

Drought-resistant bermudagrass first product of USGA program

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Progress has been made since the project's inception in 1983. One notable contribution has been made by Dr. Arden Baltensperger at New Mexico State University, who has developed a new seeded bermudagrass named Sahara, which has shown excellent resistance to drought. The first improved grass produced by the the USGA research program, Sahara will be commercially marketed for the first time in 1989.

"Our achievements of the last six years are just beginning to show," explained Dr. William H. Bengeyfield, chairman of the USGA Turfgrass Committee. "The program will succeed. We are confident of that."

Copies of the 1988 Turfgrass Research Summary are available from GCSAA headquarters or from the USGA.

Grants will be awarded in 1989 for 19 projects too numerous institutions for studies involving turfgrass breeding, cultural practices and the USGA Turfgrass Information File at Michigan State University.

TGIF is a computer-based bibliographic database with more than 13,000 entries covering published materials on turfgrass research and maintenance.

Innovations are proving to be of great assistance to researchers. With computer access to the database now available, data can be retrieved almost immedi-

ately. Also in development is a turfgrass thesaurus, a supplement to the thousands of keywords already entered and available.

Additional information concerning TGIF is available from the USGA Green Section office in Far Hills, N.J. or from the Michigan State Libraries in East Lansing, Mich.

Florida leads nation in total courses, new developments

JUPITER — Florida led the nation in golf-course development for the most recent two-month reporting period, according to the National Golf Foundation.

In the May/June issue of *Golf Market Today*, the NGF reported that Florida had 38 golf courses in the planning stage, under construction or recently opened. California was second with 18.

Florida also had the most golf course openings in 1988, the NGF said, with 35 out of a total of 211 for the entire nation. Texas was second with 20.

Overall, Florida now leads the nation with 932 golf courses at 745 facilities. California is second with 836.

With 412, Florida has more private courses than any other state and is second to Michigan in daily-fee courses with 432. Michigan has 489.

The Sunshine State ranks sixth in municipal courses with 89. California leads the nation with 166.

Of the 38 projects reported in the last

two months, 22 are listed as private, 11 as daily fee, 2 as municipal and 3 as unknown.

Jacksonville led the way with seven projects, followed by Naples with three.

Unless otherwise indicated, all are 18-hole courses. The complete list:

Recently opened

- Alaqua CC, Longwood
- Great Oaks GC, Marianna (9 holes)
- Hunter's Ridge, Naples
- Sabal Springs, Cape Coral (9 holes)
- St. Johns GC, Elkton (9 holes)
- Vineyards of Naples, Naples
- Willoughby GC, Stuart

Under construction

- Cape Haze Links, Rotonda
- Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation, Clearwater
- Cobblestone CC, Stuart
- GC of Palm Beach, West Palm Beach
- Indian River Colony Club, Indian Harbour Beach
- Julington Creek, Jacksonville (9 holes)
- Oakbridge CC, Lakeland
- Old Trail at Jonathan's Landing, Jupiter
- PGA Tour Course at Jacksonville
- Plantation Club/Sugarmill Woods, Homosassa
- Polo Club, Boca Raton (9 holes)
- Rotonda G&CC, Rotonda
- Sabal Springs, Cape Coral
- The Cedars, New Port Richey
- The Enclave, Port St. Lucie
- Unnamed, Jacksonville
- Victoria Estates, Port Charlotte
- Wellington GC, Wellington

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13 courses listed in planning stage

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Planning stages

- Big Cypress Lakes, Lakeland (9 holes)
- Birk Forest GC, Wellington
- Foxglove CC, Lantana
- Glen Kernan Jacksonville
- Monterey, Goldenrod
- Oak Tree Sports Club, Hawthorne
- Oakford, Sarasota
- Queens Harbour Y&CC, Jacksonville
- Shamrock G&CC, Naples
- Silver Sands CC, Jacksonville
- Terraverde CC, Miami
- Unnamed, Jacksonville
- Waterford GC, Melbourne

Lake City graduates 35 in GCO plus 14 in first TEST class

LAKE CITY — Six students, including the only woman in the class of 35, graduated from the School of Golf Course Operations at Lake City Community College with highest honors May 5. All were from Florida.

Another six students, including three from out of state, completed the three-year program with high honors while five received their associate of science degrees in golf course operations with honors.

The GCO students at Lake City CC must complete 104 classroom credits in mechanics, agronomy, business administration and academic core subjects plus two summer internships under the supervision of a qualified golf course



LAKE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

TEST Center opens at Lake City Community College

The dream that started 20 years ago took a new shape Sept. 9, when the new Turf Equipment Service Technology Center was dedicated on the campus of Lake City Community College. The building, containing classrooms and laboratories, also houses nearly a half-million dollars worth of turf equipment loaned by various manufacturers. The TEST program awards a terminal certificate and serves as the first year of Lake City's three-year program leading to an associate of science degree in golf course operations.

superintendent. This year's graduating class of 35 out of 45 who began the program three years ago was described as "typical" by a spokesperson for the college.

Palm Beach County supplied the most graduates with six, while four each came from Naples and Sarasota. One graduating senior came from the Republic of Panama and another six came from other states.

In addition to the 35 degrees, the school also issued 14 certificates to the first graduating class of its one-year program in turf equipment service technology. According to Ed Combest, chief instructor of mechanics, most will work at golf courses or become manufacturers' service representatives.

All but one TEST graduate came from

Florida.

The 1989 graduates of Lake City Community College's School of Golf Course Operations:

HIGHEST HONORS (3.75+ GPA) — Craig Boller, Crystal River; Chris Bower, Winter Haven; Lon Chatfield, Sarasota; Sherrie Keblish, Miami; Scott Spara, Sarasota; Greg Tharp, Atlantic Beach.

HIGH HONORS (3.50+ GPA) — Mickey Beechy, Southington, Ohio; Robert Emmons, Naples; Steve Larsen, West Palm Beach; Steve McGinnis, Zephyrhills; Greg Moore, Richmond, Ind.; Douglas White, Tucson, Ariz.

HONORS (3.30+ GPA) — Richard Abbott, Boca Raton; Rick Brain, Sarasota; Scott Campbell, Sarasota; Paul Mollberg, Jupiter; Tim Perez, Northport.

DIPLOMATES — Bryce Abel, St. Petersburg; Gary Gorden, Naples; John Holmes, La Grange, Ga.; Tom Kennedy, Columbus, Ga.; Henry Kerfoot, Falls Church, Va.; Gavin Lapper, Seminole; Andy Lemmel, West Palm Beach; Andre Lenders, Cape Coral; Robert Moffett, Boca Raton; Martin Moore, Fort Myers Beach; Mike Mulcahy,

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