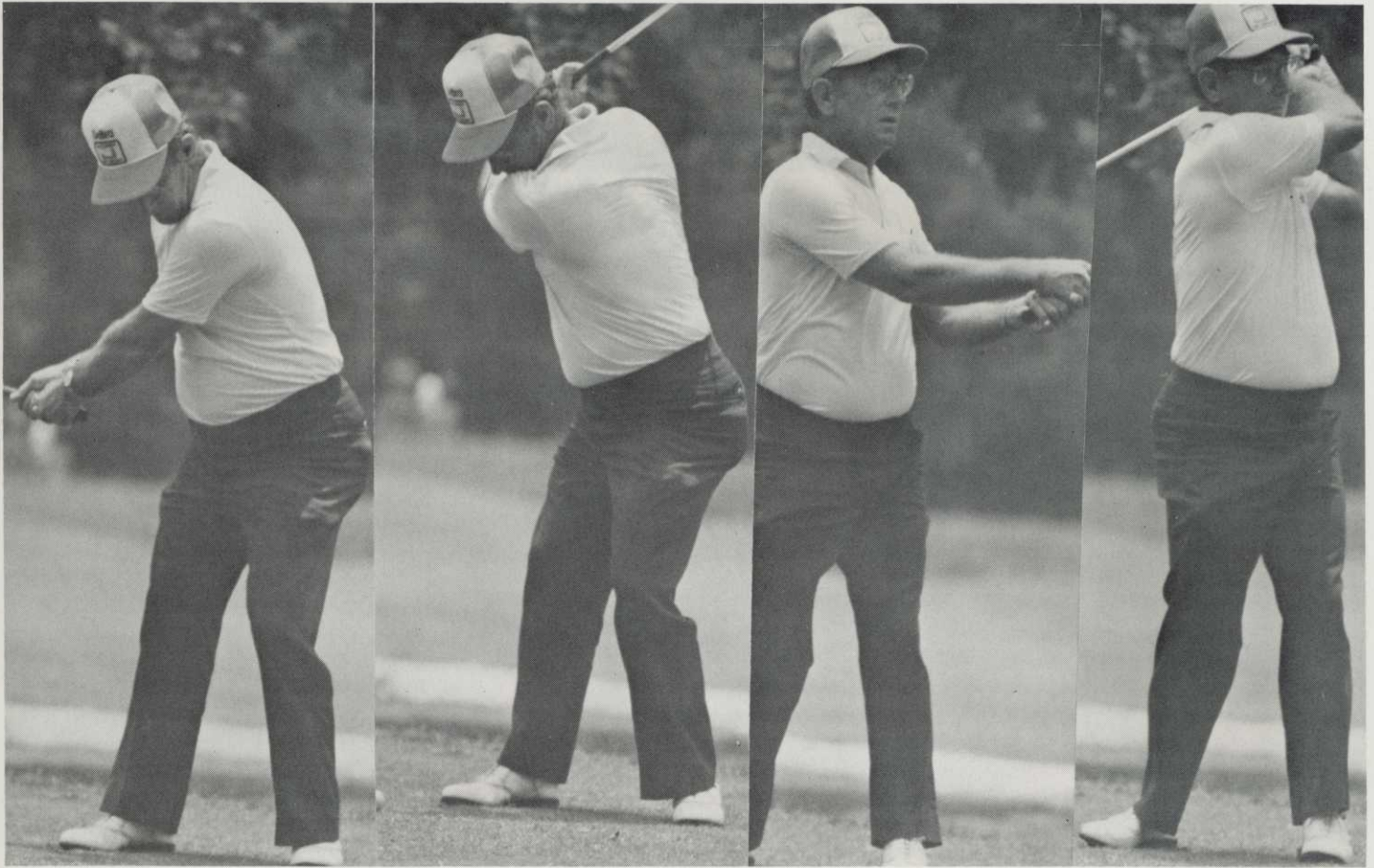
James E. McLoughlin  
Executive Director

JEM/mr

cc: Dan Jones  
John Hayden, CGCS

**EDITORS NOTE:** President Bill Wagner reports that all future issues of "The Florida Green" will be bound and made a permanent addition to The GCSAA Library.





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(Continued from Page 16)

### III. Spruce Creek Golf Club.

Gary Morgan - Superintendent.

- A. 1. Age of greens - 7 years.  
2. Age of tees - 7 years (10 new Pro tees have been built in last year).
- B. Conditions of subsoil.  
1. Greens - all but 5 greens are 80% sand - 20% organic. 5 problem greens are 50% - 50%.  
2. Tees - older tees range from 60% - 40% to 80% 20%. New tees are 95% sand - 5% organic.
- C. What topsoil used & why.  
1. Greens - use 80% sand - 20% peat with charcoal added (@  $\frac{1}{8}$ " thick - equivalent to 3 lb/1000 charcoal). Topsoil is applied when aerifying and various times of growing season when needed. Charcoal is used to cleanse the soil and to make it warmer for faster head time. Same topdressing was used at overseeding time to help deactivate the kerb, instead of spraying charcoal through sprayer. Results were satisfactory the 1st time tried.  
2. Tees - 80 - 20 mix used where and when needed.
- D. Comments:  
1. Greens - happy with results. The greens where subsoil is 50-50 are to be rebuilt soon.  
2. Tees - satisfied with results.

### IV. Suntree Country Club

Ron Andrews - Superintendent.

- A. 1. Age of greens on new nine holes planted Nov. 1, 1981.  
2. Age of tees on new nine holes planted 2nd week of Nov., 1981.
- B. Conditions of subsoil.  
1. Greens - 85% sand - 15% peat (Mixed off site).  
2. Tees - 80% sand - 20% peat (Mixed off site).
- C. What topsoil used & why.  
1. Greens - straight sand is being used. This is the same sand that was used in the building of the greens.  
2. Tees - 90% sand - 10% peat mix.
- D. Comments:  
1. Greens - topdress 1st 3 times starting 2nd week of January, 1982 with straight sand then aerified with  $\frac{1}{4}$ " tines - 3 times and each time topdressed with sand and rolled to get smoothness of a level surface. Happy with results.  
2. Tees - since 2nd week of January, 1982 they have been aerified and topdressed with 90% sand - 10% peat — 2 times. Satisfied with results.

As you can tell we have quite a few different ideas on what is done on each superintendent's course. It all depends on what's best for you, your course and your budget.

I would personally like to thank, on behalf of the Central Florida Chapter, the superintendents and their professionals who attended the 2nd Pro-Superintendents Meeting and Golf held at East Lake Woodlands Golf Club, Tarpon Springs on May 17. I think we showed each other that we are both professionals in our own right and that we are willing to communicate so that our clubs will be successful. Remember superintendents — The Professional is a close friend to us, lets make him feel the way that we want to feel. See you at the next Pro-Superintendents sometime in the Fall 1982. ■

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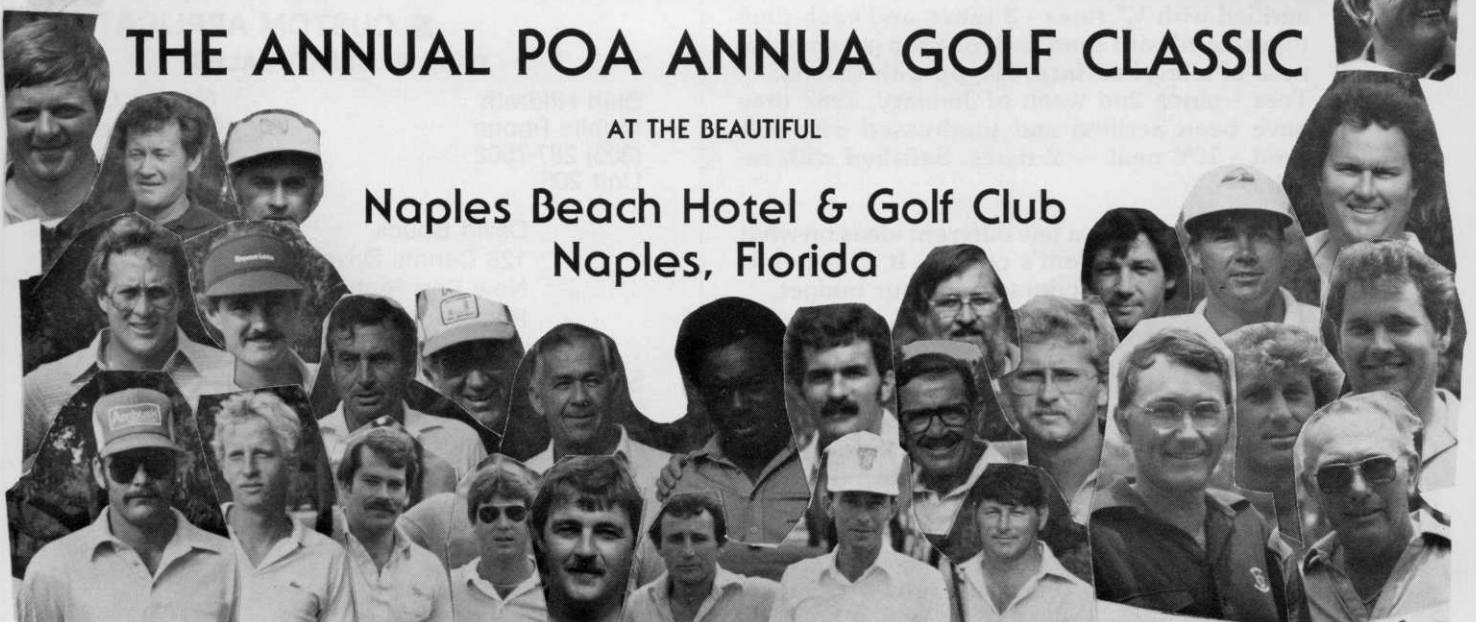




# THE ANNUAL POA ANNUA GOLF CLASSIC

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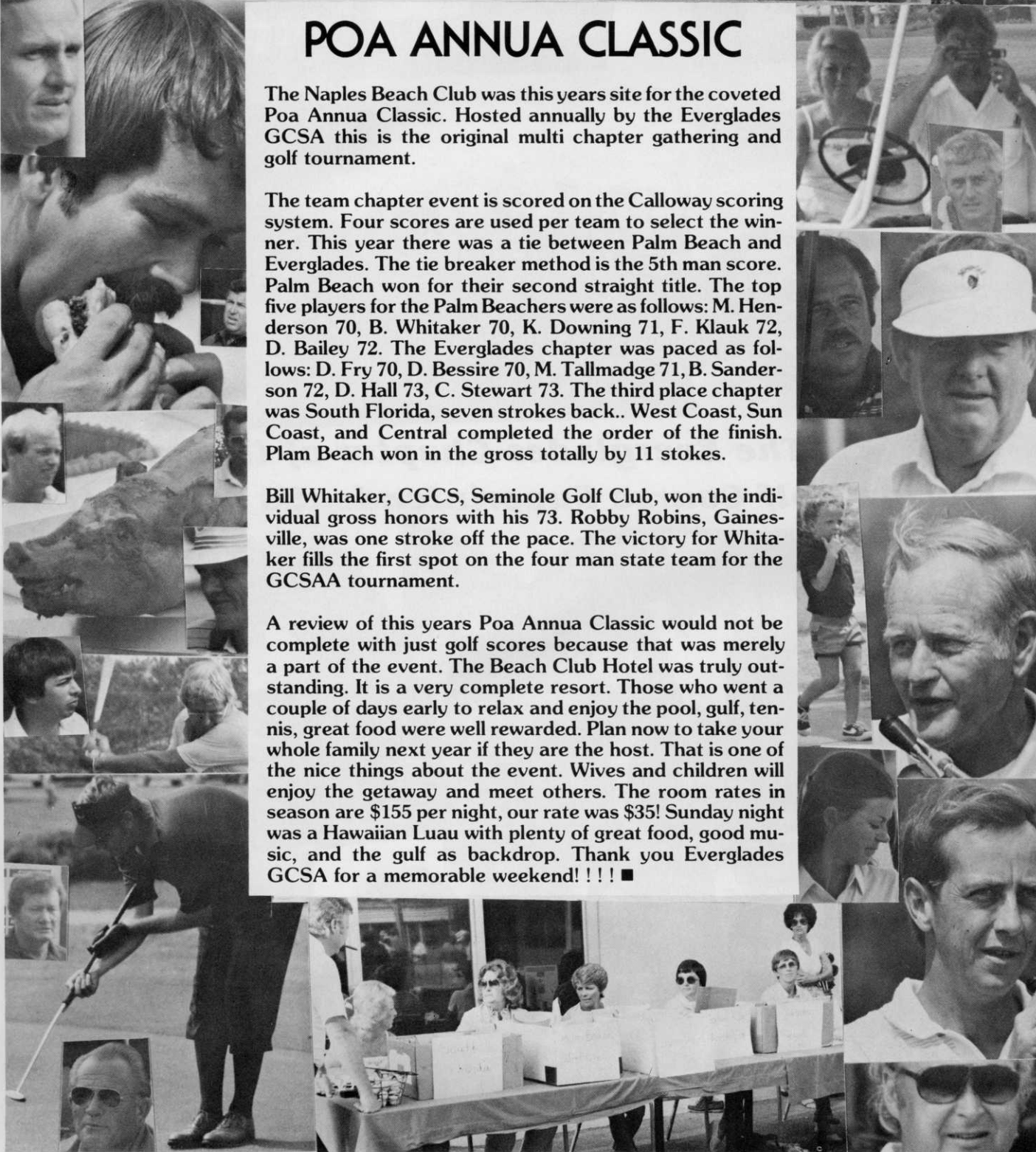
## POA ANNUA CLASSIC

The Naples Beach Club was this years site for the coveted Poa Annuia Classic. Hosted annually by the Everglades GCSA this is the original multi chapter gathering and golf tournament.

The team chapter event is scored on the Calloway scoring system. Four scores are used per team to select the winner. This year there was a tie between Palm Beach and Everglades. The tie breaker method is the 5th man score. Palm Beach won for their second straight title. The top five players for the Palm Beachers were as follows: M. Henderson 70, B. Whitaker 70, K. Downing 71, F. Klauk 72, D. Bailey 72. The Everglades chapter was paced as follows: D. Fry 70, D. Bessire 70, M. Tallmadge 71, B. Sanderson 72, D. Hall 73, C. Stewart 73. The third place chapter was South Florida, seven strokes back.. West Coast, Sun Coast, and Central completed the order of the finish. Plam Beach won in the gross totally by 11 stokes.

Bill Whitaker, CGCS, Seminole Golf Club, won the individual gross honors with his 73. Robby Robins, Gainesville, was one stroke off the pace. The victory for Whitaker fills the first spot on the four man state team for the GCSAA tournament.

A review of this years Poa Annuia Classic would not be complete with just golf scores because that was merely a part of the event. The Beach Club Hotel was truly outstanding. It is a very complete resort. Those who went a couple of days early to relax and enjoy the pool, gulf, tennis, great food were well rewarded. Plan now to take your whole family next year if they are the host. That is one of the nice things about the event. Wives and children will enjoy the getaway and meet others. The room rates in season are \$155 per night, our rate was \$35! Sunday night was a Hawaiian Luau with plenty of great food, good music, and the gulf as backdrop. Thank you Everglades GCSA for a memorable weekend!!!! ■





# COMPENSATION

## A View From The Other Side

by: Melvin Weinstein

The issue of compensation for superintendents has surfaced big over the last 10 years. We see coming on the scene, a highly skilled individual with schooling, and solid golf course apprenticeship. These facts have made the superintendent's position one that is highly skilled and knowledgeable. Is management paying for this expertise?

We have superintendents caring for properties that would cost millions to replace. Their annual salary cost is minimal considering the cost of fatal mistakes and mismanagement of these properties.

Like everyone else, the superintendent must prove his worth. He must be able to give the club the finest course available for whatever budget management approves, then he must remain within this budget. This is critical, since poor financial management will sour the whole picture. Management must also be aware of what kind of course the budget will allow and not make "pie in the sky" promises. The superintendent must follow through on any commitment he makes. Don't tell management something is going to be done and then forget about it for several weeks. Results not promises gets the job done. Management must be made aware of why goals can not be met. Honesty is the best policy.

With budgets escalating, clubs expect more and more for their dollars. If the superintendent is producing, management will be happy. Whether they translate this happiness into salary is the issue. The superintendent however can not sit back and wait. He must make management aware of his desires so management will know where they both stand. Overpushiness or threats will get him nowhere. Controlled discussion and communication at the right time will produce results. If promises are broken or rewards not forth-coming, then it is time to look for greener pastures.

Superintendents are no different that other managers, with one big exception — that is, he performs his work for the most part under no direct supervision from his management. He might receive some general objectives from his owner or chairman, but the performance is totally his own. He must discipline himself to stay within his own goals, and he must see that these goals ultimately align with the goals of management. I've seen superintendents hanging around their offices day in and day out, having only a vague idea of what is going on out in the field. Self discipline is a very important factor in this profession, and most importantly, pay your dues as an apprentice.

**Summary:** Get the training. Don't take a job that you're not qualified to do. Do the job right. Tell management how you and they stand, then stand up for your right. Come in on budget at all costs. If management doesn't recognize your worth, then you both have a problem. ■

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## WET SOIL AND CARTS

With all of the wet weather this winter, someone called to discuss effects of cart traffic on fairways. The superintendent had made a decision to close the course to all cart traffic. Rain twice a week for several weeks and the night before had saturated the soil. The members called two area clubs and found their carts running, then confronted the superintendent with this information. The superintendent realized the two area clubs had paved cart paths from tee to green. This club did not. Next question: It isn't raining now. Why can't we take the carts now? Answer: Water-saturated soil is much more easy to compact than damp or dry soil. The water acts as a lubricant between soil particles. Weight from above, forces soil particles into empty spaces. The soil particles move easily, forcing out free water and any air in the spaces. Granular structure of a good soil is ruined. Pore space for air and water is taken by soil particles, making the soil more compact and dense. Reduced pore space means less room for roots to enter the soil. Result: poor grass growth. A day of running carts on saturated soil could require several years of cultural practices, such as slicing, core aeration and tilling, to correct the soil for good grass growth.

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# GOLF COURSE GREENERY

by Vince Smith

It's one of those bright and brilliant days you go out to play your favorite golf course.

The tee-box grass is unscarred and trimmed to perfection. The fairways are lush and verdant where the ball sits up stoutly. The greens are soft and smooth and velvety; they're putting like a dream.

And all's right with the world. These are ideal conditions most golfers not only expect at their favorite golf course, they generally take them for granted.

But all this immaculate greensward did not just come about by accident. The ultra-fine shape your layout has been honed into has been brought about by a dedicated, highly trained technician who is probably the most invisible, most unrecognizable member of your club staff — the golf course superintendent.

In the old days these knowledgeable turf management specialists were known as "greenskeepers." Today, as more educational skills have furnished a higher level of turf management technicians, the golf course superintendent has become one of the most vital cogs in the present-day golf club operation machinery.

Today's superintendent's in many instances, are college-trained turf experts who have engaged in considerable "on-the-job-training" before reaching the prestigious level which now marks their profession.

Mark Hampton, golf superintendent at Wyndmere Country Club in Naples, is an excellent example of the breed of turf technicians who have supplanted the old greenskeepers of years gone by.

Wyndmere is a comparatively new 27-hole private complex, designed by Golf Architect Arthur Hills, which is part of a large residential development owned by Canadian industrialist and sportsman Gerry Livingston.

From Jacksonville he moved on to LaGorce Country Club at Miami Beach as a maintenance worker then procured the job as assistant superintendent at Valley Country Club in Denver, Colorado. After a year in the cool Colorado mountain air, Hampton decided to go back to school.

"At the time I was going to the University of South Florida in Tampa and received an AA Degree in speech pathology," he said. But while he had been in Colorado, Hampton became interested in pursuing his schooling in turf management and ended up at Lake City (Florida) Community College, one of the finest turf specialty schools in the nation.

The Lake City turf management course at that time was two years...it has now been expanded to three years. Hampton finished his schooling, which included an on-the-job training program at Countryside Golf Club in Clearwater.

Hampton then decided he wanted to come to Southwest Florida and so he took the position of golf superintendent at Cypress Lake Country Club in south Fort Myers. He stayed there a year and a half.

"Cypress Lake was the most enjoyable for me, getting to know Herb Graffis and doing a couple of things for Patty Berg, whether it was her Christmas show or whatever," Hampton said. "So the time there was very enjoyable because of those two people, along with the members that were there also."

(Herb Graffis is a World Hall of Fame member from Fort Myers Beach who is HOME & CONDO'S award-winning columnist. Patty Berg is a women's golf immortal who is a member of Cypress Lake.)

The young superintendent was given the post of golf

*(Continued on Page 38)*



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(Continued from Page 37)

course superintendent at Wyndemere where he started work February 1, 1980. "When I started here they had not even knocked a tree down," he recalls. "Evidently, Mr. Livingston likes to have his people in on the ground floor because I know it is kind of unusual to have a superintendent in on the job that early in the game. But to me, a lot of money was probably saved by having an expert on the job. And I would like to hope that will follow suit in a lot of other operations."

Livingston receives high marks from Hampton. "He knew the quality of operation he wanted to run," the superintendent says. "And, believe me, the freedom and the confidence that he's given us in our area has been tremendous."

Of his pre-development start at Wyndemere, Hampton says, "I think we're starting to see more of that now in many of them, (new development golf courses) because there's no question that the people that are there as far as the development part, they do not understand the golf course. And with the investment that you have on a golf course...to be run by layman, it does not hold true anymore."

"The architect in the past, I think, had been responsible for it (the golf course). But to come in on an every-two-week basis or a monthly basis to check progress is just not adequate enough. Somebody had to be the watchdog, or the eyes, for the owner and preferable, trained eyes."

Hampton agrees that his profession has come a long, long way since the bygone era of the greenskeepers. "Probably the biggest advances we've made is just in the equipment we use. And we are starting to use now the modern technology that is finally entering our business," he said. "When I first started on the golf course it was nothing more than a shovel and a handle."

"If you went out and were able to mow three greens and three tees in a day's time, and rake the traps, that was a day's work," he noted. "And we've progressed to doing that now just in a matter of a couple of hours."

The maintenance equipment inventory alone at Wyndemere today stands in excess of \$400,000, Hampton says. "And the knowledge you need to have on that — and that's not just doing the mechanics' work, that's just really understanding what a lot of the principles are in that area."

Personnel-management, too, is an integral portion of the superintendent's position. Hampton has a force of more than 20 maintenance workers at Wyndemere. "Probably in the older times, if you had three or four people, or up to six, you were very fortunate," he says. "Also, the type of people we have working on the golf course are different. We have retired people here now who are an excellent source of personnel. And, also we're getting more college type people. I have two men working for me now who will be off to Lake City in the fall."

"So, the more trained employee is what we're starting to get now. My assistant, Greg Dent, is also a graduate of Lake City."

Going back to the applying of pesticides, Hampton ob-

serves, "In the past the superintendent was probably the one that had all the knowledge as far as pesticides went. And in an operation of this size, for me personally, or for my assistant, this is just not possible. We do schedule what needs to be applied but we have five people on our staff that do have their commercial pesticide licenses."

Hampton has broken down the different areas of maintenance. "Whether it's the shop, with the mechanic and his assistant, our spray technicians, landscape technician or whatever it might be, they all have their own particular area of responsibility. And the ones that are in those areas are very well trained," he says.

Southwest Florida's maintenance overseers have blended their talents into one cohesive organization, The Everglades Golf Course Superintendents Association, one of nine groups within the Florida Golf Course Superintendent's Association.

Regular monthly meetings of the local chapter are held at various golf clubs throughout the area where a wide variety of issues are discussed in detail and a large amount of input is thrust into each gathering. The Everglades Chapter is made up of about 125 members.

Reviews of current problems facing all superintendents are delved into in great detail by the Chapter at these monthly meetings. One vital issue facing the maintenance technicians would appear to be the ever-increasing water shortages in Southwest Florida.

"We've gone through different periods — it's just part of our business," Hampton explains. "I think a lot of us have thick skins because of the problems we encounter; whether it's been environmental problems where we've been trying to convince the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) that what we're doing is positive and that we are watching what we're doing, whether it's the chemicals we're using that they are constantly taking off the market, and of course right now, the water situation is just another one that's on the horizon."

"We've known about the water situation for about five years but it's just now coming to the attention of the public," Hampton said. "Superintendents have been aware of this problem for quite some time."

Golf course superintendents are constantly faced with perplexities involving everything from weather conditions to outbreaks of turf disease and control of mole crickets.

"We were told at school, believe it or not, that the easiest thing we would have to do is grow grass. That sounds unbelievable because that's supposed to be our business. But there are so many things that enter into it," he said. "Whether it's the environmental people or whether it's the water management or the personnel problems, they all add up."

To compound the vexation, Hampton says, "When you're dealing with a variable like Mother Nature, she is constantly throwing you curves." But, he adds, this is a vari-

(Continued on Page 42)





# Palm Beach Trade Winds



By MICHAEL BAILEY  
Boca Greens Country Club

With the subject of topsoil and topdressing you immediately think of the old jokes in school about soil and just dirt. I distinctly remember my first day in the class of soil principles. The entire class session was spent drilling into our minds the difference between soil and dirt! For two words to be so synonymous, they are absolute antonyms to the agronomist.

First of all, we as professionals must call the media always soil and not just dirt. I think of soil by definition as being the aggregates of the earths crust, possessing mineralogical values in a relationship to microbiological activity and available air and water pore space to support a biological function for the plant growth. Wow, I guess that's what I mean. However, I think of dirt as simply being a useless accumulation of the earths crust with virtually no nutritional values, poor structure and density that otherwise can not support plant life. Commonly being the dirt one vacuums from the carpet.

There are times when we easily become discouraged with the soil media that we are often forced to grow turf upon. Perhaps there are even times when we feel the soils make-up of our greens is . . . just dirt. Our seemingly number one major problem of Florida appears to be the morphology of our soils. Professors show us the typical charts of the sand/silt/clay triangle, however, the superintendents are the ones who must work with the lower left hand corner which reveals "mostly sand or pure sand". Research and actual use of sandy soil greens prove that if given enough available moisture and budget to support high fertility levels, one can maintain excellent greens on sandy soils.

Superintendents often produce superlative turf on sandy soils, however, we try to come in and modify the soil with what we feel is a better soil media. This quite often is not the case, for we will pay the bill later through accumulated thatch buildup and the inability of the soil to percolate.

Since our basic media is sand, how can we go about helping ourselves from the very beginning. Fortunately for myself, I was hired at Boca Greens during early rough grade construction. This allowed me to work with golf course architect Joseph Lee, as he employed the ideal choice of construction. Native topsoil was of excellent cultivated farmland. A more expensive and tedious procedure of stripping the farm land, stockpiling, then digging and hauling from tentative lake beds, resulted in the best needs of the contours. Then the native soil was top-dressed at layers of at least 12 inches for the final coating of most all land elevations. It was at these stages of construction that Joe Lee and myself examined the native soils

and tested for the best soil media for the greens. Even though we complain about the sand, yes, we can achieve excellent drainage. This should be one of our primary goals during greens construction. U.S.G.A. specifications of tile and drain pipe along with gravel, seldom are needed in Florida, however testing should be performed of the soil. I had an infiltration test performed, that revealed percolation in excess of eight inches per hour. Yes, this seems ideal, however improper topdressing can destroy such data in a matter of a few years, if soil particle sizes are not matched to the native soil.

One does not necessarily have to be a soil science major in order to achieve proper drainage. There are several laboratories in our industry that are readily available to assist us. Laboratory and field technician, Lynn Griffith, of A & L Laboratories explains an infiltration test. "Taking a part of your existing field and placing it under laboratory conditions to simulate rainfall, thereby measuring the amount of infiltration over a given period of time." The procedure can best be described as taking probes of the upper 4 inches of the soil. Then mix with sodium aexamephosphate to keep the soil particles from adhering to each other. The soil is then placed within a cylinder of 2 inches in diameter by 12 inches of length. The soil is gently settled to near field conditions. Distilled water is then allowed to infiltrate through this column of soil for ½ hour, to form a homogeneous mixture of soil without air pore space. After this period of time, the testing actually begins. This contraption of hoses, tubes, buckets and graduated cylinders looks much like a downhome distillery, however the device technically allows water to percolate over a prescribed amount of time to quite graphically reveal the amount of water infiltration per hour. It is with this test, I can set the standard for which the greens should percolate. Your topdressing **MUST** be purchased with this in mind.



(Continued on Page 43)



# Treasure Coast "Tide"ings

By JAMES P. CALLAGHAN  
Riomar Country Club

Topdressing greens along the Treasure Coast has become the most important aspect of golf management that insures a true smooth putting surface and suitable soil characteristics. With the exception of more emphasis on using the correct material for a specific circumstance, the art and science of topdressing hasn't changed drastically over the years.

Many area superintendents have initiated a sand only topdressing program to balance the high percentage of organic material found in their greens. Chuck Calhoun of John's Island, Clarence Fleming of Dodgertown, Bill Mangold of Crane Creek, and Dave Bertholf of Miles Grant have all reported of using sand only for topdressing greens coupled with frequent aeration to alleviate drainage problems in the greens found at their courses. Bill Mangold commented that the greens at Crane Creek were built with 100% muck and grew more algae than grass during periods of wet weather. After three years of topdressing with sand, Bill has noticed great improvement in the overall condition of his greens.

For the supers who have adequate percolation (3"-6"/hr.), a prepared topdressing with a high percentage (70%-90%) of sand is used. The balance of the blend is of organic material, usually peat or muck. Most superintendents agree that a small amount of organic material is essential for water retention. After last year's drought, only problem greens along the Treasure Coast are receiving 100% sand as a topdressing medium.

One of the easiest ways of topdressing greens seems to have been almost abandoned in our area. The practice of verticutting cores and then dragging the soil back over

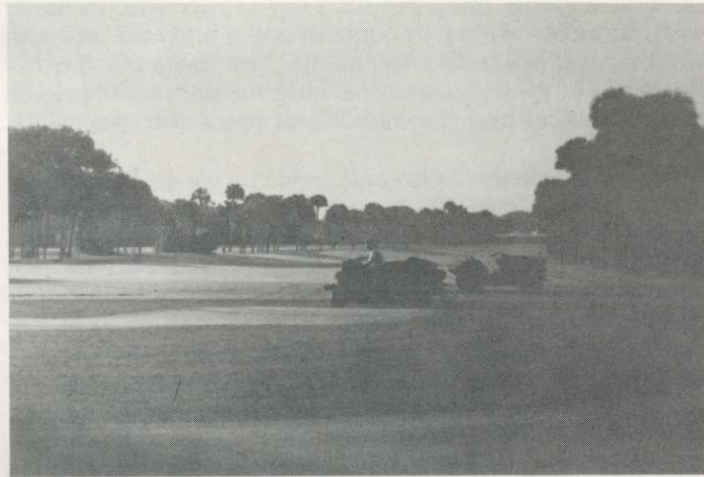
the putting surface is believed by some to have an adverse effect when working with hybrid bermudagrass. Although this practice as advantageous as far as using similar soil material for topdressing, it is in fact transplanting any mutation or contaminant grasses that may be present in the green. Under the high intensity of maintenance, chances are that a mutant sprig from a shredded core replanted in another aerifier hole WILL SURVIVE. The time saved in topdressing is not worth the future headaches when one continues to move undesirable grasses around on his greens.

A trend towards frequent topdressing during the year has become evident in the three county area. Adam Yurigan, Jr. of the John's Island Club in Vero Beach stated that he rarely goes more than eight weeks without topdressing. And during the winter months, overseeded greens are topdressed every four weeks. Ross Saylor, Golf Course Superintendent of Stuart Yacht and Country Club, reported that his greens are topdressed EVERY WEEK. Ross stated that this practice ensures quality putting conditions and eliminates undesirable thatch build-up.

Topdressing has proven to be a useful tool in correcting undesirable soil characteristics, reducing thatch build-up, rejuvenating sparse turf, and providing a billiard table surface on putting greens. Treasure Coast supers have carefully selected the topdressing program suited to their individual circumstance and plan to stick with it. For they realize that changing materials creates layers that impede air, water and roots. Layers may cost one his turf and also his job. ■



Getting an early morning start on topdressing greens at Riomar Country Club, Vero Beach.



Modern equipment has greatly reduced time required to topdress greens.



# DIVOTS

By **EDDIE SNIPES**  
San Jose Country Club



## Top Dressing, "She ain't what she used to be."

The Golf Course at San Jose Country Club located in Jacksonville, Florida has a very long and rich history. The present 18 hole course was completed in 1927 by golf course architect Donald B. Ross. The semi-private course was used by guests that stayed at the San Jose Hotel. The hotel was situated one-half mile away from the clubhouse and set on a bluff overlooking the St. Johns River. The hotel now houses Bolles High School. The club was officially chartered in 1947 and went to private membership status.

What in the blue blazes does this have to do with top dressing greens one may ask? The 55 year growth of San Jose Country Club and the practice of top dressing run the same continuum. Top dressing did not begin to blossom as a potential maintenance practice until the 40's.



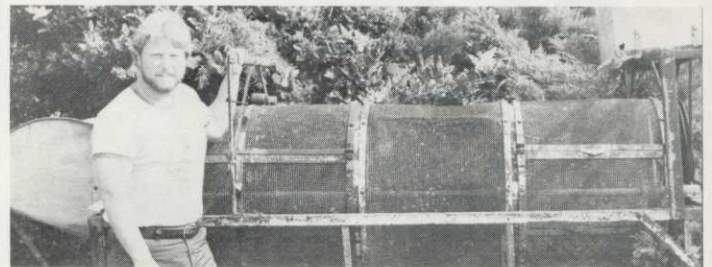
During this time at San Jose, top dressing was carried out with shovels and several men to distribute the top dressing material. This mode of operation was costly and time consuming. Top dressing procedures and San Jose Country Club at this time were in their infancy. One might speculate that in the 40's superintendents did not realize the full benefits of top dressing.

Today Dr. James Beard tells us that top dressing is utilized for (a) thatch control, (b) smoothing or leveling a turfgrass surface, (c) modification of the surface soil, (d) covering stolons or springs of vegetative plantings, (e) winter protection of turfs (Beard 73).



With the advent of a walking mechanized top dresser, the frequency and cost of top dressing became less and its benefits more obvious at San Jose. The greens are historical reminders of different superintendents philosophies on top dressing. Each layer of different soil in green plugs samples is evidence of their tenure at San Jose.

Today it is recommended that top dressing material be of the same consistency as the greens. This will help to prevent layering in the soil which allows for poor water and air distribution in the soil.



Top dressing used to be "homemade" at San Jose in a giant mixer. This mixer is now an artifact of days gone by. Today we buy treated (disease and weed free) material for our top dressing. The cost is far less to San Jose this way, in quality of material and in the man power it would take doing the operation ourselves.



(Continued on Page 44)



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(Continued from Page 38)

able golf course superintendents are forced to work with. "Again, I think that makes our skin a little thicker than a lot of people. Plus the fact that it's going on seven days a week."

With water shortages looming on the horizon and with the immense increase in the price of chemicals needed to enable golf course greenery to survive, superintendents are also faced with a constant source of irritation at the local level—the replacement of divots and the repair of ballmarks on the greens by the players who enjoy the game at the courses.

"These are two headaches," Hampton admits. "To me, the way we handle divots here—this is our personal preference—we do ask the members to replace their divots. The chance of it probably ever growing back may be nil but it's a lot easier to hit off an old divot than out of a new one.

"Ballmarks, everywhere I've been have always been a problem. We do hope our players will repair ballmarks. But we go out and part of our early morning chores is repairing ballmarks. It's done on a daily basis.

"That is probably the biggest pet peeve that we do have. And during the months when the grass is not growing as fast as it is in the summer, they do not heal back as quickly and they're a lot more noticeable."

Golf course operations are supervised, as a rule, by what Hampton refers to as "The Triangle"—the superintendent, the club manager and the club professional.

"As far as the wage scale and the different responsibilities we all have, probably the superintendent is the least visible one among all of them," he says. "But I think now, back in the development-type operation, the developers or the owners themselves are starting to understand the large responsibility of their investment and I think the 'Triangle' is becoming more equal than it ever has been in the past."

Which leads to the inevitable conclusion that Southwest Florida's golf course superintendents have come a long, long way since those days when they bore the nondescript title, "Greenskeepers." ■

Reprinted from *Home & Condo Magazine*, May/June 1982.

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(Continued from Page 39)

When it finally comes time to plant the turfgrass and eventually begin a topdressing program, the controversy really begins. Idealistically, I would choose to topdress with the surrounding native topsoil, so that I might match the exact particle sizes. Obvious problems of weed seed contamination, not to mention other problems, immediately eliminate such thoughts. Because of many outside vendors, who commercially offer a more suitable soil, your homework begins. First you must analyze your comparison of particle sizes. Brookside Farms Laboratories Ass'n., Inc. has analyzed our sieve size in a ratio to allow me to understand the ratio of particle sizes, ranging from the smallest to the largest ones. I can then even test various topsoil medias on the market and feel free to choose that which best harmoniously blends to our existing soil. Tests reveal 75% of Boca Greens soil media falls between the sieve sizes of 10 and 60, (medium through large particle sizes) while only 25% of the material falls into sieve sizes of 80 to 100 (small sizes). The coarser particle sizes will aid in hendering compaction, while allowing proper infiltration of available moisture, nutrients, proper pore spaces and ultimately support deeper roots correlating to a healthier stand of turfgrass.

Once you have finally found the media which is best suitable, you then must decide upon the blend. A test of the percentage of sand/silt/clay should be performed on the native soil. A percentage of approximately 5% clay, 0% silt, approximately 90% sand and up to 5% organic matter will produce an ideal media. To achieve these ratios within a blend will cost a few dollars of laboratory testing. The time and money will prove beneficial with years of dividends.

Our ultimate goal in a topdressing program is to not produce an excessive thatch buildup at an alarming rate. Afterall, thatch by definition is an excessive accumulation of growth buildup. Since we are producing a putting surface at mowing heights below 1/4 of an inch year round, we find ourselves beating our putters against a wall. In order to produce the product, thatch will always be a byproduct, so therefore topdress with a soil media that theoretically will meet your best overall demands— but never use just dirt! ■

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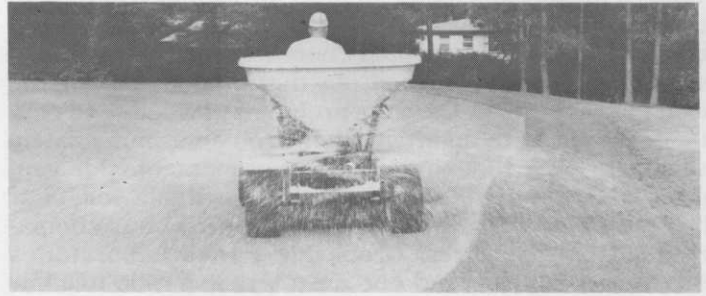
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## STERILIZED SOILS

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(Continued from Page 41)



Progress in the practice of top dressing at San Jose has now reached the state of the art. A maintenance practice that once took several men two to three days to accomplish can now be achieved in three hours by one man. The motorized riding top dresser with a 1,000 pound spreader attachment has brought greater speed, quality and efficiency to our top dressing program that will now increase in occurrence.



The present literature on top dressing points to many benefits that will help cut maintenance costs. Less disease, faster renewal of growth, less aerifying and better percolation are benefits that will save chemical, man power, and water expenses.

Top dressing practices at San Jose Country Club over the last 55 years have gone through different phases of development along with overall club development. It is progress made in our profession as in the practice of top dressing that helps us to do a better job for the members we work for and to enhance our professional capabilities.



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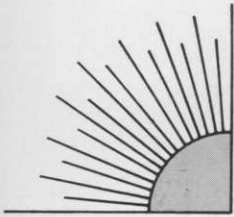
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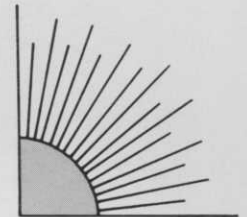
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# South Florida Sunshine



By BRAD G. KOCHER  
Inverrary Country Club

## THE ART OF TOPDRESSING

Topdressing serves a great variety of useful purposes. It stimulates growth in turf areas that are weak and need increased turf coverage. It smooths rough and similarly "thin" areas on putting greens and tees. As a soil amendment, a special mix can help to improve poor soil drainage. It can be said - if you are having trouble growing grass in any particular area - topdress it.

There are as many types of mixes available as only your imagination will let you conceive. Sterilized, unsterilized, 50/50, 70/30, 70/30 Medium, coarse, fine, 90/10 - the list goes on forever. One thing that is generally accepted is that the first number in the slash series is the sand and the remainder is Florida muck. However, there are some inconsistencies that exist even using these standards.

One supplier may call his 70/30 mix what another calls straight "muck". Briefly explained, all muck contains a certain percentage of sand. It is usually very fine sand or what we call sugar sand. If muck is placed in a jar of water and allowed to settle, it is readily seen that usually 50-70% of the composition is this fine sand. Conversely, another supplier of topdressing will use muck in its regular form as the other ingredient to be combined with sand. Simply put, if I would order a 70/30 mix, the supplier would take 7 parts sand (fine, medium or coarse) and mix it with 3 parts muck. This second option, as you can see, does not consider the very fine particles of sand that exist in his muck. Most mixes used by South Florida superintendents use this latter method of measuring sand to muck ratios, but it would seem there is a definite need for some form of standardization within the industry.

Differing types of sand also play a big part in topdressing mixes. Trap sand and D.O.T. sand are considered some of the coarse grades of sand and mason sand is probably the finest grade. A combination of the two sands should give you a medium grade mix. This mix, from personal experience, seems to work into the soil extremely well and can be applied at very light rates. Additionally, because the mix works into the existing turf, it is somewhat less abrasive to mowers making for a more contented mechanic.

The infiltration rate of different mixes also greatly varies. A mix using strictly fine sand may have a very poor water infiltration rate, whereas a straight trap sand mix may have excessive infiltration and little nutrient holding capacity. In either case, there are different purposes for different mixes. The coarser mix could be used to improve poorly drained soil especially during aeration, and the medium grade for general topdressing on well constructed greens having a similar soil profile. The fine mix, although one may question its percolation characteristics, can be used to "polish off" putting surfaces or to use

after establishment of overseeding. The finer mix is generally less abrasive and would be less harmful to sensitive overseeding leaf surfaces. It should be noted that any combination of the different sands is feasible and most topdressing suppliers are most receptive to custom mixing to your specific needs.

Probably the greatest benefit derived from topdressing is the results achieved to improve a putting surface. Light frequent topdressings are that extra plus that separates an average putting surface from a superior one. It would not be excessive to consider light (3/4 to 1 cu. yd. per 5,000 sq. ft.) topdressing every 3 to 4 weeks. The topdressing smooths the roll of ball as well as increases putting green speed. One of the prime tools a superintendent has to improve quality, in addition to low mowing height and minimum fertility levels, is topdressing.

Topdressing decreases the severity of low mowing heights. This is especially true when a decision has been made to lower mowing height. Probably the best time to lower mowing height is the day after a light topdressing. It decreases the shock to the plant. I have seen what happens when a green is mowed at 7/32" and the decision to gradually lower to 5/32" is made. It puts undo stress on leaf blades and will often result in browning or yellowing of the turf. However, if over a 2-3 week period the height is lowered in 1/64" increments just following a light topdressing, little discoloration, if any, will result.

One of the ways so many of the courses who consistently maintain Bentgrass or Tifdwarf at 1/8", or 328 at 5/32" is through the use of topdressing. A northern course I am familiar with has the reputation of applying a very light layer of topdressing once a week. We all hear of how so many of the "tournament" courses mow at 5/64" or 3/32" for sustained periods during major tournaments. It is entirely feasible and with light topdressings it can be done with little loss of that desirable green color. I think most superintendents desire a "pool table" putting effect. I am sure at least the smoothness is desired, maybe not always the speed. Topdressing is the answer!

Topdressing is also a small price to pay to improve the most important area on the golf course. Twenty yards of topdressing at \$20-\$25 per yard plus 30-40 hours labor to topdress, drag and mow is a small monthly investment to give golfers a smooth, consistent surface. It does not seem like much when compared to \$300-\$350 thousand to maintain an 18-hole golf course.

I believe most superintendents would, if they had their choice, topdress more frequently. It really seems to solve a great many problems. It is the great cure-all. ■



# Editorial

Over the past ten years Golf Course Superintendents have evolved from grass growers to professional turf managers. They are asked to grow grass under the worst possible conditions, and are required to maintain it at tournament condition on a daily basis. Golf Course Superintendents are managers entrusted with dispensing over a third of a million dollars annually.

Let's look at the facts. A golf course generates a lot of revenue. Often a course is the selling fact for housing units, it provides jobs for restaurant workers, pro shop employees, office workers, club managers and any number of grounds and golf course maintenance employees. The golf course is the necessary factor in this chain. Without "the great green golf course" this whole cycle of enterprise would not exist... this very fact makes the professional Golf Course Superintendent's position one that earns a high degree of financial compensation. Unfortunately some clubs still look at their superintendents as only grass growers and not as total managers.

People management requires superintendents to motivate employees to perform any number of labor positions in a day when generally people are no longer willing to do these type of jobs. They must help to instill a sense of pride in the way their employees view the course. We can not simply hand out tools and demand that workers rake traps, edge cart paths, trim trees, etc... without appreciating them and educating them in such a way that they develop a sense of pride in the "over all success of the total operation."

Golf Course Superintendents are true professionals dedicated to the betterment of golf. Salaries of \$45,000. to \$55,000. are becoming common in Florida. Benefits for good superintendents include \$2,000. a year for IRA, one months vacation, a car for business and personal use, meals at the club, golf privileges for peers and so on.

Golf is a game which should be enjoyed. So... when was the last time you hugged you Golf Course Superintendent?



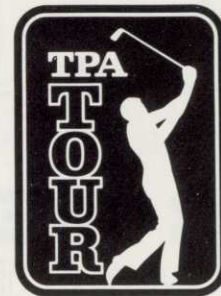
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*Cary Stoffel, Superintendent  
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*John Lapikas, Superintendent  
Annandale Golf Club  
Jackson, MS  
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*Dennis Webster,  
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LESCO CBS + Oregreen <sup>2</sup> (60% CBS, 40% Oregreen)	Putting Greens Tees & Collars	25 - 40 lbs/1000 sq. ft. 20 - 25 lbs/1000 sq. ft.
LESCO CBS + Pennfine Perennial Ryegrass Blend (60% CBS, 40% Pennfine)	Putting Greens Tees & Collars	25 - 40 lbs/1000 sq. ft. 20 - 25 lbs/1000 sq. ft.
LESCO CBS + Shadow <sup>1</sup> Mixture (70% CBS, 30% Shadow Chewings Fescue)	Putting Greens in northern Bermuda regions Tees & Collars	25 - 30 lbs/1000 sq. ft. 20 - 25 lbs/1000 sq. ft.
LESCO CBS + Sabre (85% CBS, 15% Sabre [poa trivialis])	Putting Greens in northern Bermuda regions Tees & Collars	20 - 25 lbs/1000 sq. ft. 10 - 15 lbs/1000 sq. ft.
LESCO Oregreen Intermediate Ryegrass	Tees & Collars Fairways	20 - 25 lbs/1000 sq. ft. 250 - 300 lbs/acre

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