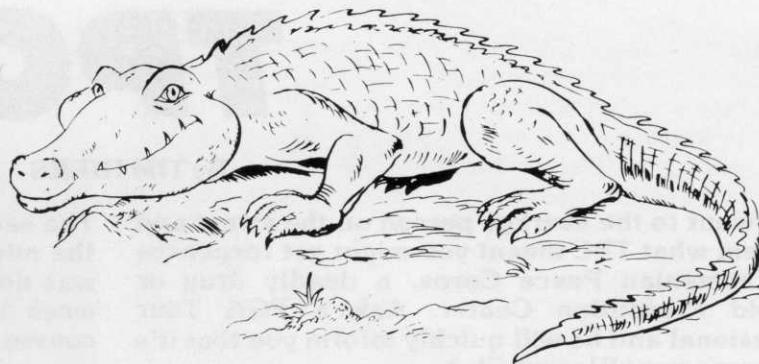


The Gator Growls

By DAN L. HALL, JR.
Imperial Golf Club



Recipe For a Good Superintendent

Five Superintendents from the West Coast were asked to list in order of importance from 1 to 5 pre-requisites of a good golf course superintendent.

Our five superintendents listed these statements as number 1:

- 3 — Replied hands on experience.
- 1 — Said formal education.
- 1 — Stated a prime interest in both golf and grass.

These statements placed 2nd:

- 4 — Answered both education from practical experience and formal education.
- 1 — Said practical experience along with knowledge gained from schooling, other superintendents, meetings and reading up to date material.

These statements placed 3rd:

- 3 — Replied keeping up by reading combined with educational meetings.
- 1 — Answered working on the course for experience.
- 1 — Said getting along with others.

These statements placed 4th:

- 3 — Said working from employee through the ranks under a Superintendent.
- 1 — Answered keeping a good staff of employees.
- 1 — Replied having a good employer interested in both good golf and good turf.

These statements placed 5th:

- 4 — Said a good knowledge of turf and basic agronomics.
- 1 — Replied be a good jack of many trades combined with experience.

Summary:

Notice that except for No. 2 and No. 5, the ratio of opinions is quite diversified. Nearly all placed actual turf knowledge 5th on the list. Education and experience placed as high as the 2nd requirement. Hands on experience was listed most often regardless of placement. Working under a good superintendent from employee through assistant also ranked high.

Being a good business manager wasn't even listed. Having good employees, having good work habits and having a good employer were only listed once each.

We can see that the pre-requisites of being a good superintendent are as varied as golf courses and golf course superintendents. Thanks to those who took the time to complete the questionnaire and make my job of reporting for this issue a little easier. I promised anonymity so names were not mentioned. Thanks again fellows. Next time let's have more replies and greater participation. ■

OUR GAME IS IMPROVING YOUR TURF



FERTILIZERS-CHEMICALS-FUMIGANTS

See your Superior Golf Course Specialist

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PLANTS IN TAMPA AND FT. PIERCE