

countries where a license is not required. Some superintendents don't administer pesticides so they have no need to obtain a license.

Outcome: recommended requiring state pesticide license for class A and certified members or to have those individuals pass a GCSAA-developed test.

## Ongoing requirements

The MSRG supported ongoing requirements for both Class A members and certified superintendents which would require a combination of service and continuing education. No details had been recommended.

Outcome: members of the cross committee meeting supported ongoing requirements for Class A and certified members. They recommended that Class A members be required to obtain three points within a three-year renewal period. These points can be a combination of service points and continuing education points with a minimum of one education point.

Furthermore, they recommended that certified superintendents be required to obtain nine points within a three-year renewal period. These points can be a combination of service points and continuing education points with a minimum of three education points.

Committee members recommended that education provided by GCSAA, chapters and non-vendor turf organizations should be valued the same. All other education should be valued at half the equivalence of the turf organizations.

During the two-day meeting, several alternatives were discussed including, the Career Development System, a program proposed by Al Jansen, superintendent from Barbaroo County Club in Baraboo, Wis. Jansen's proposal integrates experience and education into a multilevel classification system.

Participants of the cross-committee indicated that they liked the simplicity of the system. However, they expressed concern relative to the lack of ongoing requirements and that the system was not tied to competencies.

The recommendations developed by the participants of the cross committee meeting will be sent to the MSRG and other appropriate committees (Certification and Membership) for further action.

## 48 Attend Reclaimed Water Seminar

Golf course superintendents from all over the state met at the Orlando Airport Marriott hotel July 28 for a GC-SAA Regional Seminar on Reclaimed Water Irrigation presented by Dr. Ali Harivandi, a regular member of the GCSAA teaching faculty at national conferences.

Since water issues are becoming more important all the time and the likelihood of more use of reclaimed water becomes a reality, 48 superintendents were present to learn about the nuts and bolts of this alternate source of irrigation water. Some courses are converting to reclaimed water and some are being built only because they will be hooked up to a waste water plant.

Dr. Harivandi shared some to his key take-home messages from the presentation:

- Reclaimed water is not "bad." It is a great resource and in this day and age of growing water shortages we should be glad to have access to it.
- The water should be evaluated thoroughly so you know precisely what you're getting. No two municipality sources are the same and processing problems do happen. The water needs to be tested on a regular basis.
- There are many ways to deal with the challenges that accompany the use of waste water. The challenges can be overcome. You just have to know what they are and how to deal with each case.
- Agronomically, the most critical thing to know is the dissolved salt content of the water so counter measures and programs can be employed to combat sodium-related issues in the soil.
- Good training and education are a must for the staff and golfers alike., mostly to de-mystify the stigma attached to using waste water. You must make certain you know what the health-related issues



Dr. M. Ali Harivandi of the University of California Cooperative Extension Service recently presented a day long seminar on Reclaimed Water Irrigation to 48 FGCSA members in Orlando. Photo by Joel Jackson.

are just to be proactive about the subject. There haven't been any known problems so far.

- Supply and delivery issues need to be understood and worked out. Correct pump and pipe size engineering is necessary to take full advantage of this resource.
- Lakes and holding ponds may need aeration systems or treatments for algae growth from increased nutrient loading.
- Golf courses using reclaimed water provide a service to the community by disposing of and filtering the city's waste water and recharging the aquifer. This is a great public relations message and should be used.
- Politics and pricing are difficult issues. You may not have a choice. But when you do, do your homework on current costs, lake management, irrigation system modification. Then sit down with the course owners and utility company and figure out the cost and value. Reduce it down to a sound business decision.

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