




SCANDINAVIA/FLORIDA COMPARISON 1987

	Country	Population ¹	Area ¹	Golfers ²	Courses ²
	Denmark	5,124,000	16,629	29,000	60
	Finland	4,788,000	130,120	8,900	18
	Norway	4,092,000	125,053	6,500	9
	Sweden	8,320,000	173,775	123,000	156
	Scandinavia	22,324,000	445,467	167,400	243
	Florida	12,023,000 ³	58,560	1,172,000 ⁴	808 ⁴

SOURCES:
1. Hammond Citation World Atlas; 2. Golf Digest Almanac; 3. Florida Handbook (1989-90); 4. National Golf Foundation

industry by Jarkko this past summer. He showed the new USGA greens construction tape to a group of Finnish greenkeepers.

"Jarkko's American training at LCCC makes him a highly respected individual in Finland."

Although many native bentgrasses grow wild throughout Scandinavia, the common grasses for Finnish tees and fairways has been bluegrass and fescue. Greens generally are fescue.

The LCCC students introduced the Finns to Penncross, Penneagle and Penway bentgrasses this past summer.

"There is no formal turf management education available in Finland," Piersol says. "That's why they came to LCCC for help."

Coming the other direction were 90 superintendents who were the guests of ORAG Inter AG, the European distributor of Jacobsen equipment.

They spent two weeks in the U.S. for a "learning experience with a little fun mixed in," according to Neils-Erik Brems, ORAG's representative in Denmark.

In addition to their plant tours and visits to Doral CC in Miami and Grand Cypress Resort in Orlando, the supers toured the University of Minnesota's Department of Horticulture.

"The purpose of this trip is to educate the superintendents on



LCCC/PIERSOL

Jarkko Lahdensuo examines a soil core sample while explaining the concept of USGA green specifications.

what's being done here in the United States," Brems said. "They can then go back and educate their boards of directors and greens committees on what can be done to improve their courses."



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David Wedge, right, receives award from William Krome

Horticultural Society honors tree author

David Wedge, a horticultural consultant whose articles on trees appear frequently in *The Florida Green*, was honored at the Florida State Horticultural Society's annual meeting in Tampa last fall for his paper describing a West Palm Beach program to re-introduce flowering trees.

He received a silver medal and \$200 honorarium for the best paper in the Garden and Landscape section of Vol. 100, *FSHS Proceedings*.

Ross course in Orlando undergoes renovation

The Country Club of Orlando will celebrate its 80th birthday this summer by getting a facelift.

The venerable Donald Ross layout, which was begun in 1910 and opened in 1912, will be completely renovated under the direction of architect Brian Silva, the noted Ross scholar. Silva's business partner is Geoff Cornish, author of the seminal history of golf course history in the United States.

Although Ross himself never visited the Orlando site, Silva said he is "very comfortable" that Ross did the layout and that the course was one of several hundred built by one of his principal construction superintendents, according to CCO Superintendent Cary Lewis.

The greens will be rebuilt to modern

USGA specifications and will be restored to their original contours.

Architect revises booklet on greens construction

"More than 70 percent of all greens today have been improperly built, or otherwise fail to meet modern scientific standards conducive to promoting growth while reducing physical and physiological stress," says Dr. Michael Hurdzan, a former superintendent and past president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

In his revised version of the 24-page pamphlet, "The Evolution of the Modern Green," Hurdzan points out that to further complicate matters, each green has its own requirements involving such factors as orientation to the sun, air, drainage, shade and wind, and swings in temperature and relative humidity.

"The net result," Hurdzan concludes, "is that today's golf course superinten-

dent has 18 different 'babies,' each one having its own strengths and weaknesses, and all of them being susceptible at any given time to devastation resulting from weather, disease, insects, vandals, weeds, equipment failure or operator error, miscalculation or player abuse."

The quest for faster greens has resulted in a situation in which more of today's greens are being stressed beyond their genetic capacity to heal themselves.

However, he believes space-age technology will help win the battle.

"Today's greens are the product of such disciplines as agronomic chemistry, soil physics, genetics and



Mike Hurdzan

play physiology — disciplines that were far removed from the art of turfgrass management until the last 30 years or so," Hurdzan says.

Even at world-famous courses, the greens may be perfect only for a very short period, and then only with great expenditures of time, money and manpower, he adds.

"Therefore, greens should not be compared. Good greens are expected... great greens should be appreciated... and perfect greens should be cherished. For they are as fragile and changeable as life itself," he says.

Hurdzan's booklet reviews the historical development of the putting green, including the dominant methods of construction and the carefully prescribed procedures for building them, as well as the proper care and maintenance of both new and mature greens. It is available for \$5 from the American Society of Golf Course Architects, 221 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60601.



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