

In an industry where tradition is sacred, experience essential and innovation vital, the Toro reputation for leadership is legendary. Build on a track record of more than 35 years of service to golf, the Toro name has come to represent the finest in total turf solutions for thousands of courses around the world. In fact, 74 of America's top 100 courses\* are irrigated with Toro systems.

When it comes to golf course irrigation, the Toro commitment ranges from offering the industry's largest and most diversified selection of quality products to providing unprecedented programs for after-installation service. But the Toro golf package is more than just products and service. It is a carefully woven fabric of key elements that combine to create the "right" irrigation system for each course.

Toro leadership is further exemplified through its strong commitment

to the golf industry in general. Torce tion supplier to The First Tee, an more accessible and affordable to The Toro Scholars Program supplied Superintendents Association of Ammorris-level supporter of the GCS

#### **The Total Renovation**

Maintaining the quality of esta lenge for golf course superintend often brings character and traditioned to replace and update an ag



is the official turf equipment and irrigaorganization committed to making golf o young people throughout the nation. es scholarships through the Golf Course nerica (GCSAA), and Toro is an Old Tom AA Foundation.

#### **Package**

blished courses is an ever-present chaldents. While the maturing of a course on to the overall layout, it also creates a ging infrastructure. Toro leads the industry with a comprehensive package of professional services expressly for golf course renovation. System assessment, irrigation design and installation referrals, quality products, and after-sale support and training all are brought together in a centralized program through the Toro distributor. It is this total-package concept that ensures a dimension of cost efficiency and customer convenience unequalled in today's golf industry.

Flexibility is another important element. From irrigation systems specifically designed to meet rigid cost and watering requirements to a menu of after-installation service programs tailored to ensure successful performance, Toro offers the options and expertise to make it the number one

## Dependability

Product innovation is the hallmark of The Toro Company. From development of the first plastic golf sprinkler to the first central/satellite control system, Toro has blazed a trail that others have only followed.

#### **Golf Sprinklers**

Simply said, Toro products are built to last, Manufactured of durable engineering plastics, Toro golf sprinklers feature the performance and long life required on today's courses. In addition, Toro sprinklers have the industry's lowest maintenance cost and are the easiest to service. Ideal for renovation projects, Toro sprinkler technology is backward compatible so that older sprinklers easily can be updated with simple conversion assemblies.

Among Toro's many outstanding models is the new 720 Series, which is particularly well suited to the golf course renovation market. Its advanced design provides superb coverage in challenging areas. With a radius of 20 to 55 feet, the 720 Series has an adjustable gallonage, arc and trajectory that allow the watering pattern to be customized for hard-to-reach spots.

Toro golf sprinklers also offer a full range of features such as adjustable part-circle and full-circle operation, manual control at the sprinkler, factory-set pressure regulation, durable stainless-steel risers, and up to four-inch pop-up heights, Electric or hydraulic valve-in-head models help reduce pressure spikes and damage to hydraulic systems. Check-O-Matic technology, which prevents low-head drainage, also is available. All Toro sprinklers offer color-coded nozzles for easy in-field identification.

#### **Central Control**

Built with the superintendent in mind, Toro's central control systems are designed to ensure programming flexibili-

ty and optimum watering precision in any golf course application. Used at more than 1,000 sites throughout the country, SitePro offers precise programming capability to save time and money. And, of course, SitePro is backed by Toro's comprehensive NSN, as well as the distributor sales and service group.

The wireless OSMAC® field satellites are also well suited to renova-



tion projects because there is little disruption to the golf course. For renovation projects requiring the ultimate in flexibility, Network LTC Plus satellites can be

installed wireless, wireline or hybrid (a combination of wireless and wireline), depending on the specific site conditions. Network LTC Plus also allows up to 64 stations for more precise control.

Toro satellites are ideal for golf course renovations. Existing hydraulic systems and old control boxes can be upgraded with either OSMAC or Network LTC Plus, providing enhanced control and programming flexibility. This in turn means better playing conditions. And isn't that the ultimate purpose of golf course renovation? For more information, contact your local Toro distributor.



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Waterway at the Y&CC of Stuart. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

should seek recognition for their accomplishments.

**SPRING** 2000

President Darren Davis points out that for the good of the profession, superintendents

SPOTLIGHT BIG, BUT NOT EASY ...... 10 GCSAA Conference and Show, highlighted by national awards to Mike Blanchard and Gary Grigg, was great. Host city New Orleans was a different story.

The Yacht & Country Club of Stuart is reputed to be the oldest private country club in Martin County, the sailfish capital of the world.

The GCSAA wants input from everyone before finalizing the initiative for restructuring the membership requirements. No matter what the final version looks like, current

Weed control is a year-round endeavor for Florida golf course superintendents. Super Tips reveals a simple aerifier dolly.

members will be "grandfathered" in at their current status if they stay current.

The FTGA's grass-roots fund-raising campaign has been well received with several clubs in South Florida expressing interest in the dues check-off for turfgrass research. Collier County golf course pioneer Paul Frank dies.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS ST JOHNS COUNTY FERTILIZER ORDNINANCE ........... 66 The proposed ordinance to ban quick-release fertilizer from the Guana Marsh basin during specified seasons has caught statewide attention.

The University of Florida and the USGA have brought an endangered butterfly species back from the brink of extinction.

We have not seen the final effects of last fall's hurricanes. Spring transition may be a nightmare.

AFTERWORDS FERTILIZER ORDINANCE, BIG PICTURE, BEST BARGAIN ... 82 Industry comments on the St. Johns County fertilizer ordinance; Mark Jarrell on seeing the big turfgrass picture; Joel Jackson on membership benefits.

About the use of trade names: The use of trade names in this magazine is solely for the purpose of providing specific information and does not imply endorsement of the products named nor discrimination against similar unnamed products. It is the responsibility of the user to determine that product use is consistent with the directions on the

## The Florida Green

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The Florida Green welcomes advertising inquiries to:

Marie Roberts, Association Manager 1760 NW Pine Lake Drive Stuart, FL 34994 561-692-9349 800-732-6053 Florida WATS e are employed in an industry that demands managers who have diverse talents and skills. To those outside the profession, an explanation is often needed when introducing yourself as a golf course superintendent. A golf course superintendent — even as the manager of the backbone of a club, the

golf course — often
plays second fiddle to
other employees at the
club who are more
visible to the public. A
superintendent is often
thought of as the person,
"that keeps the grass
looking good."

Today's professional golf course superintendent wears a lot of hats. He or she is

responsible for much more than just growing grass. Superintendents are still first and foremost agronomists, but they are also environmentalists, scientists, strategists, resource managers, educators, business managers and administrators. We in the business realize this, but does our golfing clientele or the general public truly understand the duties of a golf course superintendent?

Although I have not been in the

business as long as some of you, I came to a realization very early in my career that John Q. Public will never, and I mean never, fully recognize the complexity of our jobs. They will never understand the devotion that we have

for the profession if we do not seek some recognition on our own. We can not solely rely on others in the industry. The work of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) or the efforts of the United States Golf Association (USGA) is needed but golf course superintendents must also individually promote themselves.

Let me ask you a sincere question. Do you feel you deserve more recognition for the work that you do? If you hesitated or said no, you are more than likely being too humble. Certainly each individual has their own strengths and weaknesses, but each of us is good at what we do and, if you look at the big picture, most golf course superintendents are very deserving of more praise or recognition from others.

There are many avenues that recognition can come from, such as your employer, your golfers, your peers, or the general public. Each one of these is important in its own right. It is also critical to realize that recognition can do much more than just stroke your own ego. Recognition for the job you perform as a golf course superintendent can lead to better job stability for you, quicker advancement and also make the golf course industry as a whole better viewed by those outside the golfing world.

How does one obtain recognition? The answer is not difficult, but it can vary depending on the person. There is no right or wrong answer.

Some superintendents have received

## Recognition: Go For It!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Darren Davis President FGCSA



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rave reviews for hosting a major tournament or for being employed at a high profile club. This type of high-pressure job is certainly not for everyone but there are other options. You could get involved in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program (ACSP) for golf courses or the ACSP for schools administered by Audubon International. One could also volunteer and become active in a local, state or national golf course superintendents association.

If writing is your forte, you could pen an article for your club newsletter, a trade journal or even a non-golf-related publication. Public speaking is also a quick way to tell your story to others. Telling your story can also be in the form of a press release written by you and submitted to the local paper, a trade journal or any print media that will publish this type of information. Applying for an Environmental Steward Award presented by the

...recognition of your talents by others is not just for your ego but instead it helps the golf course superintendent profession as a whole.

GCSAA, or for that matter any contest that can showcase your talents or the efforts made at your facility is another great idea.

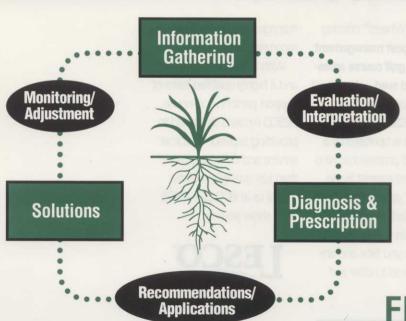
Are you talented on the computer?

Well, how about creating a web page for your club or something related to the profession? One could also get behind a valid cause and assist in a letter-writing campaign or a lobbying effort to persuade a government agency for the benefit of your club and others in the turf industry. Amazingly, recognition can also come from something as simple as inviting your peers or others to your golf course or traveling to see another course.

I could go on and on, but I hope that you now have a better understanding of the multitude of avenues that one could pursue for recognition. Quite simply, recognition is not hard to obtain but like anything worthwhile in life, you must put forth an effort. One must also be willing to come out of their own shell and realize that recognition of your talents by others is not just for your ego but instead it helps the golf course superintendent profession as a whole.

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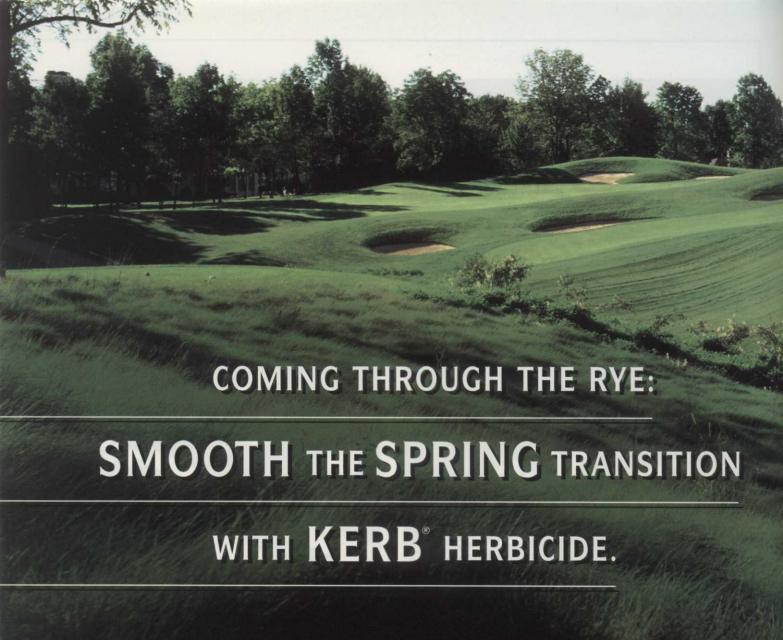
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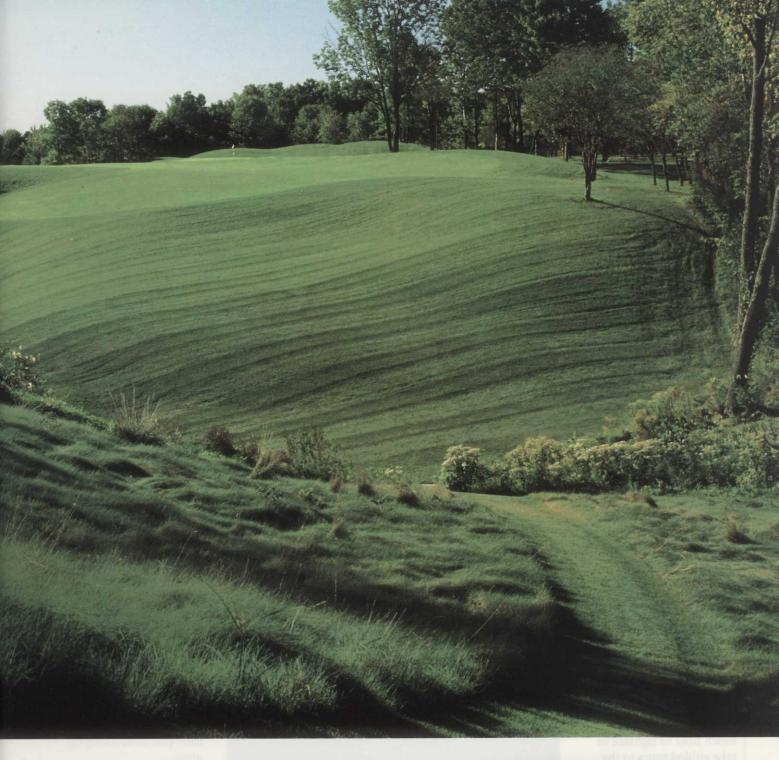
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f you overseed your fairways, you may have a love/ hate relationship with perennial ryegrass. When the bermudagrass is dormant, you love the ryegrass for how it looks and how it plays. But when the bermudagrass starts to green up, you want the rye out of there. The trick is to make the smoothest transition from rye to bermudagrass.

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GCSAA International Conference and Show: A Personal Perspective

## 'It Was Big But It Wasn't Always Easy!'

#### GCSAA Great But Bourbon Street Highly Overrated

by Joel Jackson, CGCS
he experience was big but it wasn't always easy! I'm not hard to get along with, but this ranks as one of my worst trips to our national conference. It had nothing to do with GCSAA. In fact, the time spent at the Convention Center was the best part of my trip to New Orleans.

I was looking forward to jambalaya and crawfish pie me oh my oh, and I did manage to satisfy my culinary curiosity somewhat, but the rest of my interaction with N'awlins left me wanting. In defense of the chamber of commerce and all the jazz musicians and oyster shuckers that didn't get a chance to entertain or serve me, I didn't have much time to sightsee or take guided tours to the historic and colorful places that help define New Orleans history.

Maybe it was the stench of curbside garbage on Bourbon Street. Taking a walk down Bourbon Street was like dumpster diving for leftovers. I guess my Disney days are showing. Bourbon Street is highly overrated unless you want to go to a fraternity party that never stops. After a

couple of hours I was ready for Harrah's Casino, but I never really made it to the slots or blackjack tables. I did donate \$1 to the one-armed bandits while cutting through the casino on the way to the convention center.

Or maybe it was the derelicts sleeping under cars and doorways. Nor did it help set the mood when one of the colorful street people came into the restaurant where I was having breakfast. He traded in his beer can for a cup of coffee and then proceeded to curse at three superintendents from Minnesota for causing the ills of the world. I had to signal the hostess standing

...maybe it was the derelicts sleeping under cars and doorways. Nor did it help set the mood when one of the colorful street people came into the restaurant where I was having breakfast. He traded in his beer can for a cup of coffee and then proceeded to curse at three superintendents from Minnesota for causing the ills of the world.

right behind the guy and ask her if she thought this was good customer relations!



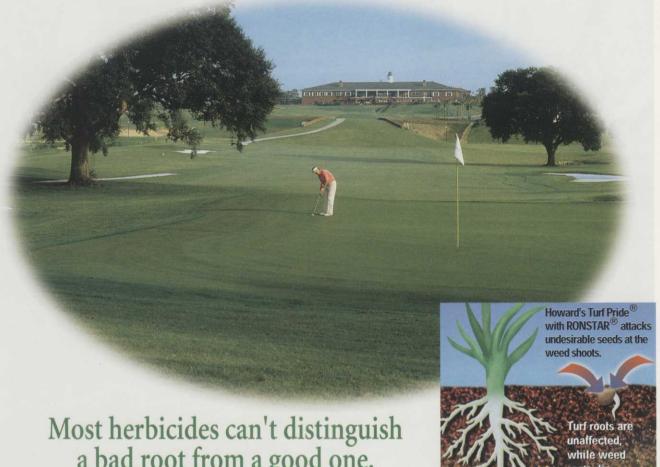
#### Leo Feser Award to Blanchard

During the opening ceremonies of the GCSAA Conference and Show in New Orleans, Mike Blanchard, GCS Tampa Palms G&CC (right) received GCSAA's Leo Feser Award from GCSAA President Dave Fearis, CGCS for his March 1999 article, "The Bosnian Connection" in Golf Course Management Magazine. Photo by Joel Jackson.

I think the real problem was trying to get to and from New Orleans. Evidently, the best way is by riverboat from Nachez or by car from Florida, because the airlines haven't got it figured out yet. Citing mechanical problems, Delta Comair let us enjoy Orlando airport's passenger waiting area for a couple of extra hours that we might have missed. Hey, take all the time you need fixing the plane.

Normally, the major hotels run complimentary shuttle busses to and from the airport. That works in New Orleans if you want to go to Kenner, the suburb surrounding the airport. Otherwise, the shuttles all have to have a \$30,000 taxi stamp to cross into other jurisdictions. Taxi cabs and airport shuttle vans, which are really big taxis, were the

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Distinguished Service Award to Grigg

GCSAA President Dave Fearis, CGCS presents Florida's own Gary Grigg, CGCS/MG with one of three GCSAA Distinguished Service Awards handed out at GCSAA's 71st International Conference and Show in New Orleans in February. Photo by Joel Jackson.

only means to go downtown at \$21 to \$25 a trip. I shared an inbound cab with some big spenders who comped my ride. Coming home I paid my own way.

Did I say coming home? I meant going to the airport. Once again Delta Comair pleaded maintenance problems and the Sunday,12:15 pm flight home was canceled. While some persistent souls played the stand-by game on other airlines, which were grossly overbooked, several of us gave up hope and let Delta put us up at a nearby hotel. We watched golf in the lounge and some of the wives went to the nearby mall. Bad luck for the hubbies. Monday

morning after an hour delay, people were seriously considering car rental in order to get out of New Orleans, but our plane arrived and we finally headed home.

As I said earlier, the real reason we went to New Orleans was fulfilled. Nearly 7,000 GCSAA members attended 112 seminars held Monday through Thursday. Marie Roberts and I attended the Chapter Leaders Track which included sessions on chapter management issues, PDI, research funding, government relations and publications.

We drop-shipped two cases of the Florida Green which were put out for public consumption in the



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GCSAA media room and the Lake City and U. of Florida booths. Marie also took copies around and visited the booths of potential advertisers hoping to meet with various marketing and advertising reps.

Florida GCSA members brought home the gold, marble, mahogany, acrylic and parchment in the form of several awards. Gary Grigg, CGCS/MG received GCSAA's Distinguished Service Award and Mike Blanchard, GCS was presented the Leo Feser Award during the Opening Ceremonies on Wednesday night.

At the Friday CGCS Luncheon, Geri Buchheit, CGCS of Killearn CC in Tallahassee and John Lammrish, CGCS joined 79 other superintendents in receiving their CGCS pins for completing the Certified Golf Course Superintendents program.

Saturday afternoon, yours truly picked up The Florida Green's ninth Best Overall Award in the last ten years. We couldn't do it without the dedicated hard work and special talents of Marie Roberts bulldogging the advertisers and Larry Kieffer of Janlark Communications designing our greatlooking layout and providing journalistic mentoring. My job as editor and your job as members is to keep the stories coming.

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Mike Perham, CGCS, working with Marie Roberts made his debut as FGCSA reception host in addition to his role as Florida Green business manager. Kudos to Marie and Mike for providing food and drink to the sponsors, superintendents

and their guests on Friday night. Attendance was estimated at nearly 600 for the event, and the shrimp legacy lives on. Many thanks for all the sponsors who funded the reception. Please see our thank-you page recognizing these generous supporters of our



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association.

Saturday morning was the GCSAA Annual Meeting followed by a Town Hall meeting on the Professional Development Initiative. After much soul searching and discussion in the election of officers, the FGCSA chose to support Jon Maddern's nomination from the floor for secretary/treasurer. One of the original candidates, Sam Snyder, CGCS had resigned from the GCSAA board of directors citing personal reasons. FGCSA's voting delegate, Dale Kuehner, CGCS, who has interviewed and talked with all the candidates and delegates from around the country, felt that it was in the best interest of the association to have a true election to this important position. So we supported Maddern's nomination. While Jon did not succeed in this eleventh-hour bid. we feel Mike Wallace's election as secretary/ treasurer was validated by the members having a choice rather than ascending the office by default.

Congratulations to newly elected President Scott Woodhead, CGCS; Vice President Tommy Witt, CGCS; Secretary/ Treasurer Mike Wallace, CGCS; and directors Ion Maddern, CGCS and Ken Mangum, CGCS. Director Mark Woodward, CGCS has another year remaining on his term and Tim O'Neill was appointed to a one-year term as director to fill Wallace's position. Woodhead will also appoint one other director



The 2000 Lake City Alumni Endowment Committee helped organize and run an event which raised \$14,000 for their alma mater. From left, front row: Mike Smith, John Piersol, Scott Hamm and Dick Bessire; back row: David Fry, John Johnson and Glenn Zakany. Photo by Robert Toski.

to fill Snyder's vacated position.

LAKE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

#### GLO Alumni Raise \$14,000 for Program

The 8th annual Lake
City Community
College Endowment Golf
Tournament was held Jan.
7 at the newly rebuilt Gulf
Harbour Yacht and
Country Club in Fort
Myers.

One hundred and fortyplus players in the twoman scramble event were greeted at 8 a.m. by a thick fog that added to an already demanding golf course. Once the fog cleared the weather was absolutely perfect and the festivities wonderful.

Tim Pratt, our host superintendent, and his staff did a magnificent job of preparing the golf course. Gulf Harbor was in excellent condition and proved to be a challenging test of golf. Preparing a golf course for 140 of your peers is not an easy job, especially when you consider several of the greens on the back nine were not sprigged until October. Congratulations,

Tim, on a fantastic job.

This year's tournament raised more than \$14,000 for the Lake City Endowment Fund. Thanks to your support, Lake City Community College progresses into the 21st century as it continues to fuel the industry with golf course superintendents, service technicians, and irrigation technicians. It remains one of the most comprehensive training programs in the industry. Because of government funding cutbacks it takes our support to help keep Lake City at the top.

It takes a lot of hard work to organize a tournament of this magnitude. Special thanks goes out the Tournament committee who once again did an excellent job. David Fry and Glenn Zakany, cochairmen, Scott Hamm, Dick Bessire, John Johnson, Odell Spainhour, and Mike Smith. Thanks also goes out to all the raffle prize contributors, WCI Communities for providing us with the facility and to Jim Hafner and his staff for their wonderful hospitality.

> MIKE HAMILTON Foxfire CC

#### L.C.C.C. Tournament Results

It was nice to see some new names on the leader board this year. Kudos to Lou Conzelmann for his handicap adjustments on some of the notorious sand baggers. Thanks a lot Lou!! Here is a list of those winners

A FLIGHT, B FLIGHT

1st Place, Mark Hoffer & Scott Laufren, Don Burnett & Woody Woodward

**2nd Place**, Doug Padgett & Bill Lund, Todd Himmelberger & Jason Brod

**3rd Place,** J. D. Varon & Mike Cantwell, Mark Metzger & Doug Kucera

**4th Place,** Glenn Zakany & Michael Smith, Jim Osburn Dwight Meeker

**5th Place,** Scott Zakany & Bob Bittner, Dave Cheesman & Bob Shevlin

EVERGLADES GCSA

#### Members On The Spot for NBC Sports

In late November the Everglades GCSA was contacted by NBC Sports and asked if we could help supply spotters and scorers for the televising of the 1999 Office Depot Father and Son Challenge Dec. 4–5 at Twin Eagles Golf &

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Everglades GCSA members served as spotter and scorers for NBC Sports at the PGA Tour's Father & Son Tournament held at Twin Eagles CC in Naples on December 4-5, 1999. Left to right: James Brinkmeyer, Jim Wahlin, Darren Davis and Trevor Brinkmeyer from Olde Florida GC; Steve Simpson, Wesco Turf; Bill Davidson, Collier's Reserve; Rick Tatum, Mike Anderson and David Pagel from Shadow Wood CC. Not pictured: Dale Walters, Royal Palm CC; Terry Wood, Royal Wood G&CC and Glenn Zakany, Golf Ventures, Inc.

Country Club in Naples. The call went out and a dozen EGCSA members stepped up to lend a hand in the production of this popular event.

Some of the well-known PGA Tour fathers who brought along their sons were Jack Nicklaus, Raymond Floyd, Tom Kite, Lee Trevino and Hale Irwin.

Coincidentally, the Twin Eagles design was also a father-and-son collaboration of Jack Nicklaus senior and junior. They must have had unfair advantage because they were the eventual winners.

Congratulations to superintendent Greg Maze and his assistant, Jason DeMartino, for having the golf course in superb condition for the tournament.

The EGCSA members who assisted in the two-day assignment as spotters and scorers were Darren Davis, Trevor Brinkmeyer, Jim Whalin and Jim Brinkmeyer from Olde Florida GC; Rick Tatum, David Pagel and Mike

Anderson from Shadow Wood CC; Dale Walters from Royal Palm CC; Terry Wood from Royal Wood G&CC; Bill Davidson of the Collier's Reserve; Glenn Zakany of Golf Ventures and Steve Simpson from Wesco Turf. Here are some of their comments about the experience:

Rick Tatum: I thought

I thought it was a great experience.

The intensity that goes along with one of these productions was incredible. I can't remember the last time I felt that type of pressure.

-Rick Tatum

it was a great experience. The intensity that goes along with one of these productions was incredible. I can't remember the last time I felt that type of pressure.

I would love to participate with helping NBC any time they need us. Listening to the background conversations and directions was quite entertaining. I certainly watch golf on TV from a different perspective now.

Glenn Zakany: The most fun of the NBC experience was listening to how they put the broadcast together through the headphones. It made the day even more enjoyable. I will definitely do it again next year.

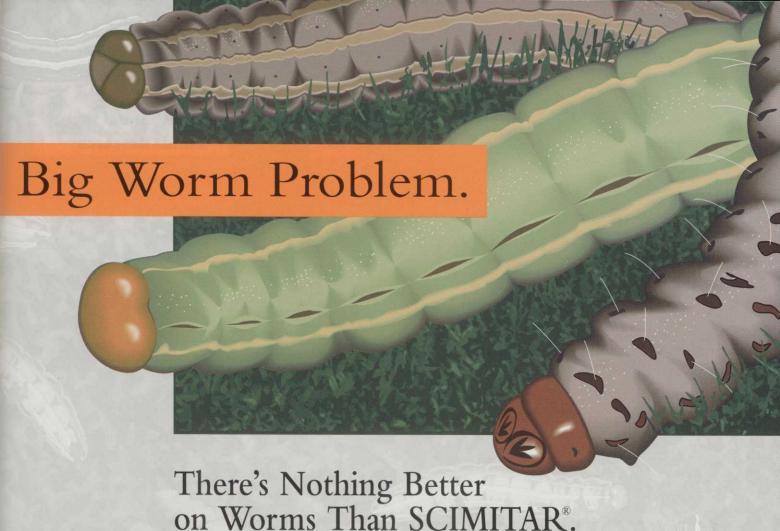
Dale Walters: I was at "scoring central." My job was to record scores and pass them along to the TV people plus check and verify any discrepancies between NBC and the volunteers.

I was surprised that we were really important for NBC to have a quality event.

I heard all the info being called in by the NBC and Office Depot volunteers. The combination of the two clarify any doubts in scores or stats. It was very interesting and I would do it again.

> Darren Davis Olde Florida GC

Editor's Note: Central Florida, North Florida, Palm Beach and South Florida chapter members will also be serving as TV spotters for tournaments this year.



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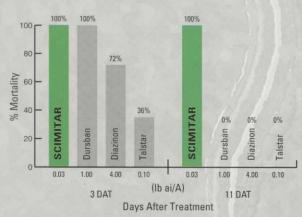
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From left: Don Benham, FTGA Director of Public Relations; Rich Skorepa, Bayer Corporation; Dr. Pat Cobb, Professor Emeritus Auburn University and John Kopack, President Central Florida GCSA were part of the program at the annual Central Florida/FTGA Turf Research Tournament held at the Interlachen CC in Winter Park. Photo by Joel Jackson.

CENTRAL FLORIDA GCSA

#### 12th Annual Event Funds Research

A total of 32 teams
participated in the
12th Annual Turf Research
Tournament at the
Interlachen Country Club
in Winter Park Jan. 10.

The two-man scramble pairs a superintendent with an official from his/her club.

This event is a combined effort of the Central Florida GCSA and the FTGA to raise money for turf research.

Dr. Patricia Cobb, professor emeritus from the Entomology Department of Auburn University, was the guest speaker for the education portion of the



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day's events. Dr. Cobb's appearance was sponsored by the Bayer Corporation. She spoke at several superintendent meetings around the state in January.

The purpose of Dr.
Cobb's presentation was to offer an alternative method of controlling mole crickets with Merit that would also control grub populations that may be on the increase since the widespread use of Chipco Choice.

Dr. Cobb was quick to point out that Choice does an excellent job on mole crickets, but grubs are not affected by the active ingredient in Choice.

Dr. Cobb encouraged all superintendents to return to basics with their insect control programs by utilizing scouting, mapping, flushing and life cycle observations to accurately time the application of chemicals for the most efficient application of products to control target pests.

She calls it, "Intelligent Plant Management."

By careful observation of the development of the female adult mole crickets in the spring, a superintendent can time an application of Merit that will not only control the new hatch of mole crickets, but it will also control grubs when they are near the surface.

A word of caution — it is better to be a little early than late or the grub cycle will be missed and the mole cricket nymphs are best controlled when they are

Armed with those words of wisdom, the audience

adjourned to a bountiful buffet lunch prepared by the Interlachen culinary staff.

After lunch the players battled traditionally tough pin placements on the immaculate greens groomed to perfection by host superintendent Stuart Leventhal.

The Interlachen C. C. donates the use of the golf course and carts for the event and the only costs are for the lunch, guest speaker and prizes.

This year we want to thank the Bayer Corporation for sponsoring Dr. Cobb's appearance. The remainder of the proceeds will be donated to the FTGA Research Foundation.

> Joe Ondo, CGCS Winter Pines GC

RIDGE GCSA

#### Paul Hickman Roasted at Lone Palm

In a rare display of touchy-feelie emotion, the Ridge Chapter embraced Paul Hickman during their November meeting at the Lone Palm CC in Lakeland.

Known for capturing the bragging rights in many of the state's golf tournaments, the members of the Ridge GCSA paid respectful homage to Paul Hickman, one of the chapter founders and the former superintendent of the Grenelefe Resort.

Hickman, now vice president of Landscape and Golf Services for OneSource, Inc, was presented an FGCSA President's Award at the chapter meeting following



Paul Hickman, CGCS (center) of OneSource Landscape & Golf was honored and roasted by his former proteges and peers at the Ridge GCSA meeting in November. Presenting Hickman with the 2000 FGCSA President's Award were Steve Ciardullo, president of the Ridge GCSA, and David Barnes, president of Greg Norman Turf, Inc. and former classmate of Paul's at the University of Florida. Photo by Joel Jackson

the golf outing. The audience was full of Hickman's proteges, many of whom are now practicing superintendents in the area. Professionals like Alan Puckett, Bobby Ellis, Buck Buckner, Steve Ciardullo, Mark Hopkins, Tom Cowan, Roy Wilshire, David Barnes, and Jack Harrell, Sr. came to praise and mildly roast Hickman.

Each had a tale of either working with or for Hickman, and the old war stories were a poignant and often humorous testimony to the affection each person had for their classmate, friend or mentor. To a man they claimed Hickman to be a tough task master, but that they learned good work habits under his tutelage. Hickman was visibly moved by the outpouring of sincere love and appreciation by his former interns and assistants.

Hickman was raised in

#### 1999 FGCSA President's Award Winners

- Paul Hickman
- Dave Holler
- Steve Pearson
- ✓ Al Ross
- ✓ Dale Walters

Jasper and graduated from the University of Florida in 1971 during the G. C. Horn years. He took a job at Palm Aire CC but soon found himself at the Bardmoor CC in Clearwater with classmate David Barnes. In 1975 Hickman was hired as the superintendent of Grenelefe West. He had just ten on the crew.

As golf grew in the region, Paul organized informal golf outings with area superintendents and they would sit around and

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SPRING 2000



talk shop after the round. Travel time to attend meetings of the closest chapters, Central Florida and West Coast was a burden for most of the superintendents so they just continued to meet informally to discuss problems and issues.

In 1990, when the FGCSA organized, the Ridge group decided to formalize their organization. The first set of bylaws were written on a cocktail napkin and the Ridge legend was born.

Hickman is considered the instigator and chief founder of the organization often making phone calls and mailing out meeting announcements to get the chapter rolling. The

founders decided quickly to make the primary purpose of the chapter to continue a relaxed friendly atmosphere and not get caught up in politics. It was to be service and substance above all else.

If there can be a measure of the success of the chapter's approach it can be found perhaps in the relatively low turnover rate for superintendents in the area. In his acceptance speech Hickman pointed to the spirit of community that has been fostered over the years. Indeed the Ridge Chapter is involved in several regional programs including annual donations of time and money to the Winter Haven Youth Soccer program, Bartow Youth Girls Villa, Ministry for

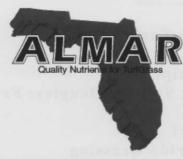
Boys, Ag Crime Unit, Disaster Relief Fund, Children's Hospital and last year the Ridge Chapter stepped in to help a young boy with spina bifida replace a stolen bicycle and helped his family get a special wheelchair.

This spirit of helping stems in part from Hickman's own set of values where he ranks Christian living, family life and being a superintendent as the order of the priorities in his life. He met his wife Terry on his crew at Grenelefe. He had to fire her so he could marry her. They have been married 20 vears and have two children, Will (16) and Anna (12).

Hickman sees the fierce

competition for business and jobs as creating a stayat- home mentality for many superintendents. He said, "With golfer and management expectations so high these days, it is easy for superintendents to fall into a rut and not take time to get away for meetings and even continuing education. They get so afraid something is going to happen if they're gone, so they stay on the job longer and longer and lose confidence in themselves and they lose balance in their lives."

Hickman says superintendents need to be encouraged to become involved in their communities and their associations. He worries that the young



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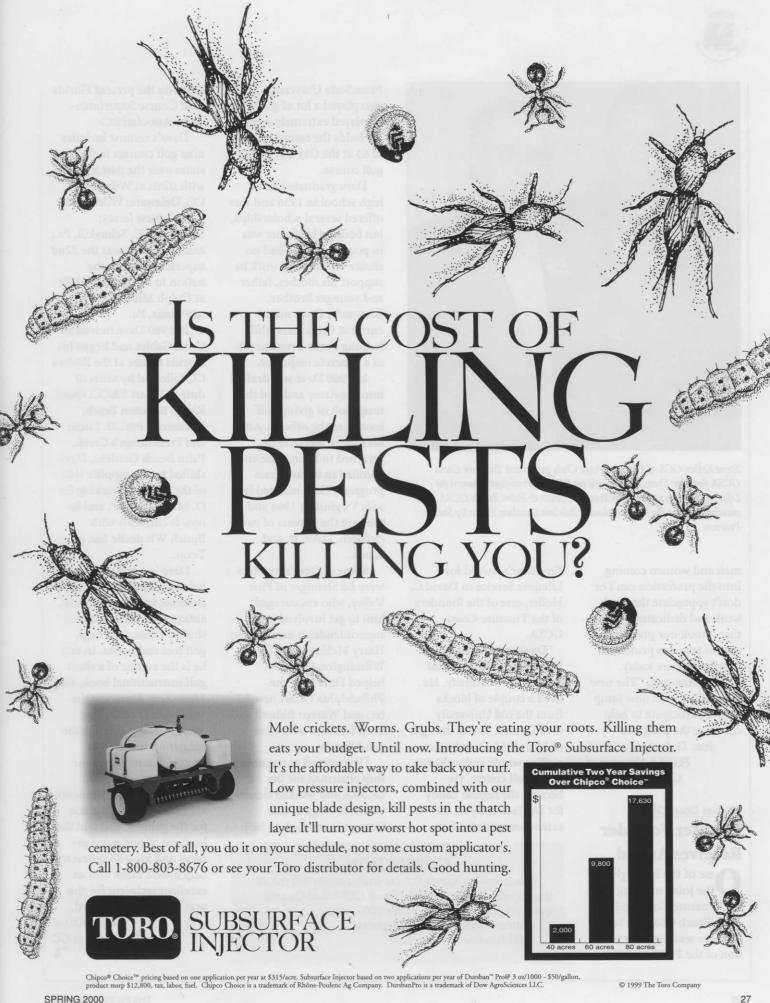




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Steve Keller, GCS of The Moorings Club, presented Treasure Coast GCSA founder Dave Holler with an FGCSA President's Award for Lifetime Service at the joint Treasure Coast & Palm Beach GCSA meeting held at the Jupiter Island Club last October. Photo by Steve Pearson.

men and women coming into the profession can't or don't appreciate the hard work and dedicated service that it took our predecessors to take our profession to where we are today.

Hickman says, "The new generation must now jump in and participate to help continue the progress."

> JOEL D. JACKSON, CGCS FGCSA Director of Communications

TREASURE COAST GCSA

#### **Chapter Founder Receives Award**

ne of the highlights of the joint meeting of the Treasure Coast and Palm Beach Chapters last October was the presentation of the FGCSA's 1999 President's Award for Lifetime Service to David C. Holler, one of the founders of the Treasure Coast GCSA.

Dave grew up in State College, Pa., the home of Penn State University. He lived a couple of blocks from the old University Golf Course, and at the age of 12 in 1950 Dave began pulling weeds and caddying at the golf course. He became the regular caddy for Dr. Jack Harper, the extension specialist for

Penn State University. Dave also played a lot of golf and he played extremely well. He holds the course record of 63 at the Old University golf course.

Dave graduated from high school in 1956 and was offered several scholarships, but because his father was in poor health, he had no choice but to go to work to support his mother, father and younger brother. Eventually Dave would enroll at Penn State while holding down a regular job as a concrete inspector.

In 1960 Dave was drafted into the Army and had the tough job of giving golf lessons to the officers. After his service was over he returned to Penn State and enrolled in the turfgrass program. Dave married his wife Virginia in 1964 and they are the parents of two children, Dave, Jr. and Karen.

Some of Dave's mentors were Ed Steiniger of Pine Valley, who encouraged him to get involved in the superintendents association; Harry McSloy of Wilmington CC, who helped Dave start the Philadelphia GCSA newsletter; and Warren Bidwell and Tom Mascaro who were good friends.

Dave served as membership chairman for the GCSAA and worked closely with Bill Wagner and George Cavanaugh to help organize the present Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Dave's resume includes nine golf courses in four states over the past 32 years with stints at Wilmington CC, Delaware; Wildwood G&CC, New Jersey; Schuykill CC, Schuykill, Pa.; and in 1971 he was the 32nd superintendent in the nation to be certified while at Gulph Mills GC in King of Prussia, Pa.

In 1980 Dave moved to Coral Gables and began his Florida tenure at the Riviera CC followed by tours of duty at Stuart Y&CC; Quail Ridge, Boynton Beach; Ballantrae, Port St. Lucie; and Frenchman's Creek, Palm Beach Gardens. Dave shifted to the supplier side of the business working for O. M. Scott's, Inc. and he now is currently with Bunch Wholesale Inc. of Texas.

Dave is a great source of information and he is also a collector of golf scorecards, antique golf balls, wooden shafted clubs, seed bags, golf tees and books. In fact he is the author of a short golf instructional book, *Golf Made Easy*. Dave was the 1981 winner of the Poa Annua Classic and was the runner up in the 1985 Martin County Amateur tournament.

Dave's accomplishments are extensive. His passion for the game of golf and the business of turf management and his willingness to help others make him an excellent recipient for this year's President's Award.

Steve Keller The Moorings GC

#### CORRECTION

The following sponsors were inadvertently left out of the Sponsor List for the West Coast GCSA/Bud Quandt event on page 17 of the Winter 2000 issue.

Platinum Sponsor - Golf Ventures. Gold Sponsor - Wesco Turf.



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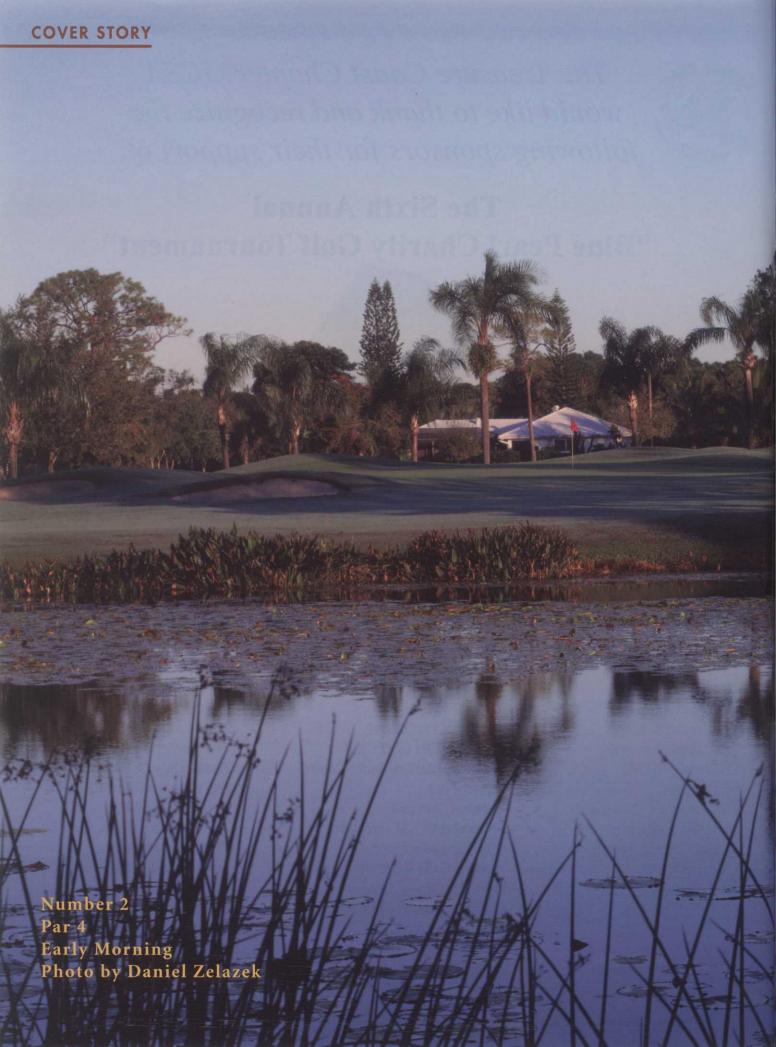
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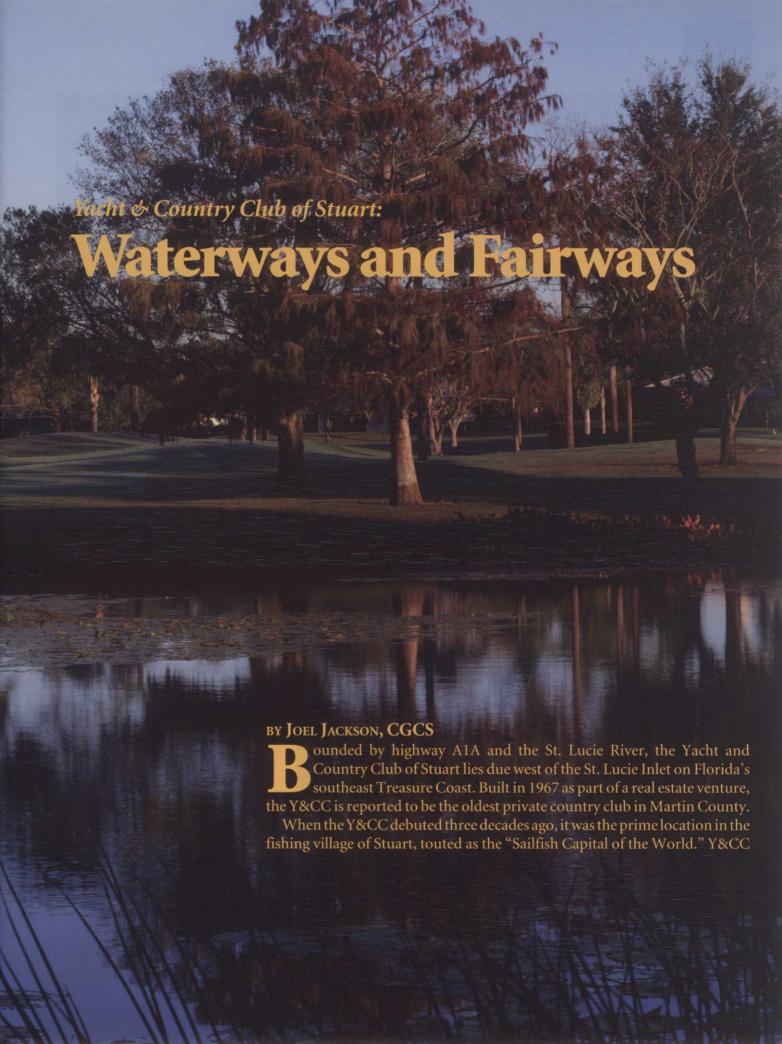
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One of many success stories at the Y&CC of Stuart is the use of aquatic plantings, like these on the 9th hole, to improve water quality and attract wildlife. Photo by Daniel Zelazek



Yacht & Country Club's clubhouse seen from the 10th tee. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

residents either lived on fairways or on waterways just a short drive or cruise from the Intracoastal Waterway and Atlantic Ocean. Thirty-three years later the club has matured and taken advantage of modern golf design and maintenance technology to keep its playing conditions up to par for its members and competitive with the booming golf market in the area.

The Y&CC has been modernizing the course in earnest since 1990 when it commissioned golf course architect Charles Ankrom to redesign the original Charles Marting layout which opened in the late sixties. One year later superintendent Craig Weyandt was hired in his first superintendent's position and every year since then he has supervised the club's long-range plan of upgrading the facilities.

"I don't want to call it a work in

#### **Craig Weyandt**

**Originally from:** Middleburg. Family: wife Teri; sons Travis (15) and Connor (5).

Education: 1983 - Middleburg H.S.; 1988 - Lake City Community College, A.S., golf course operations.

Employment history: 1991 to present, superintendent, Y&CC Stuart; 1989-91 assistant superintendent, Harbour Ridge Y&CC, Golden Marsh Course; 1989 assistant superintendent, Bocaire GC; 1988-89 assistant superintendent Westchester G&CC (through construction, grow-in and opening).

Professional affiliations: president Treasure Coast GCSA 1998-99; external vice president TCGCSA

1997-00; GCSAA; FGCSA; FTGA; USGA; Irrigation Assn.; Lawn Maintenance Assn.; Florida Native Plant Society.

Mentors: My father (a career Navy man) first got me cutting grass when I was in the fifth grade. I think that he was empowering me. He showed a lot of trust in me and my abilities which has given me the confidence to be able to do anything I put my mind to. Jim Rowland (now at Lake Wales CC) was the first superintendent that I ever worked for. Jim gave me my first taste of working on a golf course. Another superintendent that had a way of making me want to work hard for him was Willie Townsend at the Westchester

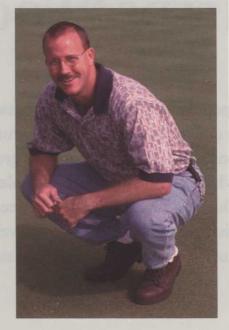
C.C. in Boynton Beach. This was my first job out of college and I have never worked harder in my life. I still tell people today that I would get to work at 5:30 a.m. and Willie would ask what I am doing coming in late. I think I have taken a little from each of the superintendents that I have worked for to give me the abilities that I have today. I thank them all, especially my father for giving me the confidence, discipline, and love that he showed me growing up.

**Goals:** My goal is to become the best golf course superintendent that I can be.

Advice: Never stop learning, progressing, and striving to be better in all facets of your life. Can you ever give too much, do too much? I don't think so. Work hard and play even harder!

Philosophy: Work is not a four letter word for me unless you call it love. Being a superintendent is not work...it's something I do, it's who I am. This may sound corny but I think other superintendents understand what I am saying. I don't get to work at 5:30 to 5:45 a.m. because I have to, it's because I want to. I like greeting people every day with a smile. I remember someone saying to me that confidence is contagious.

**Hobbies and interests** - Golf, of course! Jeeping, racquet ball, high-power rocketry, and spending time with the family.



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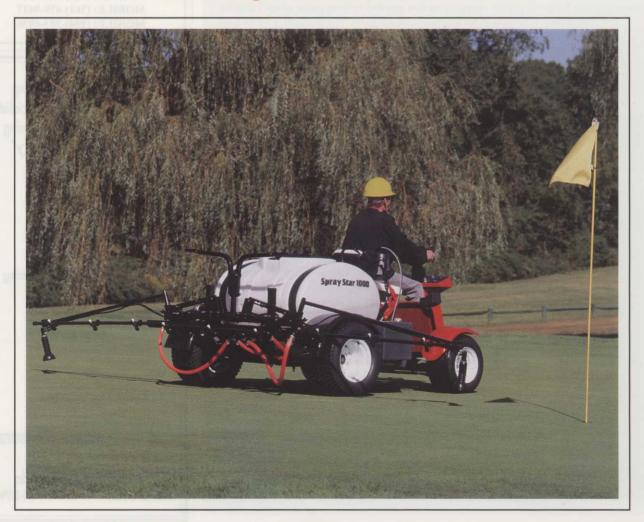
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#### Continual Modernization

In 1999 the Y&CC maintenance staff installed a new irrigation system, right. After the main line and primary lateral lines were installed, each green complex was repiped and reconnected to the system in one day.

In 1997 the 30-year-old ormond bermudagrass fairways on the back nine were converted to Tifway 419. The front nine was done in 1998. Photos by Craig Weyandt.





## **Craig's Super Tips**

- 1. Recycling: We started with aluminum cans and now we recycle everything including the resident's newspapers and cardboard. We also recycle plastic, batteries and old oil. In fact by switching from a 6-yard dumpster to a 2-yard cardboard and a 4-yard general container, we save almost \$100 per month in waste management fees.
- 2. Fire Ant Flags: A few years ago I found a marker flag company that made irrigation flags with a plastic shaft instead of wire. They aren't messy like the rusty wire flags and they don't wrap around mower reels. I worked with company and we came up with a fire ant logo for the flag part. Now the members use them to mark fire ant mounds. We treat the mound and then pull the flags a few days later when the mound is no longer active.
- **3. Hydrosprigging:** We did some hydrosprigging to grass one of our construction projects. We had a 1.5 inch rainfall the next day with zero sprig wash. I'd recommend people give this method a try.

Five years ago we installed a VFD pump station which increased our watering efficiency 225%. The savings in electricity alone will pay back the cost of the pump station in another couple of years.

progress because the club has a rich history and tradition of excellence," said Weyandt who began his tenure at the Y&CC in 1991, "but we have basically been doing some sort of major improvement project every year to improve either the playing conditions or the infrastructure.

"Probably the biggest project we undertook was the complete overhaul of the irrigation system. Like so many older systems, over the years the integrity and capacity of the system was compromised with too many add-on heads and zones. Our line pressure and coverage was inadequate and it was hard to explain to members why we had dry spots and frogeye patterns around the irrigation heads."

"Five years ago we installed a VFD pump station which increased our watering efficiency 225%. The savings in electricity alone will pay back the cost of the pump station in another couple of years. We now have a Rain Bird Cirrus control system and we are learning daily how to tweak the system to maximize our irrigation efficiency even more. The past two years, we completely repiped the entire golf course to complete the project. Except for the mainline installation on 12 holes, we did all the work inhouse."

In-house projects have been the theme at Y&CC. In addition to the irrigation system, Weyandt and his staff have built a second practice tee at the rear of the driving range and they have enlarged



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46 manicured bunkers influence tee shots and guard green's approaches on the 1990 Charles Ankrom redesign of the course. Hole #11 Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

existing tees and built additional tees on the course to offer more teeing ground options to accommodate the various skill levels of the members.

Weyandt and crew also spent two years (1997-98) regrassing the fairways, taking one nine at a time. The object was to replace the old original ormond bermudagrass fairways with Tifway 419. After the existing grass was sprayed out and stripped off, a large BOMAG renovator/tiller was used to churn up the soil profile prior to sprigging.

One of Weyandt's favorite success stories is the improvement to the course's five ponds. "The ponds are only 4–5 feet deep. I can remember when we used to line up the crew shoulder to shoulder once a year and wade across the pond harvesting the algae to clean up the ponds. Since then we have planted aquatic plants

and stocked the ponds with fish. The filtering effect of the plants along with oxygen production are working so well I can't remember the last time we had an algae bloom.

"We also have a wide variety of waterfowl that live and forage in the ponds. We have created a positive, self-sustaining system and that makes me proud."

In keeping with naturalizing the water hazards, Weyandt also has designs on the out-of-play and deep rough areas on the course.

"One of the best features on the course is our trees. We have some beautiful old oaks and a variety of other species that have matured with the course over the years.

"One thing we all have learned is that trees and turf don't go together. The shade and root competition tend to thin out the turf and make less than desirable playing conditions.

"We are addressing that problem in two ways.

"First, wherever possible we are creating native or natural areas especially in the out-of-play and dense shady areas in the roughs. We lay down pine straw to reduce weed growth and provide a good clean look. By creating these areas we lower maintenance costs by reducing the amount of fertilizer and pesticides needed to groom the weaker turf in those marginal areas.

"Around tees and greens where shade can be a real problem we try to keep the trees trimmed to minimize the impact on the greens."

To accomplish all this project work and also maintain excellent playing conditions on the course, Weyandt must





## The Yacht & Country Club of Stuart

**Location:** Stuart (Sailfish capital of the world)

Ownership: Membership; private country club, 18 holes, course built in 1967,

members took over ownership from developer in 1969.

**Yardage:** 6,466 yards. Par 71. Course Rating/Slope Rating 71.2/125. **Designed by** Charles P. Marting. Redesigned in 1990 by Charles Ankrom Rebuilding done by Central Florida Turf.

Management team: General Manager Michael L. Kaplan, C.C.M.; Club President James A. Hogan; Golf Professional Mike McNeal; Greens Chairman Walter Palmer.

Total acreage under maintenance: 120 Acres

Greens: Average size: 4,500; total 3 acres; turf - It's called tifdwarf but...

**Height of cut:** .150 to .170 winter and .160 to .180 summer; overseed: normally 8 lbs./1000 with Seaside bent and Poa trivialis (10% bent-90% Poa); green speed goal: 7.5 to 8.5 in the season.

Tees: 2-1/2 acres of 419 bermuda; HOC .500; overseeded with perennial rye @ 10 lbs/1000.

Fairways: 28 acres of 419 bermuda; HOC .500 summer and .750 winter; "Not overseeded, yet! We seeded one fairway this year to experiment and evaluate."

**Bunkers:** 46 bunkers with No. 200 sand. Mechanically raked with John Deere rake with standard tines/flaps

Water/Ponds: 5 ponds covering about 5 acres; a canal runs through the middle of the property. In 1992 the ponds were aquascaped and stocked with glass shrimp, channel catfish, gambusia (sp.) and large mouth bass. The ponds were devoid of plant material before this. The idea was to create a self-sustaining ecosystem in the lakes. We used to have algae blooms, but its been so long ago that it's hard to remember. The plants have taken off. The water has cleared up. Wading birds now flock to the ponds. It's great.

Major Renovations/Ongoing Projects: 1993-Installed VFD controller at pump station (Flowtronex/PSI) 225% increase in efficiency; 1994 Added a set of tees to the golf course (had three, now have four) and built several new tees to compensate for yardage differences; 1995 Installed new field satellites for irrigation system; 1997 & 1998 regrassed fairways (In-house. Nine holes each year) removing old Ormond bermudagrass and replanting with Tifway 419; 1997 built additional practice tee at the rear of the driving range; 1998-99 Installed new irrigation system (95% in house —12 holes of main lines installed by contractor, the rest done in-house)

Irrigation: Flowtronex/PSI pumping station, drawing from three deep wells.

Controller is Rain Bird Cirrus central (wireless) with Par-Link boxes in the field. Heads are Rainbird 900 and 950's; fertigation system used for liquid fertilizer in winter and wetting agents all year.

Staff: 18 total including superintendent; 15 for golf course and 3 for landscape. Average weekly hours 40 straight, 3 hours overtime; assistant supt., Jack Hester; head mechanic, Ken Kolinski; plant protectant specialist, Andy Gulbrandsen; irrigation specialist Dan McKeag; landscape supervisor, Roberto Gomez.

I want my employees to truly enjoy working here. Life is too short and there are too many opportunities out there for anyone to be trapped in a job they don't like. Every couple of months I will ask my staff how things are going and if they're happy.

rely on his staff of 18 to perform at a high level of efficiency.

Three of his staff are dedicated primarily to landscape duties which include the maintenance of the clubhouse grounds, the front and back entrance gates, two to three miles of roadways, the tennis club grounds and croquet court. Weyandt says training is the key to getting productivity.

"Either my assistant Jack Hester or myself do the actual training. That way I know that new crew members have been shown how and what I want done. Crew members can learn from older employees, but everyone develops his own style and I want them to see and hear how I want it done. I use a simple three-step approach to training:

"First I tell them what needs to be done and why.

"Second I show or demonstrate the task.

"Third I watch them do it successfully to my satisfaction.

"I like and use the many equipment training videos that are now available. They're especially good at giving safety information."

In addition to task training, Weyandt takes a personal interest in his staff.

"I want my employees to truly enjoy working here. Life is too short and there

# Healthy Appearance IMPROVED PLAYING CONDITIONS FOR LESS THAN \$5 AN ACRE

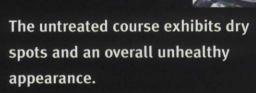


The treated course has an overall healthy appearance and offers improved playing conditions.



West Course (10th and 15th hole shown in left photo) was treated with 1 quart of InfilTRx per acre on a monthly basis beginning February 1998, the East Course (4th and 5th hole shown in right photo) was left untreated.

Near infrared and aerial photography at Imperial Golf Club in Naples, Florida, captures the benefits of using InfilTRx Soil Penetrant on fairways.



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The office is one big
"great room" with three
desks around the walls...
Privacy is not as
important to Weyandt
as timely, on-going
communications with
his staff.

are too many opportunities out there for anyone to be trapped in a job they don't like. Every couple of months I will ask my staff how things are going and if they're happy.

"I tell them 'You work for me and I work for you.' Give me 100 percent while you're here and if you want or need to move on, I will take time after work to go over want ads and make calls and help

any way I can to get you into a job you like."

Helping to set this tone of cooperation and proactive leadership is Weyandt's right-hand man, assistant superintendent Jack Hester. Hester was formerly a superintendent at a nearby club and in the process of making a job change when Weyandt's assistant at the time left to take a job elsewhere.

Weyandt was scheduled for back surgery at the time and he asked Hester if he would be willing to come in and help run the program while he recuperated. After Weyandt came back he told Hester he was welcome to stay on as long as he wanted to. Five years later it looks like the two have formed a great partnership for the benefit of all concerned.

Weyandt's staff is a snapshot of ethnic and life experience diversity. The staff is a blend of native American, Hispanic, Caribbean and Anglo cultures ranging in age from the early 20s to the 60s with tenures at the Y&CC from a couple of months to 25 years. Among the mix are a professional musician and phys-

ics major who is a certified boat captain and dive master.

A telltale clue to Weyandt's management style is the layout of the superintendent's office. There are no barriers if you want to get to the boss. The office is one big "great room" with three desks around the walls. The only deference to rank is that Weyandt's desk is closest to the executive washroom. There are extra chairs and the key staff members all meet each morning to review the day's assignments over coffee. Privacy is not as important to Weyandt as timely, on-going communications with his staff.

Weyandt credits his father and superintendent mentors Jim Rowland, John Freeburn and Willie Townsend for helping to shape his career and outlook in the business. Weyandt said, "I'd like to think I have been able to take the best from those gentlemen and use what I learned from them to make me a better person and superintendent."

Weyandt grew up on The Ravines golf course in Middleburg, just outside

## **Treasure Coast GCSA**

History: In 1974 the courses in the present Treasure Coast area belonged to what was then called the Tri-county Chapter, which included Palm Beach and Broward counties. In July 1980, with the formation of the unified Florida GCSA, the Treasure Coast Chapter was founded to better serve superintendents in the rapidly growing southeast Florida area. Bill Wagner and Tim Hiers, the first two presidents of the Florida GCSA came from the Treasure Coast Chapter.

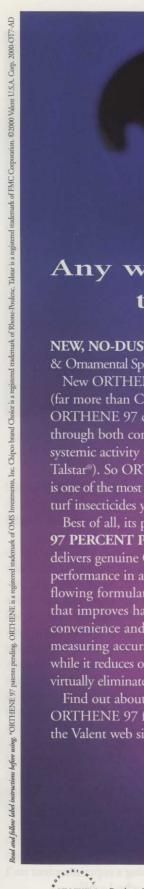
Founding members of the Treasure Coast GCSA: Craig Baker, Indian River Plantation, Stuart; Tom Burrows, Turtle Creek Club, Tequesta; Jim Callaghan, Riomar CC, Vero Beach; Leo Cushing, Mariner Sands, Stuart; David Holler, Stuart Y&CC; Robert Hurst, Jupiter Island Club, Hobe Sound; Charles Jarrell, Vista Royale, Vero Beach; William Mangold, Crane Creek, Palm City; Bill Moolenar, Dodgertown, Vero Beach; Sid Salomon, Indian Pines, Ft. Pierce; Joe Snook, Riverbend, Tequesta; Lonnie Stubbs, Sandpiper Bay, Port St. Lucie; and Adam Yurigan, John's Island Club, Vero Beach.

Activities: The Treasure Coast Chapter holds approximately nine chapter meetings a year with continuing education being the top priority. Regular meetings are usually suspended for months containing the Blue Pearl and GCSAA and FTGA annual conferences and trade

shows. Once a year the TCGCSA holds its annual fund raiser, The Blue Pearl. Named for the appearance of planet earth when seen from space, the event raises awareness and funds which are invested in the community in support of the Audubon Sanctuary Program for Schools and the turf management program at South Fork High School. By reaching out today to children about the positive effects of well managed golf courses, the TCGCSA hopes to help shape and insure the future of golf for tomorrow.

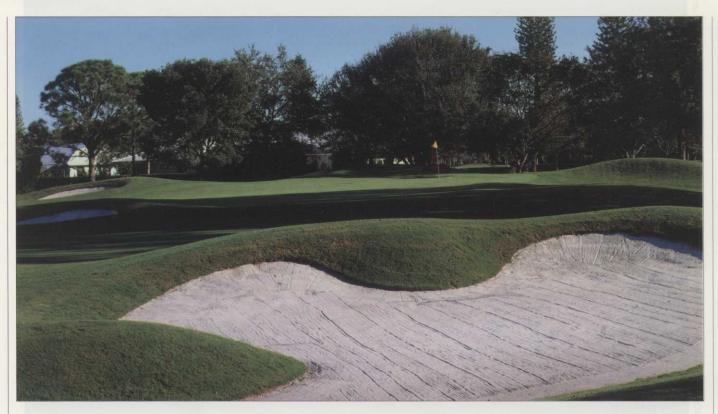
Honors and Awards: Treasure Coast members have long been active contributors to the growth and success of their chapter, the FGCSA and service on a national level. FGCSA past presidents and FGCSA Distinguished Service Award winners include Tom Burrows, Kevin Downing, Tim Hiers, Bill Wagner, Scott Bell and Mike Perham. FGCSA Presidents Award winners are Jim Callaghan, John Hayden, Joe Snook, Lonnie Stubbs, Paul Turcotte, Adam Yurigan and David Holler.

Officers for 2000: Greg Pheneger, John's Island Club, president; Bobby Ellis Champions Gate, vice president; Craig Weyandt, Y&CC of Stuart, external vice president and past president; Steve Keller, The Moorings, secretary/treasurer. There are currently 140 members in the Treasure Coast GCSA.









Shadows across the green on the 15th hole are reminders of the need to thin and prune trees that block sunlight on the putting surfaces. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

of Jacksonville. He said,"I started there when I was 14. I kept working there while I went to school and didn't go to college till I was 19 or 20. I was there when the club was ranked 6th in the state. Most importantly, it taught me what it took to reach that level."

Weyandt is also currently serving as the Treasure Coast GCSA's immediate past president and as the chapter's external vice president who serves on the Florida Golf Course Superintendent Association's board of directors.

Weyandt has been one of the association's most prolific communicators using Juno.com's no-cost Internet access to send e-mail announcements to his chapter's membership and FGCSA officers and staff.

Weyandt has also penned several articles for *The Florida Green*. His most recent effort recounted the impact Hurricane Irene had on the Y&CC.

During our interview ride, Weyandt pointed out the hurricane's lingering effect of the gaps and voids left by trees that had to be removed. He also showed me some of the downed trees that had been pruned back and replanted in hopes they will survive. Over 80 trees on the course were affected.

Probably the biggest impact the storm had was in totally wiping out the routine work schedule as efforts had to be refocused on damage repairs and cleanup. Weyandt feels that the course maintenance schedule was put back at least a month going into fall overseeding.

"In South Florida you can take a picture of your golf course in the fall and compare it to what the course looks like in the spring. Usually it's about the same, so we didn't need all the rain and lost time to set us back."

But Weyandt really isn't complaining. Once an aspiring computer or electronics engineer, he says he has found his calling and he truly enjoys what he is doing.

He said, "I work for one of the friendliest memberships around. I guarantee you I'm the happiest person who comes to this facility every day. I once was told confidence is contagious and I try to have a smile for everyone and impart that confidence to everyone here."

Weyandt also takes his message to area high schools where he annually makes a short but reality-checking presentation to today's teens as they brace for tomorrow's workplace. "I try to tell them what working will be like compared to what it could be like. I encourage them to set far-reaching goals and dedicate themselves to reaching those goals rather than settling for short-term gains which can sidetrack them and keep them from building a solid foundation with endless possibilities."

I have had the pleasure to meet and spend time with some of the best and brightest superintendents in Florida while writing these cover stories. Craig Weyandt stands out for his positive attitude and enthusiastic approach to the profession. I think Craig sums it up best by saying, "Being a superintendent isn't what I do. It's who I am!"





## The Mole Cricket

Seemingly the Florida State Insect, this critter munches and tunnels and makes life miserable for the superintendent.



This guy tells you how bad he's playing - before he shoots his best score ever and takes all your money.



is wherever the beverage cart

happens to be.

## The Non-Raker

Hits in traps on most every hole and has yet to use a rake - but complains when his ball lands in someone else's footprint!



## The Course Marshall

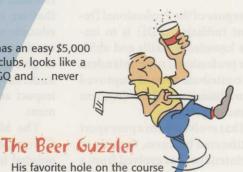
Qualifications for his job include rudeness, annoyance, crotchetiness and the ability to continually say, "Pick up your pace!"

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## **Committee Seeks Input on GCSAA Professional Development Initiative**

BY JOEL JACKSON, CGCS

CSAA's Performance Develop ment Initiative (PDI) is perhaps the hottest topic to come along since the certification program was instituted. PDI does have the potential to affect the way superintendents enter and continue in the industry. I think it can be a very good move for the profession if done fairly, affordably and inclusively, but that's just one person's opinion.

GCSAA is looking for your opinion. While there is tremendous potential for upgrading and enhancing the superintendent's profession and standing in the industry, there are many nitpicking details that need to be ironed out. GCSAA is asking, pleading, begging members for input and for chapters to request and schedule a member of the Member Services Resources Group or GCSAA staff to come to your local chapter and present the basic program as it has been developed so far.

My Central Florida Chapter was

scheduled to have MSRG member Robert Randquist, CGCS from the Boca Rio Club speak at our February meeting. Chapter visits will be available until May and then the MSRG must hunker down with all the input and feedback and come up with recommendations that can be put up for a vote at the GCSAA Conference and Show in Dallas in February. The following PDI information was taken directly from the GCSAA Website. I sincerely hope you will read it and if you have questions or concerns please contact GCSAA at 1-800-472-7878.

#### Purpose

The purpose of the Professional Development Initiative (PDI) is to improve the knowledge, skills and abilities of the professional superintendent that will contribute toward improved playing conditions and the enjoyment of the game of golf.

As golf has evolved from a pure sport to a multifaceted business, the role of the superintendent has evolved from a traditional greenkeeper to a high-level manager. Recognizing this, GCSAA will be developing a state-of-the-art curriculum that will provide superintendents the tools needed to meet the challenges they face in managing agronomic, staff and budget facets of the golf course operation. Furthermore, GCSAA will be positioned to recognize the accomplishments of the professional superintendent with a competency-based classification system.

In order for golfers and employers to truly value superintendents, we need to enhance the knowledge sets through an integrated, competency-based curriculum. Furthermore, it is important that we measure the impact of this education and its effects on the playing conditions of the golf course. We need to give employers language they can understand, a bottom-line financial impact and a return on their investment.

The Member Standards Resource Group (MSRG), a member group appointed in 1997 to focus on PDI, has

Requirements	Current C	Current B	Future B	Current A	Future A	Current Certified	Future Certified
Dues	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Job Responsibilities	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Competency Assessment	No	No	No	No	Validation of competencies	Old 6-hour exam plus course attesting	Validation of competencies at higher proficiency levels than A plus course attesting
Experience	No	No	No	3 years as a superintendent	3 years as a superintendent	Sliding scale: 3-5 years depending on degree	3 years as Class A
Valid Pesticide License	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Continuing Education for Entry Eligibility	No	No	No	No	No	Yes: sliding scale	Will be required to finish at least one 3-year renewal cycle as class A
On-going Professional Development	No	No	No	No	Amount TBD and includes mandatory chapter and/or civic participation and other continuing education. Based on renewal cycle of three years. Must complete self-assessment every three years.	Yes	Amount TBD but more than Class A. Also includes chapter and civic participation and continuing education. Based on three-year renewal cycle. Must complete self-assessment every three years.
Formal Education	No	No	No	No	2-year turf or 4-year other	No; Experience and CEUs reqruired in the absence of formal education.	2-year turf or 4-year other.

All renewals based on 3-year cycle and self-assessments must be completed every 3 years.

\*\*The required competency review self-assessment provides a reasonable assurance that a minimal standard of qualifications has been achieved. This is either by passing a simple written exam, which validates the competency, or by demonstrating performance on the job. Most important of all, the competency review provides career and educational guidance

helped create this presentation. It contains their recommendations on how membership in GCSAA should be based on a set level of competencies, combined with formal education and experience as a golf course superintendent.

From October 1999 to May of 2000, members of the MSRG will visit GCSAA chapters to discuss the proposed classification and continuing education program. This time will be important because the MSRG will not be selling the project, but will be listening to the membership and collecting questions and concerns so that the PDI can be adjusted to what the membership needs.

#### Communications Plan

Notes: We are truly looking to the membership for their input into the PDI. As a result, we have designed an extensive program that will provide clear and consistent communication to the general membership and obtain their comments, concerns and questions regarding the PDI.

Beginning in October, members of

#### **MSRG** Members

Bruce R. Williams, CGCS - Chairman

David W. Fearis, CGCS - Vice Chairman

R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS - Vice Chairman

Stephen G. Cadenelli, CGCS -Member

Raymond G. Davies, CGCS -

Member

Mark E. Esoda, CGCS - Member Michael J. Hurdzan, Ph.D - Member Timothy Kelly - Member

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(Colony West CC, Tamarac Fla)
Sanford G. Queen, CGCS - Member

Robert M. Randquist, CGCS - Member Robert M. Randquist, CGCS -

Member (Boca Rio CC, Boca Raton, Fla)

George Renault III, CGCS - Member Paul E. Rieke, Ph.D - Member Trevor J. Smith - Member

Roger A. Stewart Jr., CGCS - Member

the Member Standards Resource Group started to visit various chapters. During our visit, we will provide a standard presentation on our proposal and then we will begin to collect input from the general membership regarding their questions or concerns on particular pieces of the plan. As of March 20, more than 50 meetings had already been set. A list of presentations that

have been scheduled is available on this site, and will be continually updated here and in *Newsline*. It is critical for this initiative to succeed that we discuss it with all members.

We will continue to make this presentation through May of 2000. During this process, the comments and concerns we collect will be systematically cataloged into a document and

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consistently given to us so we can see what the membership is thinking about this process. Next summer, the MSRG will meet to make our final recommendations.

In addition to these chapter presentations, we recognize that not all members can attend the presentations, so we will be providing several other means of communications about the PDI. For example, a Town Hall Meeting was held at Conference and Show Feb. 19 immediately after the Annual Meeting.

Obviously, we will utilize our existing publications, GCM and Newsline, to provide continual detailed updates to members. And this web site has additional features, like a list of Frequently Asked Questions. A printed publication will be released on a quarterly basis and will just address issues related to the PDI.

Finally in all publications and on the web, members will be encouraged to complete a comment card to tell us what they really think about the project. Maybe some of those concerns about accessibility and how it impacts you directly are general in nature and if we can start discussing those issues, we can show members what a valuable resource we have in the PDI.

The communication is extensive, but it is not a sales job. We will change the program according to what members want. There will be varying opinions and it will be our job on the MSRG to sort through all of the comments to come up with an answer that is acceptable to as many people as possible.

## Comparison of Current and Proposed Future Requirements

We have prepared a Table of Current and Proposed Requirements. Let's focus on the requirements for Class A. As you will note, there is no change in Class C for the assistant superintendents. At this point, we do not anticipate any major changes with the exception of allowing Cs to utilize the HR Web for their career guidance.

We also see no major changes in the Class B requirements. Frankly, this is

where we see the inclusive nature of our organization being utilized. If a person is a superintendent and wants to pay their dues, they can be a Class B member. However, if they aspire to continue their professional development whether as a superintendent or seeking more responsibility, then there will be appropriate recognition for them through the branded Class A or certification program..

In order to be a Class A member, a potential member must hold the job

In order to advance the image of the golf course superintendent, it is imperative for us to convey professionalism to our employers and to golfers who may become our future employers.

Our profession is one that demands a commitment to lifelong learning, beginning with the fundamentals we get from a college education.

responsibility of a superintendent. In this profession, we have seen lots of different names and unfortunately we have been constrained by that label. With the competency assessment, we have a good handle on what superintendents' jobs are and if a person meets that definition, they can apply for Class A status. Class A members will be required to self-assess against the competency statements and then have this

self-assessment validated. The validation process has not been totally developed.

However, there are a number of ways to accomplish this mission. For example, if you have a good relationship with your employer, enlisting their help in validating your proficiencies could be an option. But maybe it would be better handled by one of your colleagues. Our consultant, Franklin Covey, will develop various options for validating the proficiency levels for us.

The proficiency levels are currently being set by the MSRG and by members who have been involved in various focus groups.

These levels and the HR Web will be available for members next summer — two years prior to any required use. This will allow members time to experiment with the examination and with the self-assessment and get comfortable with these tools.

In addition to the self-assessment, we recommend that Class As have a minimum of three years experience in holding the responsibility of a superintendent, same as it is currently. We all know that it is great to have the formal education, but experience teaches us to apply that education practically on the course.

#### Formal education

And finally, let's move into formal education. We recommend that our branded Class A members possess either a two-year turf degree or a four-year college degree. We recommend this for the following reasons:

Society and thus employers recognize formal education as a requirement for a professional. In order to advance the image of the golf course superintendent, it is imperative for us to convey that professionalism to our employers and to golfers who may become our future employers.

Our profession is one that demands a commitment to lifelong learning, beginning with the fundamentals we get from a college education. Before you react, please understand that these education requirements will apply only to *new* members after the date of implementation. Current members, such as ourselves, will not be required to meet the education requirement. This will be explained in more detail when we talk about grandfathering.

First, let's talk about the on-going requirements for membership. We all agreed early on that Class A members need to have some type of ongoing requirements.

We need to encourage members to maintain currency and relevancy within the profession. We believe in the adage that as a profession, we are only as strong as our weakest link. Therefore, we are proposing the following ongoing requirements for all Class A members.

First administratively, we set a renewal cycle of every three years. We selected three years for two main reasons:

1 - Each year new products and tech-

nologies are released into our industry and it is imperative that we keep current on those items.

2 - We also believe that by keeping the period fairly short, we would help members organize their own professional development. In other words, all of us know people who wait to recertify until the last three months of the five-year period. It becomes very difficult to complete.

By keeping the period shorter, we keep the message in the forefront of our members' thoughts. This must be something we make a priority in our professional lives.

We talked about the self-assessment requirement during the discussion of entry-level requirements.

We believe that in order to guide a member's professional development, they should have to take a self-assessment once during every renewal cycle. One thing we haven't discussed is that the HR Web will continually be updated and revised to meet the evolving requirements of our jobs.

As the profession changes, we need our members to continually reassess themselves and their proficiency levels. This will help them guide their own professional development as well. In order to support that professional development, we will require some level of continuing education. Education is not going to look the same as it does today.

We are not going to be fighting to get our requirements complete because we can't get the seminar we want in our region or at C&S.

In addition, as vital as continuing education is, we recognize that there are other factors that we need to foster and one of those is some type of recognition for participation in civic, chapter and national committee work. So this type of professional development will also play a part in the on-going requirements.



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## Frequently Asked Questions About the PDI

#### · How much will the PDI cost the Association?

As indicated in the earlier response to the cost, projects of this magnitude are expensive. However, the real question is not the actual cost, but the value we believe members will receive from it when it is successful. Because it supports the foundation upon which this association was formed, education, we believe the return on our investment will be high and will result in increased job stability and higher salaries for our members.

Please note that the cost of the project never exceeds 3.2% of GCSAA's annual budget. In addition, most of the funds (90%) have been spent on improving the education program. We believe that as an organization whose main purpose is education and information dissemination, the cost to improve this service to members is wholly appropriate. The redesign of our education will provide members a state-of-the-art curriculum that will be accessible both in terms of cost and venue, benefits that will be apparent to members within the next two to four years.

Neither of the consultants, SRI nor Franklin Covey, has addressed changes in the classification issue. Their work was focused on the education portion of the PDI. Even the HR Web is primarily intended to support professional development and member education. Funds spent on the membership classification recommendations supported GCSAA's efforts to obtain as much member input into this process as possible. A separate FAQ will address the communication effort made by members of the MSRG on this project.

#### Can you earn recognized education points by just reading GCM?

Currently, we are investigating several new methods of education to increase the accessibility of education to all members. These are still in the design phase and include the possibility of implementing an educational program called Action Learning. The action learning program provides participants the opportunity to learn by conducting a research project on a golf course. It requires the learner to first read various pieces of research (some of which may be in GCM) and then practically apply this research on the course. To have the project count toward your continuing education requirement, the results would need to be validated. The Education Committee will be considering this model as part of the newly restructured education program to be shown in 2001 to members.

#### · How will the PDI impact me?

Through the PDI, you will be provided opportunities to enhance your skills as a golf course superintendent and if you are interested, ways to develop into other careers in related fields. Current membership classification issues are still being identified. However, we are confident that we will be able to satisfy current members through a "grandfathering" process. More information on the classification system and transition plan will be available at the Delegates meeting.

#### · What benefits will the PDI provide me?

The initial goal of the PDI was to increase the recognition and salary for golf course superintendents, along with improving job stability and job opportunities. By participating in a proactive professional development plan, you will improve the knowledge, skills and abilities you need to be more successful as a golf course superintendent or to develop skills in other fields related to golf course management.

Furthermore, you will be able to document your competence through a unique tool currently called the HR Web.

#### Isn't it true that GCSAA just wants to make more money by requiring us to take more education?

That is definitely not the case. It is true that enhancing your professional skills will require you to participate in more continuing education, but those opportunities will be provided in various alternatives, many of which will be offered at minimal cost. Currently, GCSAA offers many educational opportunities through venues such as Golf Course Management magazine and through the Web and Information Services. The HR Web is a tool to help you manage your individual development plan and will provide the recognition of these sources of education, which previously could not be documented. Your specific plan can include any of the GCSAA educational opportunities including self-directed ones such as those available through Golf Course Management magazine and the Web and even opportunities available through your local chapter and turf organization.

#### · Will I lose my gold card?

Our current thoughts are that the benefits that are currently available to Class A members would continue to be available to Class A as well as those in a "general" membership category (as long as they are superintendent members).

#### · Will I have to keep taking CEUs after I get to be a Class A?

Yes. You will have ongoing educational requirements. However, it should be reiterated that many of those opportunities may be things you currently do, such as read GCM, participate in your local turf association conference, attend a GCSAA seminar, etc.

#### · Why are "they" requiring a degree?

At this point no final decisions have been made regarding any of the proposed membership requirements. That will be completed after MSRG members present the PDI to the chapters and receive comments on the proposed model. The model proposed by the MSRG requires a two-year degree in turf or a four-year college degree. This is required to ensure that superintendents in the future have the necessary knowledge base to perform as a multi-faceted manager.

However, we are confident that all current Class A and B members will be "grandfathered" into the new system and will be required only to maintain ongoing requirements. The degree requirement would impact any new Class A and B members after the date of implementation, which at this point

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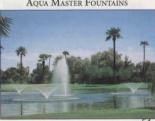
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is proposed to be July 1, 2002.

(Editor's note: Unconfirmed reports suggest that nearly 80 percent of current Class A and B superintendents already have two-year or four-year degrees.)

#### · Will the PDI cost us more?

The MSRG is still finalizing the details of the classification system. As a result, we do not know what the costs will be. However, we are committed to ensuring that the products produced will be accessible and cost effective and that those who work on golf courses with limited resources may attain Class A membership.

 Explain what is meant by the statement that the MSRG wants an inclusive membership. How can you be inclusive when you set standards that are designed to be exclusive?

All golf course superintendents who want to be members of GCSAA will be able to be members if they pay dues. However, as has been stated, it is important to recognize that the Class A and Certified members will be those who are marketed to employers. This "leg up" will provide the golf course superintendent with the added advantage of being "branded" within the industry.

· Who will be grandfathered into the new system?

The MSRG is still discussing the entire status of who will be grandfathered. The bylaws vote is not scheduled until 2001, and we are confident that all current Class A members and Certified members will be grandfathered through the entry standards. However, it is unclear if they will be required to have the same ongoing requirements as new Class A and Certified members do. Feedback on this issue will be obtained through the extensive chapter communication plan conducted by the MSRG.

• Some of today's leading golf course superintendents don't have college degrees. I know that they, personally, will be "grandfathered" in as Class A. But what about the future of our profession. Are we effectively shutting out some of our potential leaders in the future? What if some of the potentially best people don't get a college degree? If they can't get Class A status, they might not even be able to get a good job.

First, we should understand that the career planning and continuing education opportunity components of the Professional Development Initiative can have fairly rapid and personally fulfilling impacts for those who take advantage of them. The membership classification and employer education components, however, will take years to make meaningful changes in the marketplace.

It might help to think in terms of generations. In our parents' generation, a high school diploma was plenty of formal education for just about any job. In our generation (Baby Boomers, I mean), college education became much more widely available and much more common. In our generation, a college education is considered a basic requirement for many, but by no means all, jobs.

For our children, though, college education will become a minimum standard for practically anything better than an entry-level job - the way a high school diploma used to be. If we don't move with the rest of the nation's workforce, the superintendent will never be recognized as a professional.

### Is there a sliding scale for future certified superintendents for formal education?

The Certification Committee will be reviewing recommendations from the MSRG relative to the certification program within the next year. Currently, there is no recommendation for a sliding scale. This complements what is being recommended for the Class A member.

However, the MSRG recommends that a person be a Class A superintendent member for three years before becoming certified. In order to become a Class A member, you must hold the job responsibilities of a superintendent for three years. Therefore, in order to be certified you must be a superintendent for six years - regardless of formal education.

 Who was on the focus groups to develop the competencies that will provide the baseline for the Class A and Certification requirement?

Last year, more than 100 superintendents participated in various interviews, surveys and focus groups to develop draft competencies for superintendents. Last spring, this data was reviewed and refined by 27 superintendents, 20 of whom were certified. The average length of membership within GCSAA was 16 1/2 years. Fourteen had at least a two-year degree in turf. The rest had some or no college or declined to provide us that information. Sixteen states were represented. Both private and public courses were represented.

 What happens if a current Class A member without a degree lets membership lapse and then wants to reinstate?
 Does he have to reinstate as a general member?

At this time, the recommendation from the MSRG is the following: Class A members who do not maintain their ongoing requirements for Class A status will be subject to classification as a Class B or general member. In order to reinstate, they would be required to meet all current Class A entry requirements.

 What if a current Class A member without a degree is unemployed at the time he has to renew (and hence reclassify)? Will he be able to maintain his class A standing after he finds a job or will he have to reclassify as a Class B or general member?

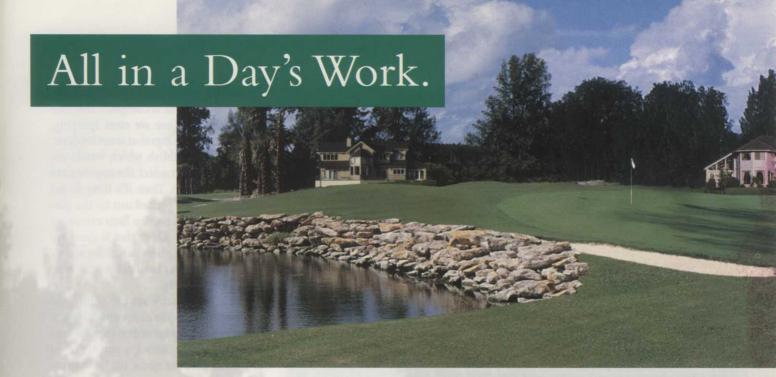
At this time, the MSRG has no recommendation regarding this situation. We will add it to the agenda for discussion at their meeting in the summer 2000.

 Will changes to certification renewal requirements make maintaining certified status more difficult?

The Certification Committee has not reviewed the recommendations from the Membership Standards Resource Group and this concern will be forwarded to them as they begin their review and restructuring of the program.

If you still have questions about PDI, please contact our education department, at (800) 472-7878, ext. 471.

THE FLORIDA GREEN

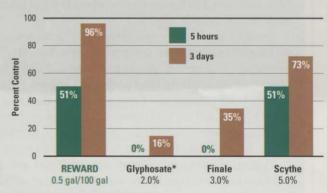


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# Weeds Be Gone!

Teed control is a year-round endeavor for Florida golf course superin tendents. The first big push comes in preparing golf courses for control of the overseeding in the fall. The beautiful lush, green ryegrass in the fairways is an unwelcome intruder in the non-overseeded roughs and tee and green slopes for those who don't seed wall-to-wall.

To protect those semi-dormant bermudagrass areas from unsightly patches of ryegrass and the blight of winter annual broadleaf weeds, a wide choice of pre-emergent products can be applied. These application dates are sometimes etched in stone from years of observation or rough estimates that shift with special events. Both scenarios depend on decent weather for success.

After the pre-emergent programs unfold and meet with varying levels of success, superintendents begin search-and-destroy spot-treatment programs to keep the highest-priority areas weed free. The good news is less herbicide is applied in this manner. The bad news is that you can miss some spots sometimes.

There is not a superintendent alive who has not worn out the blade of a pocket knife picking out juvenile goosegrass from his greens as he tours his course. In fact many courses have adopted hand pulling programs to reduce chemical use. It is labor intensive, but it is an environmentally friendly alternative that may become more necessary with time.

Some of the hardesy-to-control weed pests we have been dealing with for decades are coming under control with new chemistry in products like Illoxan for goosegrass, Manage for purple nutsedge and Drive for torpedograss. They are more expensive, but the rates are lower per acre.

This is very important because some of the most universal herbicides like MSMA and 2,4,D are under increasing attack — justly or unjustly. Supporting turf research into new controls for weeds is a good investment because slowly but surely, we are losing the products we have been using for so long.

Timing of weed control programs combined with good planning of cultural practices to help maximize turf vigor and recovery is critical for the most efficient use of chemical controls. The following articles will give you some ideas for the timing, products and recommendations for weed control in Y2K.

JOEL JACKSON, CGCS

## Why and How We Apply Pre-emergents to Stay A Step Ahead

et's face it, this is Florida, greenest place on earth! Just ask the players, particularly our winter visitors, and they'll say, "We're in Florida and by golly we are going to play!" So, overseeding is not an option, it's a must. Here is where a pre-emergent herbicide program becomes important.

Most of us do not have the luxury of closing the golf course for most maintenance procedures. Generally, only hur-

ricanes and monsoons are considered course-closing events. That means that the seed goes down, players play, irrigation runs, and the rye seed is tracked everywhere.

Now you could wait to see where the unwanted seed germinates and treat it with a post-emergent herbicide, such as Kerb or Simazine, but as a wise man once said "Once you've seen the problem, it's too late, because so has everyone else."

With that in mind, let me tell you about our pre-emergent program at the LPGA International Golf Course. Fortunately, pre-emergent chemicals are good for 60-90 days. Depending on the chemi-

cal and the rate we use, we have time to plan, execute, and accomplish this task accordingly. Before we start spraying, there are a few things that must be done.

First, we establish which weeds are the problem and select the appropriate control measure. Then it's time to get the equipment checked out by the mechanic. A weather-worn hose can cause major problems. Once that is done we choose the nozzle best suited for spraying pre-emergent herbicides and calibrate our spray rig.

Because our fairways are contoured and our tee complexes are small we decided to use drop spreaders to make one pass around the fairways and tees and any areas that the spray rig can't spray effectively.

We use two Toro Multi-Pro 150-gallon sprayers with flat fan 8006 nozzles, an SDI 300-gallon sprayer with 8004 nozzles and two 36-inch wide Gandy drop spreaders to apply our pre-emergent products. We began our applications on the Legends during the third week of October and did the Champions course the following week.

This year we drop spread our fairway and tee perimeters with Team 2G at 3½ pounds per acre and sprayed Lesco Pre-M 3.3 EC at the rate of 1¼ gallons per acre on the rest of the non-overseeded areas on both courses. We also have a three-hole practice facility with our driving range. We chose to use Barricade at 1½ pounds per acre for this area.

It is very important that the irrigation specialist be right behind you watering in the product. This will reduce the risk of golfers tracking product onto the places you want the seed to germinate, and it will wash the chemical down to the soil where it can start creating the preemergent barrier.

If you get any lateral movement of product into unwanted areas, a little charcoal and some more seed will take care of it. Unlike Kerb, which can be very mobile, we have experienced very little movement with the Team 2 G or Pre-M 3.3 EC.

Broadleaf weeds, goosegrass, and crabgrass come in 1, 2, 3 in an "ugly" contest in my book. I guess the order

depends on your point of view. You will never be totally rid of goosegrass so don't throw away your knife and Illoxan. This is when our second application of preemergent comes in.

With our second application 75-80 days later, we didn't use the drop spreaders. We just boom-sprayed everything. This application is intended to suppress the growth of winter broadleaf weeds and any volunteer ryegrass. Depending on your region in Florida, it's also going to help suppress germination of goosegrass and crabgrass.

Our third application of pre-emergent will occur 65-80 days after the second application. We will monitor soil temperatures on a weekly basis. By taking soil temperatures at a 4-inch depth we closely monitor and time our spring application when soil temperatures reach 55-60 degrees.

For this application we've chosen Pendimethalin at the rate of 3 pounds active ingredient per acre. The chemical

is impregnated on fertilizer and spread by a subcontractor. We feel this saves us time and money. We chose Pendimethalin because crabgrass is the weed that provides us the greatest challenge. If goosegrass is your problem, you might want to spend the extra money and go with Ronstar.

In summary we start our pre-emergent program just prior to overseeding in mid-October. Our second application is 75-80 days after in order to catch any volunteer ryegrass from previous overseeding and suppress winter broadleafs, and our third application is scheduled 65 - 85 days later, depending on our soil temperatures: 55-60 degrees for crabgrass and 65-72 degrees for goosegrass. By mapping and monitoring our high traffic and wet areas hopefully we can stay one step of the weeds and the golfers.

> CARTER THOMPSON Chemical Technician LPGA International Golf Course

Editor's note: LPGA International's superintendent, John Lammrish is a past contributor to the The Florida Green. For this Hands On topic Lammrish challenged his pest control technician to write an article. Good idea for increasing grass roots participation in your magazine.

## Weed Control **Programs for Y2K Reduce Chemical Use**

## **Pre-emergent Programs**

To control both broadleaf and grassy weeds before germination including: volunteer ryegrass, crabgrass, goosegrass, bull paspalum, sedges and many types of broadleaf weeds.

1. Ronstar G: Applied late February or early March at 200 lbs. per acre. Normally mixed on a fertilizer. Applied in late evening over the overseeded turf.

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Must be watered off the leaf surface of the turf.

- 2. Pendulum WDG: Applied late April or early May at 2.5 pounds per acre and followed by 2.0 lbs. per acre applied in June or July as a split application to extend weed control.
- 3. Barricade 65 WG: Applied in October to all non-overseeded areas to control winter annuals and tracked-out ryegrass. Applied at 2 pounds. per acre.

## **Post-emergent Programs**

No pre-emergent program will provide 100% control. We treat emergent weeds with the following materials.

- 1. Yellow nutsedge: Basagran T/O at 3 pints per acre.
- 2. Purple nutsedge: Manage at 1 oz per acre.
- 3. Bull paspalum: Tank mix of 2 qt/ acre MSMA with Sencor 75 Turf at 2 tsp./acre with a good spreader/sticker. Mix and spray every 7-10 days until control is reached.
- 4. Goosegrass: Illoxan 3 EC at 1.0 oz/ 1000 sq. ft.
- 5. Broadleafs (winter annuals): Lesco Three-Way (2,4, -D, Mecoprop and Dicamba) at 1.2 to 1.5 oz/1000 sq. ft.

#### Mechanical/hand pulling of weeds

We hand-pull all weeds in the putting surfaces (except the nutsedges. See above). All weeds in flower beds are also hand pulled.

## Wall-to-wall vs. Spot Spraying

Most all of our pre-emerge programs are treated on a wall-to-wall basis, except the fall application, which is used to treat only the non-overseeded areas.

All of our post-emergent programs are applied as spot treatments to only treat the actual weed infested areas to minimize chemical use and environmental impact.

#### Summary

After the last several years with properly applied pre-emergent programs we have reduced our chemical weed control to now less than 10% of our total turf acres. This effort is assisted by increasing our renovation activities and fertility programs to grow the healthiest turf-

grass possible, which minimizes weed growth.

Our major weed problems now seem to be purple nutsedge and bull paspalum. Their waxy leaf surfaces tend to resist the penetration by the herbicides, and our summer rains make it hard to keep an active product on the plant. Unfortunately, it seems our pre-emergent programs have a minimal effect on these weeds.

> CARY N. LEWIS, CGCS Renaissance Vinoy Resort

## Weed Control for 2 Municipal Courses in Fort Myers

Working with superintendents Ed Stalnos at the Ft. Myers CC and Jim Hahn at the Eastwood GC, this is the program we came up with for the two municipal courses for this year.

#### Pre-emergent Program

We apply a 13-6-18 fairway fertilizer sparged with Barricade at the rate of 350 pounds per acre. This provides .75 pounds active ingredient of Barricade per acre. This is put down during the first week of November.

We follow up with either another 1.5 pounds per acre of Barricade or 1.5 quarts per acre of Surflan 75 to 90 days after the initial treatment. Our primary weed targets with this application is suppression of goosegrass and crabgrass germination. We also hope to slow down some of the Poa annua. If we get volunteer ryegrass coming up in non-seeded areas we spot treat with Kerb as a post emergent application.

#### Post Emergent Program

For goosegrass and crabgrass infestations we use Sencor at 3 oz per acre with MSMA at 43 fluid ounces per acre as a tank mix with good results. Illoxan at a rate of 1 quart per acre has been used on Tifdwarf putting surfaces for goosegrass control. The greens are only sprayed if hand-picking cannot control the goosegrass.

Broadleaf weeds are controlled using Trimec Classic at a ½ quart per acre rate. We have been very successful con-

trolling purple nutsedge by applying Manage at 1.3 ounces per acre.

We have also had good results using

the new herbicide Drive making two applications at the label rate.

Our most difficult weeds are goosegrass and a broadleaf weed called southern sida. If anyone has any ideas on control of the latter, please give me a call.

MIKE MONGOVEN, CGCS
City of Fort Myers

WEED NEWS OFF THE NET

#### **New Product**

Dow AgroSciences has recently received registration for Lontrel Turf & Ornamental herbicide in the state of Florida. Lontrel is a non-phenoxy, selective post-emergence herbicide that contains the active ingredient clopyralid. It is labeled for use on both warm and cool season turf and sod farms. Clover, thistles, and nightshade groundsel are among the weeds that are on the label with the expectation to expand it in the coming year. There is excellent turf safety with both St. Augustinegrass and bermudagrass. Lontrel may be applied as a broadcast or spot treatment.

Dr. PHIL BUSEY'S TURFTALK DIGEST

## Questionable spot treatment

Often I see herbicidal spot treatment of goosegrass causing considerable damage to fairways, more than a properly calibrated broadcast application of traditional selective products. I described this in an article in the September 1999 Golf Course Management, and some examples are illustrated at

http://www.floridaturf.com/weeds/eleusine.html

I am interested in collecting comparative data on costs, both in materials and labor, of booming vs. spot treating. I am also interested in what threshold of goosegrass infestation is used to decide between the two approaches. Please share any experiences.

#### **Tropical Signalgrass**

I've struggled for over a year talking about "that weed everyone's got" so now

I'm calling it tropical signalgrass. In golf course management it is most commonly bullgrass, yet I don't think you'll find "that weed" in any book under the name bullgrass. Meanwhile some people call it smallflowered Alexandergrass, and some call it crabgrass, which leads to more confusion because those two plants differ so much in herbicide sensitivity. To help reduce the confusion, I've posted photos of tropical signalgrass and crabgrass at: http://floridaturf.com/weeds/urochloa.htm

Dick Wunderlin calls "that weed" tropical signalgrass in A Guide to the Vascular Plants of Florida, about as authoritative book as you can find for plant names in Florida. So I didn't make it up. If you're less interested in studying it, and more interested in killing "that weed," the good news is that it's fairly easy to do in golf or sports turf, if you go back to multiple broadcast tank mixtures of MSMA + Sencor. That's something about two-thirds of Florida golf

course superintendents appear to be gunshy about, but if you keep the Sencor rate to a tiny fraction of the label, say one third, it helps wave goodbye to tropical signalgrass without hurting bermudagrass.

## **Emerging weed problem**

It's small, but can be a big problem. Old World diamondflower is a spreading broadleaf weed that grows low enough to survive on golf course greens. Patches are most noticeable on fairways, and because the bermudagrass is already slowing down, the patches stand out late in the growing season. Before looking at possible herbicides, we must first know what weed we are talking about, and this one has been frequently misidentified. More information and photos are here:

http://floridaturf.com/weeds/hedyotis.html

#### How do weeds get around?

Hurricane Irene was a vivid reminder

that no matter how good your turf sanitation, occasional events of nature can move weed seeds around. Inspecting turfareas in South Florida, I was impressed that all were under water. When it dries out, just look at the bands of flotsam across the fairway. This is a "design feature," and we should be proud that turf serves the environment by providing groundwater recharge. But the consequence of low-lying turf areas is that in any normal year, most turf areas can suffer lateral movement of weed seeds, besides the dispersal by wind and golf cart tires. Solutions may include the growing of a strong turf canopy, to constrict weed seed germination, and the use of preventive herbicides. But what about dealing with the basic problem? Would there be a way to selectively scoop up, or neutralize, the weed seed that gets moved around?

Editor's Note: You can subscribe to Dr. Busey's OnlineTurfTalk-Digest by contacting him at: turf@ufl.edu

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## **Aerifier Dolly Relieves Shop Frustration**

he "aerifier dolly" is a tool that was constructed out of frustration. First, a frustrated shop and equipment manager who felt as if he was wasting time searching for a tractor that was not in use, so that he could lift the 3-point hitch-mounted

aerifier to perform necessary repairs and maintenance on the aerifier. Second, a golf course superintendent who was frustrated with his staff when the rough was not being mowed because the shop and equipment manager had a tractor tied up. And finally, a frustrated assistant golf course superintendent who was sick and tired of being pulled from both ends trying to please both the shop and equipment manager and the golf course superintendent.

The solution was an innovative "aerifier dolly" designed and built by Olde Florida Golf Club's shop and equipment manager, Kim Ellis. The frame and five risers with cradles (two front and three rear) are made of 2 x 2 inch square tubing. The frame, measuring 29 x75 inches is lightweight but strong and mobile.

The cradles, or

brackets, that the aerifier rests on are two-inch, steel "C-channel". The back three are six inches in length and run parallel to the frame and the front two, also 6-inches in length, run perpendicular to the frame.

The back three pieces of "C channel" are face up so that the machine is cradled in the C-channel. The front two pieces are turned upside down to support the wider front piece of the aerifier. The front two

cradles also have a piece of C-channel welded to both ends to keep the aerifier secure. All five brackets that the aerifier rest on are welded to 12 inch tall risers (2 x 2 inch square tubing).

The two front risers and the two outside risers on

the back are 13 inches from the outside of the frame. The center riser (on the rear only) is 37.5 inches, or exactly centered in the back. The measurements could easily be adjusted for another brand of aerifier. On the bottom of the frame, in all four corners, heavy-duty casters were attached to allow the frame to be rolled around the floor with ease.

When the dolly was finished, the metal was painted with a primer and several coast of Rust-oleum. It took Ellis between three and four hours to build it and the cost was around \$200 for the steel and paint and \$80 for the heavy-duty casters. The casters, which are rated for a 460-pound load range per wheel, were purchased from Grainger, part #1F147.

The dolly that Ellis designed and constructed has freed up the use of a tractor and allows the repair

staff to perform necessary repair and maintenance on the aerifier as well as change the blades. It also enables the golf course staff to easily move the otherwise immovable (unhooked up) aerifier so that the floor can be cleaned.

Life is too short to be frustrated. Be happy!

Darren Davis, GCS

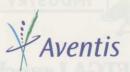
Olde Florida Golf Club

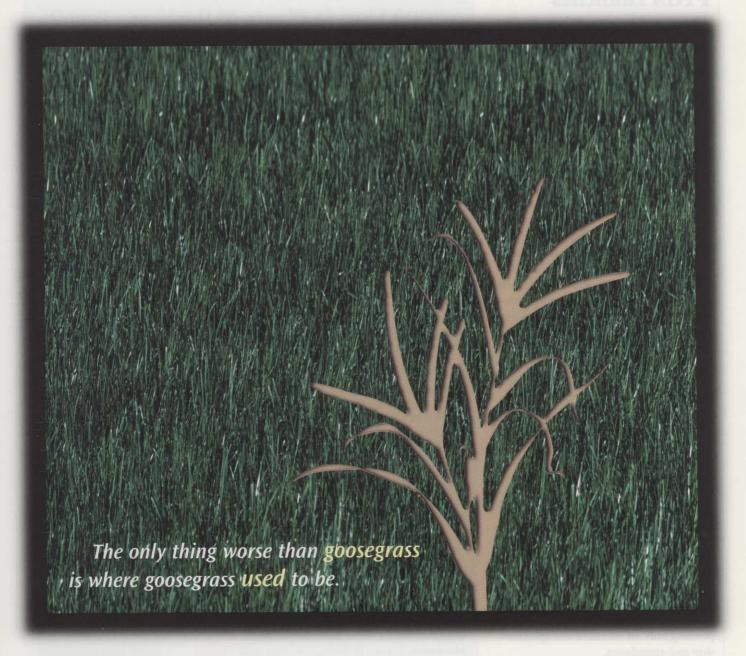


Note the three rear risers with the parallel C channel cradles and the two front risers with the perpendicular cradles. Photo by Darren Davis.



The finished dolly on casters. Stored out of the way when not in use, but easy to move around for blade changes or hook ups to tractors. Photo by Darren Davis.





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## FTGA Launches Grass-Roots Fund-Raising Campaign

The FTGA and the University of Florida have joined forces for a turf research fund-raising program dubbed, "Golfers For A Better Environment." The idea stems from FTGA Public Relations Director Don Benham's experience with a similar successful program instituted by the Michigan Turf Foundation and Michigan State University.

After a couple of dress rehearsal presentations to the board of directors of the Gainesville Country Club and the Florida Turfgrass Association, Benham and Nell debuted the program to representatives of 15 country clubs in the Boca Raton area Feb. 8. David Court, CGCS and Mark Jarrell, CGCS helped the FTGA office with contact names and David's club, Boca Lago, served as the host for this inaugural presentation of the program.

The Golfers For A Better Environment program is designed to encourage grass roots golfers to participate in turf research to accomplish several goals:

(1) Provide a means for golfers to help preserve and protect their club's most important asset, the golf course.

(2) Provide independent public funding to study environmental impacts of turf management products and practices

(3) Provide a consistent base of support for turf research rather than depending only on annual event sponsorship and attendance.

(4) Provide factual evidence to rebut sensational, negative and misleading media accounts about golf courses.

(5) Develop a significant golf constituency that can have political influence when regulations affecting golf courses are under discussion.

The premise of the program is very simple. Each club's board of directors is being asked to consider a convenience billing to their membership of an annual \$5.00 donation to the Florida Turfgrass Research Foundation.. The goal of hav-

## 2000 Florida Plants of the Year - Part 2

**Editor's Note:** The Florida Plants of the Year program was launched in 1998 and has been beneficial to both consumers and growers. Purchasers are introduced to under-utilized but proven Florida plant material. The plants are chosen each year by a committee of horticulturists, nurserymen, educators, landscape architects and other members of the horticulture industry representing Central, North and South Florida.

## Common Name: Red Buckeye

Botanical Name: Aesculus pavia

Hardiness: Zones 4-8

Mature Height X Spread: 15-20' tall and 10-12' wide Classification: Landscape shrub or small tree Landscape Use: Specimen or grouped in light shade Characteristics: Deep red flowers in April-May contrast with dark green leaves, and produce shiny brown fruit that contain three orange seeds. A deciduous large shrub or small tree, palmate foliage blooms in early spring with showy red terminal flowers that attract hummingbirds. A native that thrives in light shade and moist soils, this shrub makes brown shiny nuts, like a chestnut, which split to reveal three orange seeds that germinate fairly easily.



## Common Name: Sweetspire

Botanical Name: Itea viginica 'Henry's Garnet'

Hardiness: Zones 5-9

Mature Height X Spread:4-5' tall and 6' wide Classification: Landscape shrub for massing Landscape Use: Mass plantings in sun or shade,

adaptable to wet or dry conditions

**Characteristics:** Drooping fragrant inflorescences of white flowers make a show in mid spring. The fall color is a brilliant reddish purple.

Semi-deciduous Florida native that has arching branches to 4 feet with brilliant red fall color. The shrub has white terminal flowers on weeping spikes in the spring. Spreads underground by runners. It grows well in full sun or partial shade and thrives in wet areas.



## Common Name: Ficus Alii

Botanical Name: Ficus binnendijkii 'Alii" Hardiness: Thrives in medium to high light Mature Height X Spread: Height ranges from 2-20',

average being 6-8'

Classification: Ornamental foliage plant

Landscape Use: Plant gives a northern look to interiors Characteristics: Similar to sister plant, "Amstel King' the 'Alii' has narrower leaves and a broader fuller

look.

The word 'Alii' is Hawaiian, meaning "Chief" for the broad top of the plant. the 'Alii' formerly known as Ficus maclellandii 'Alii' thrives in medium to high light. The slender dark leaves make this plant appealing both to interior plantscape and home

market. There are three types: the bush, the standard tree and the braids.

ing hundreds of thousands of people involved by giving individually is much more powerful than just a club writing a check from a budget line item.

The current format of the computergenerated presentations has Benham introducing the program with a little background on the FTGA and then he introduces Dr. Nell who talks about the UF/ IFAS Florida First role, mission, accomplishments and current programs. Then Benham brings it home with accounts of his experience as a former club president and green chairman and the success of Michigan's program and why it was so important and effective.

At the conclusion of the presentation and question and answer period everyone is given a folder with a hard copy of the basic information and how to participate.

The clubs that do participate will be sent an update twice a year to post on the club's bulletin board or include in their newsletters to keep the contributors advised of the various projects under way.

Three very positive things happened at Boca Lago that day. First Benham and Nell were invited to make their presentation to the monthly meeting of Palm Beach Green Chairmen the following month. Second, one club official gave Benham three names of people he thought would be interested in hearing the program. Third, we finally began to take our message to the people instead of holding another choir practice.

It may be too soon for hearty congratulations, but we did get some great news that raises our hopes for the program. While everyone was in New Orleans for the GCSAA Conference and Show, Cheryl Stocklin of the FTGA Office sent Don Benham a two line fax. The general manager of the Boca Lago CC called to say that 1100 members of the club had pledged to the Golfers For A Better Environment Program. Since returning home, Don has written followup letters to the other attending clubs

and has had several follow up calls inviting him to meet with clubs' boards of directors.

This is just the first step in a journey of a thousand miles, but it is definitely a good beginning. Congratulations and thanks to Don Benham and Dr. Nell for their time and energy devoted to this fund raising project that may soon become a vital sustaining part of our industry.

#### **FTGA Seminars**

At last count FTGA's Regional Seminar Series held in January and February reached out to 1,264 attendees around the state, a 2 percent increase over last year's figures. This year also saw FTGA Vice President Erica Santella inviting members of the Nitrate Remediation Working Group to attend to hear Dr. John Cisar's presentation on nitrate leaching results from the IFAS Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program.

JOEL JACKSON, CGCS FGCSA Director of Communications

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NEWS RELEASE OF NOTE

## Phosphorous Acid OK'd as Plant Nutrient Material

The Florida Department of Agricul tural and Consumer Services has recognized a new plant nutrient in the form of phosphorous acid.

Since 1995 the Department investigated claims from the agrochemical industry that phosphorous acid may actually be used as a fungicide against Pythium and Phytophthora sp. and petitioned the Department not to recognize phosphorous acid as a nutrient. But after an exhausting five-year study and review, the Department agreed phosphorous acid meets the definition as a plant nutrient and approved its use as such.

The scientific journal, *HortTechnology*, will publish in the near future a peer-reviewed article that quantifies and demonstrates a beneficial plant growth response attributable to phosphorous acid.

Not to be confused with traditional

phosphoric acid, phosphorous acid is more water-soluble and can be readily taken up by the plant when applied as a foliar spray. Phosphorous acid is used at far less dosage rates than phosphoric acid and is recommended for supplemental use when there are high demands for phosphorous, such as, new root and shoot growth, flowering and fruit production.

Organic Laboratories, Inc. Stuart, Florida (561) 286-5581

Editor's Note: Phyto-Fos is the trade name of the new phosphorous acid product available locally. For more information contact Ted Owen, Upstart Products, at 800-203-5629.

NEWS RELEASE OF NOTE

## Lease Program Allows 100% Irrigation System Financing

Golf courses can finance the entire cost of Flowtronex PSI's pumping

systems, including the cost of freight and installation, thanks to a unique leasing program just unveiled by the company.

Flowtronex PSI's preferred lease rate schedules provide flexible monthly payments for pumping systems. Not only do these plans make Flowtronex systems affordable for almost any course, they preserve working capital and conserve existing bank lines to boost profits and stretch dollars, says Flowtronex PSI Marketing Director Willie Slingerland.

"Lease payments also can be written off as business expense," says Slingerland. "And the additional profits realized by better investments can cover monthly lease payments. That's a win-win situation."

Slingerland said some of the advantages of leasing that golf courses should consider are:

Conserving existing bank lines—Leasing frees up bank credit for working capital, discount purchases, or to use in short-term emergencies.

Preserving working capital for greater

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profits –Companies can earn more by investing in inventory or other gainful opportunities, rather than tying up hardearned profits in long-term equipment purchases which will depreciate in value.

Affordability – Golf courses can acquire new equipment conveniently and affordably, when budget restrictions might not allow for purchasing the equipment

"We can finance almost any course's equipment needs with flexible lease packages that run anywhere from 24 to 60 months," Slingerland says. "And a simple credit application is all that is required to set up an Express Lease for systems costing up to \$100,000. We can finance systems up to \$1 million with a more extensive financial report. Approval usually takes only a day or two."

Flowtronex PSI can structure the lease/ finance plan to fit any course's need, such as providing for deferred payments for courses under construction and not yet earning income, and skip payments for courses closed during winter months. With more than 8,000 golf course installations worldwide, Flowtronex PSI is the world's largest manufacturer of water pumping systems for the turfgrass industry.

WILLIE SLINGERLAND Flowtronex PSI Communications (214) 357-1320

Editor's note: As a rule, we do not run news releases on new products, companies or personnel. Exceptions are made from time to time solely at the editor's discretion when new technology or services are announced that offer new turf management options to our readers.

FLORIDA AUTOMATED WEATHER NETWORK

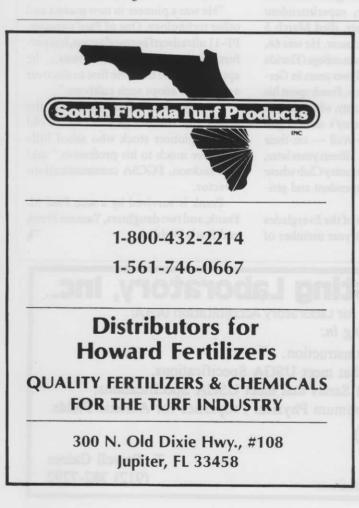
## **Current Weather Data Available From IFAS**

The Florida Automated Weather Net work (FAWN) is composed of 16 automated weather stations located at UF/IFAS Research and Education Centers and Extension Service Sites in Central and South Florida.

Its mission is "to provide accurate and timely weather data to a wide variety of users." Because of the importance of weather in agriculture, every effort is made to have data collected and reported every 15 minutes.

Each site collects the temperature at 2, 6, and 30 feet, a soil temperature at 4 inches, wind speed and direction at 30 feet, relative humidity, rainfall, barometric pressure and radiation. Leaf wetness will be added soon. The information is transmitted to Gainesville where it is then distributed through the Internet (web site http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu – There is no "www" in the address) and by way of a voice data system (see below).

Weather information is essential for agriculture and natural resource management. Although the initial motivation for the development of FAWN was a real-time data collection and delivery system for agriculture, interest and re-







quests of the data have come from a wide variety of users. Water management districts, emergency service agencies, National Weather Service, private forecasters and private industry such as construction, service, manufacturing, etc. are interested in the data.

Growers are encouraged to use FAWN and provide comments so the system can be improved. Plans call for expansion to North Florida, improving the database, linking models such as chemical movements in soils, minimum temperature predictions, DISC (decision information system for citrus), and others.

LOCATION, COUNTY	STATION NUMBER
Gainesville, Alachua	10
Pierson, Volusia	11
Oklawaha, Marion	12
Umatilla, Lake	13
Tavares, Lake	14
Okahumpka, Lake	15
Apopka, Orange	16
Avalon, Orange	17
Lake Alfred, Polk	18
Dover, Hillsborough	19
Ft. Pierce, St. Lucie	20
Ona, Hardee	21
Bradenton, Manatee	22
Belle Glade, Palm Beach	23
Immokalee, Collier	_ 24
Homestead, Dade	25

Editor's note: I thought this UF/IFAS based weather network may be of interest as golf courses and urban areas

spread. You can cross check the data with what you are getting on DTN or the weather.com sites. Of course for those not yet online, the voice response system might be useful as you flirt with Mother Nature!

## Interactive Voice Response System

When you travel or you are away from your computer, you can access the FAWN network data through a conventional telephone. To use the FAWN Dial-up system:

- (1) Dial (352) 846-3100
- (2) Enter a two digit weather station number shown in the table below, or a selected location.
- (3) Listen to the latest weather from FAWN.

**NECROLOGY** 

## **Everglades Pioneer Paul Frank Dies**

aul Frank, a pioneer golf course developer, manager, superintendent and turfgrass researcher, died March 5 after a long bout with cancer. He was 66.

Except for three years in college (Florida Sourthern and UF) and two years in Germany with the U.S. Army, Frank spent his entire life in Collier County, where he and his father built the county's second golf course - Hole-in-the-Wall - on their 420-acre ranch in 1958. Fifteen years later, they built Wilderness Country Club where Frank served as superintendent and general manager.

One of the founders of the Everglades GCSA, Frank was a 40-year member of



the GCSAA and a former director of the FTGA. He also served on the Collier County Planning Board for more than a decade and as a director of Barnett Bank for Janlark 1992 File Photo nearly two.

Frank is credited

by many to have "discovered" ultradwarf bermudagrasses in the eartly 1980s when he propagated a single stolon of a dark, dense mutant of Tifton 328 bermudagrass from his 11th green into a 300-square-foot plot. In 1984, he planted the 11th green with his new grass, dubbed PF-11 in honor of its birthplace.

"Paul's greens were frequently used by scientists at the University of Florida for nematode research and other projects," noted Dr. Phil Busey, UF turfgrass breeder at the Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center.

"He was a pioneer in new grasses and other technology. One of Paul's grasses, PF-11 ultradwarf bermudagrass, has performed the best in several tests... he appears to have been the first to discover and first to adopt such cultivars."

"The golf turf industry will miss the vision and wisdom of this man of old Florida pioneer stock who asked little and gave much to his profession," said Joel Jackson, FGCSA communications director.

Frank is survived by a son, Paul M. Frank, and two daughters, Tamara Frank and Daria Webber.

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## St. Johns County Fertilizer Ordinance Gets Statewide Notice

n Jan. 25, the St. Johns County Commissioners passed an ordinance regulating the use of nitrogen based fertilizers. While there are good reasons for the county to take action — regional drainage, residential flood control concerns and general environmental health — the action by the county has raised more questions than it has answered.

Only two golf courses are involved in the region covered by the ordinance and both superintendents, Frank Sbarro and Jay Reister were invited to sit in on the workshops held to discuss the ordinance. Both superintendents felt that with the exceptions granted for new sod and turf repairs, and permitted use of state-inspected fertigation systems, they could live within the intent of the law.

In the big picture, however, others in the turf industry are feeling left out of the process and feel the impact to lawn care and pest control is not tenable as the ordinance is currently written. After presenting their concerns at a Feb. 15 meeting, the St. Johns

County commissioners agreed to sit down with representatives of science and industry to discuss possible modifications to the ordinance and hear more facts about the fate of fertilizers in the environment.

True professionals in the green industry and agriculture understand the need for good responsible environmental stewardship, and will always work towards that end. The unspoken concern, however, is for the potential of a rash of local, specialized ordinances popping up all over the political landscape as government bodies try to apply quick fixes to complex environmental problems without due diligence.

The major pertinent sections of the ordinance are presented here for your information. In the Opinion Section there are comments by Dr. Phil Busey, Erica Santella, FTGA vice president and Tom Stone, CGCS, NatureGolf, which address this ordinance and some of the issues raised.



#### ORDINANCE NO. 2000 - 6

An ordinance of the County of St. Johns, State of Florida, providing for regulation of golf course, lawn and turf fertilization; providing for geographic jurisdiction; providing for enforcement and penalties; providing for a public nuisance declaration; providing for exceptions; providing for a severance clause; and setting an effective date.

WHEREAS, Şt. Johns County, Florida (the County) has identified the Guana Marsh Basin as a critical area for drainage, and for the avoidance of nitrogen leaching; and

WHEREAS, nitrogen is an essential element for plant growth and is commonly used in various forms as a fertilizer for lawn and turf application; and

WHEREAS, improper use (including overuse) of fertilizers containing nitrogen cause significant leaching of nitrogen, with the effect of causing overgrowth of vegetation in natural and artificial drainage watercourses and basins; and

WHEREAS, such overgrowth of vegetation in natural and artificial drainage watercourses and basins has the effect of degrading drainage capabilities causing (1) increased flooding of developed areas, and (2) damage to the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, there is a need by the County to regulate the use of nitrogen-based fertilizers to minimize the damage caused by the improper use (including overuse) of said fertilizers; and

WHEREAS, said regulation would properly act to protect the health, safety, property and welfare of the citizens of and visitors to the County, by establishing standards for use of nitrogen-based fertilizers; and

WHEREAS, the County recognizes that regulating the amount of fertilizer used in any one application or cumulatively at any given property would be unduly cumbersome and virtually unenforceable; and

WHEREAS, the County recognizes that regulating fertilizers by the type of fertilizer would be relatively more effective than regulating by amount; and

WHEREAS, it has been recognized by soil science professionals that use of slow

release (as opposed to quick release) nitrogen sources acts to minimize harmful nitrate leaching; and...

- G. Quick Release Nitrogen shall mean any product containing:
  - (1) Ammonium Nitrate
  - (2) Ammonium Sulfate
  - (3) Diammonium Phosphate
- (4) Potassium Nitrate
- (5) Urea (not in the form of Slow Release Nitrogen)
  - (6) Monoammonium Phosphate
- (7) Others as may be designated in writing by the County Administrator or his designee.
- G. Slow Release Nitrogen shall mean nitrogen prepared by industry standards in the form of:
  - (1) Isobutylidene diurea (IBDU)
- (2) Resin, Polymer, or Sulphur coated urea
  - (3) Sewage sludge
  - (4) Urea formaldehyde
- (5) Others as may be designated in writing by the County Administrator or his designee.

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H. Turf shall mean any Lawn or other grasses or area intended to be used as or for a Lawn.

Section IV. General Provisions

A. During the Critical Time Period (May 15-Oct. 31 of each year), no person shall fertilize using quick-release nitrogen in the Guana Marsh Basin.

B. Slow-release nitrogen is recognized as the preferred method of adding nitro-

gen to lawns.

Section V. Exceptions: The General Provisions contained in Section IV above shall be waived only under the following circumstances:

A. For newly sodded Lawns (except when using sod plugs or sprigs), Section IV above shall be waived for 30 days after installation of the new sod is substantially completed. Said waiver shall only apply to

the area the new sod is placed on the Lawn, and said waiver shall not extend in any case more than 35 days per calendar year on any given Lawn.

B. On Damaged Turf (Damage equal or greater than 30% loss of Turf canopy), Section IV above shall be waived for 60 days on the areas of said Damage.

C. When sod plugs or sod sprigs are used to build, or rebuild a Lawn that has lost morethan 30 percent of its Turf canopy, Section IV above shall be waived for 60 days after planting of such plugs or sprigs. Said waiver shall only apply to the Lawn areas containing the new sod plugs or sprigs.

D. Section IV above shall be waived on golf course putting surfaces (greens).

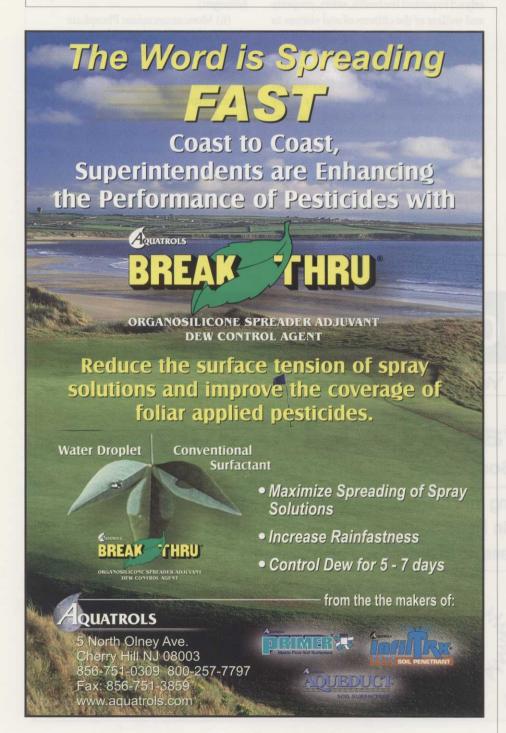
E. Section IV above shall be waived for nitrogen applied through State of Florida certified fertigation systems which are supervised on a daily basis.

Section VI. Enforcement and Penalties:

A. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be prosecuted in the same manner as misdemeanors are prosecuted and shall, upon conviction, be punished for each offense by a fine not to exceed \$500.00 or by imprisonment in the County jail not to exceed sixty (60) days, or both such fine and imprisonment. Each day that an offense or violation of this Ordinance continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

C. The County Administrator, or his designee, is authorized to conduct an administrative search of any vehicle, container, or other equipment used or to be used for Fertilizing, when such vehicle, container, or other equipment is in St. Johns County. Said administrative search may include the taking of a sample of any solid or fluid intended for use as a fertilizer, and shall be limited in scope to determine what type(s) of Fertilizer chemicals are present. Any Person equipped and with the intent to provide Fertilizing for compensation, shall be deemed to have consented to the Administrative Search described in this paragraph while in St. Johns County.

Section VIII. Farm and Agricultural Uses: Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to limit fertilizing for farm and commercial agricultural uses.



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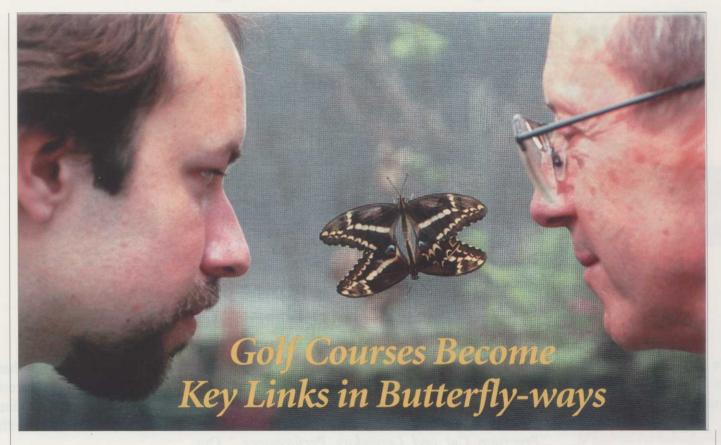
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#### **USGA Grant Helps Save Species from Extinction**

niversity of Florida researchers have found an unusual ally in their efforts to recreate rare native habitat for an endangered butterfly in the Florida Keys: golf courses.

The UF zoology and entomology researchers are working with two large private golf courses to recreate large areas of tropical hardwood hammock in the course Jaret Daniels, left, a UF doctoral student in 1996 who headed UF's captive propagation program, and Dr. Thomas Emmel watch a pair of Schaus' Swallowtail butterflies mating in a butterfly house on the Gainesville campus. Two days later Daniels and Emmel joined Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt at Charles Deering State Park to release some butterflies. Photo by Milt Putnam, UF/IFAS.

roughs to provide a corridor between breeding colonies for rare Schaus Swallowtail butterflies. The work, already showing signs of success, represents one more chapter in the ongoing comeback of the butterfly from the brink of extinction less than two decades ago.

"We realized that to really get the butterfly in a self-sufficient state, it has to be able to move back and forth between colonies as it could 20, 30 or 50 years ago," said Tom Emmel, a UF professor of zoology and nematology. "Private golf courses own some of the largest tracts of land in the Keys, so they were the obvious choice."

The project is funded in part through a three-year \$55,000 grant from the U.S. Golf Association Foundation as part of a program called "Wildlife Links." Operated jointly with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, a nonprofit conservation organization, the program seeks to establish corridors for a range of wildlife on the nation's golf courses.

"Westrongly believe there's a good compromise between having a golf course and protecting a lot of the wildlife habitat that's out there," said Michael McKenna, research director for the USGA Green Section. "Existing golf courses have a lot of open space, and if something can be done for the Schaus or other species, why not do it?"

#### **NEW ACSP MEMBERS**

Twin Rivers GC, Oviedo

Aberdeen G&CC, Boynton Beach Avatar Retirement Communities, Poinciana Coral Ridge GC, Ft. Lauderdale Crooked Cat GC, Winter Garden Lone Palm GC, Lakeland Practice Facility at Orange County National, Winter Garden Renaissance Vinoy Resort, St. Petersburg

Windsor Parke GC, Jacksonville

**NEWLY CERTIFIED** 

Harbour Ridge Y&CC, Palm City IGM at Sandridge, Vero Beach Ironwood Municipal GC, Gainesville

Lake Buena Vista GC, Disney World

Wilderness CC, Naples

RECERTIFIED

TPC at Sawgrass, Ponte Vedra Beach

The habitat improvement will help many other species in the Keys besides the butterflies, including migrating birds, according to Emmel and wildlife officials. Songbirds flying south to the tropics for the winter use the Keys as a "staging area" to store up on nutrients for the long flight across open water, while birds returning north in the spring to breed rely on the Keys to recuperate, Emmel said. The butterfly project will help ensure the birds have the natural habitat they need, he said.

The Schaus was nearly extinct in 1984, when Emmel counted just 70 adults. His findings prompted the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list the butterfly as endangered. Emmel spent much of the 1980's tracing the butterfly's plight to two pesticides, Baytex and Dibron, used to combat mosquitoes, findings that spurred a moratorium on Baytex and tight regulation of Dibron. The population began recovering, only to undergo a nearly catastrophic collapse because of Hurricane Andrewin 1992. Fortunately, a UF captive breeding pro-

gram launched before Andrew augmented the 17 post-hurricane male butterflies left in the wild.

Today, following the introduction of 2,000 butterflies, the annual wild population consists of 1,000 to 1,200 adults located in 13 sites stretching from southern Dade County to the middle keys in Monroe County. Urban developments and a lack of habitat, however, separate these sites, preventing the butterflies from reaching each other to mate. Because the butterflies stem from a small population of ancestors, the separation could result in a dangerous lack of genetic diversity, Emmel said. The isolation of the butterflies also makes them more vulnerable to hurricanes or other disasters, he said.

Researchers decided the solution was to connect several of the colonies using recreated hardwood hammock habitat on two major golf courses as well as adjacent publiclands. The golf courses, Sombrero Country Club on Marathon Key and Cheeca Lodge on Islamorada Key, agreed to the

project, and researchers began transforming the roughs into native habitat in September 1999. So far, they've planted 300 fire bush plants and 630 pentas plants to serve as adult nectar sources, and 1,500 wild lime trees currently are being grown for the project, Emmel said. The wild limes are particularly important because they are the natural host of the butterfly's caterpillars, he said.

Emmel said the researchers are coupling the habitat improvements on the golf courses with similar improvements on public lands, including planting 500 lime trees on an old federal military site in Key Largo during the past two years. Last spring researchers were overjoyed to discover dozens of Schaus eggs on the trees, he said.

"The Schaus Swallowtail is a flagship species for the whole idea of restoring the Keys to something like they once were," Emmel said.

SHELLY FOY USGA Green Section Florida Region

#### 2000 Florida Green Photo Contest

Category 1 - Wildlife on the Course: includes mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians.

Category 2 - Course Landscape: Formal Plantings: includes annuals, shrubs, trees, entrance and tee signs.

Category 3 - Course Landscape: Native Plantings: includes aquatic vegetation, grasses, shrubs, trees and wildflowers.

Category 4 - Scenic Hole Layout Shots: includes sunrises, sunsets, frosts, storms and any other golf hole view.

#### **Prizes**

- 1st Place (\$100) and 2nd Place (\$50) in each category.
- Editor's Choice-Best Overall Photo \$100.
- All winning entries published in the Fall 2000 issue.



2000 Photo contest - Category 1 — Wildlife Down Under. Kangaroos on #17 green, Joondalup Resort, Perth, Western Australia. Photo by Ed Fatica. And we thought armadillos were bad!

#### **Easy Rules**

- 1. Color prints or slides. Only one entry per category.
- Photo must be taken on an FGCSA member's course. Photo must be taken by an FGCSA member or a member of his staff.
- 3. Attach a label to the back of the print

or slide which identifies the category, course and photographer. DO NOT WRITE DIRECTLY ON THE BACK OF THE PRINT. Each photo shall be attached to a sheet of 8.5 x 11 lined paper. Line up the photo with the vertical and horizontal lines to square the photo on the page. Attach the print to the paper using a loop of masking tape on the back of the photo. Slides must be easily removable for viewing. 4. A caption identifying the category, course and photographer should be typed or printed on the sheet of paper below the print or slide.

- 5. Judging will be done by a panel of FGCSA members not participating in the contest.
- 6. Mail entries in a bend proof package to: Joel D. Jackson, 6780 Tamarind Circle, Orlando 32819. No entries accepted postmarked after August 1, 2000.

#### University of Florida Turfgrass Research Projects for Y2K

The following list of current and ongoing projects at the University of Florida and the IFAS Research and Education Centers around the state is a reminder that meaningful research takes time and money. These projects are funded by donations from product manufacturers, seed and sod producers, GCSAA, USGA, FTGA and FGCSA sources.

Those oriented toward immediate results often forget that a research project proposal submitted and approved in one FGCSA/FTGA budget year may not get under way for several months or until the next season, depending on the nature of the project. Then the process of replication and documentation takes place followed by tabulation and interpretation of the collected data. The FGCSA board wants you to know the scope of all the research that is under way. The projects are grouped under topics of special interest.

#### **Methyl Bromide Alternatives**

Fumigant Alternatives for the Replacement of Methyl Bromide, Unruh, Brecke, Kinloch & Dusky

Impact of the Reduction of Methyl Bromide Concentration on Preplant Fumigation, Unruh & Brecke

Metham Sodium/Chloropicrin Rate Response Study, Unruh & Brecke

Methyl Bromide Alternative #300 Shank Spacing Study, Unruh & Brecke

Methyl Bromide Alternative #200 Shank Spacing Study, Unruh & Brecke

Screening of High Nitrogen Containing Compounds for Use as Soil Fumigants, Unruh, Johnson, & Kinloch

#### **Environmental Studies**

An Evaluation of Nitrogen Leaching from Golf Course Greens and Fairways Irrigated with Reclaimed Water, G. Snyder & Cisar

Comparative Leaching Properties of Calcium Nitrate, Sartain & Brown

Comparison of Primo EC and Primo MEC on Golf Course Fairways, Unruh

Determination of Shade Tolerance Mechanisms in St. Augustinegrass, Trenholm & Nagata

Dislodgeability and Volatization of Pesticides Applied to Golf Course Turf, G. Snyder & Cisar

Envirotron Study of Water and Pesticide Movement Through Modified USGA Golf Green Root-Zone, Nkedi-kizza, Sartain, Prabowo & Godding

Evaluation of Florida Yards Concept to Reduce Nitrogen Runoff, Cisar

Evaluation of Integrated Turfgrass Management Practices for Selected Ultradwarf Bermudagrass, Sartain & Kruse

Evaluation of Sporobulus Viginicus: Drought Tolerance, Trenholm

Evaluation of Sporobulus Viginicus: Fertility Requirements, Trenholm

Evaluation of Stress Tolerance in Zoysiagrass Lines, Trenholm & Scully

Fate of N During Grow-in of a Golf Course Fairway Under Different N Management Practices and .

"Florida Yard" Concept for Reducing Nitrogen Runoff into Sarasota Bay, G. Snyder & Cisar

Influence of Cytokinins and Potassium on Drought and Cold Stress in St. Augustinegrass, Trenholm

Influence of Light Quality and Quantity on Bermudagrass Growth, Miller

Influence of Silica on Drought Tolerance of St. Augustinegrass, Trenholm, Nagata & Datnoff

Influence of Silica on Salt Tolerance of St. Augustinegrass, Trenholm, Nagata & Datnoff

Influence of Silica on Shade Tolerance of St. Augustinegrass, Trenholm, Nagata & Datnoff

Irrigation Intensities, Sartain & Shaddox Mobility and Persistence of Pesticides Applied to a USGA Green -Dislodgeability and Risk Assessment, Cisar Monitoring the Losses of N from an Effluent-Irrigated Golf Course, Cisar Reducing N Leaching in Golf Course Turf: A BMP Implementation Project, Cisar

#### **Mole Cricket Control**

Activity of Thiamethoxam and a Combination Product Against Mole Crickets in Turf, Unruh

Control of Mole Cricket and Other Turf Soil Insects with Dursban Two Coat Applied and a Surface Treatment Compared With an Injected Treatment, Unruh

Efficacy of DeltaGard on Fertilizer
Materials for Late Season Mole
Cricket Control in Turf, Unruh

Mole Cricket Control with DeltaGard SC and G Formulations Delivered as a Subsurface or Surface Application, Unruh

Subsurface and Surface Application Rates of Talstar for Mole Cricket Control in Turf, Unruh

#### Biological Mole Cricket Controls

A Cold-Tolerant Strain of Ormia Depleta - Frank

Dual Action of Steinernema Scapterisci and Larra Bicolor on Six Florida Golf Course - Frank

Food of Adult Ormia Depleta - Frank & Welch

North Florida Populations of Larra Bicolor - Frank & Treadwell

Prey-Finding by Pheropsophus Aequinoctialis - Frank & Lake

Temperature-Driven Development in Mole Crickets and Ormia Depleta and Larra Bicolor -Frank & Cabrera

#### **Nematode Control**

Biological Control of Belonolaimus Longicaudatus by Pasteuria N. Sp in Turfgrass, Giblin-Davis

Evaluating Post plant Biorationals for Control of Belonolaimus Longicaudatus in Turf, Giblin-Davis

Evaluating Sting Nematode Resistance in St. Augustinegrass and Bermudagrass, Nagata & Scully

Evaluation of Hybrid Bermudagrass Dwarfs and Ultradwarfs for Tolerance to the Sting Nematode, Belonolaimus Longicaudatus, Giblin-Davis

Field Efficacy Of Telone II For Plant-Parasitic Nematode Control in Bermudagrass, Giblin-Davis Laboratory and Field Studies on DiTera against Belonolaimus
Longicaudatus, Giblin-Davis

Turf Molecular and Morphological
Database for Nematode
Identification in Florida and the
Caribbean, Giblin-Davis

#### **Biological & Organic Studies**

Bacterial Populations and Diversity within New USGA Putting Greens, Elliott, Guertal, Kloepper & Skipper

Compost as the Organic Matter Component in a USGA Golf Green Root-Zone, G. Snyder & Cisar

Density Dependent Regulation of Belonolaimus Longicaudatus by Pasteuria N. Sp. in Turfgrass, Giblin-Davis

Description of a New Species of Pasteuria that Parasitizes the Sting Nematode, Belonolaimus Longicaudatus, Giblin-Davis

Effects of Osmoregulants on Gaeumannomyces Graminis in Solid and Liquid Media, Elliott

Evaluation of Compost Sources and Rates for Suitability in Roadside Turfgrass Growth, Miller

Evaluation of Composts for Disease Management and Enhance Quality of Golf Course Greens, Datnoff, Cisar & Snyder

Genetic Evaluation of the Soil borne Fungal Pathogen

Gaeumannomyces Graminis, Elliott

The Effect of Composts in Topdressing on Disease Incidence on Turf Performance, and Microbial Activity, Cisar

#### **Weed Control**

Annual Blue-Eyed Grass Control, Brecke & Unruh

Annual Grass Control with Dimension + Ronstar in Bermudagrass, Brecke & Unruh

Annual Grass Management Systems with Corn Gluten in Bermudagrass, Brecke & Unruh

Broadleaf Weed Control, Brecke & Unruh

Broadleaf Control with Sulfentrazone and Carfentrazone, Brecke & Unruh

Control with Corn Gluten in Bermudagrass, Brecke & Unruh

Effect of Mowing, Interval on Torpedo, grass Control with Drive in Bermudagrass, Brecke & Unruh Herbicide Tolerance of Bermudagrass Breeding Lines, Dusky, Brecke & Scully

Herbicide Tolerance of St.
Augustinegrass breeding Lines,
Dusky, Brecke & NagataAnnual
Grass Weed Control Strategies in
Bermudagrass Production and
Maintenance Programs, Dusky &
Brecke

Lawn Burweed Control - Spring, Brecke & Unruh

Nitrogen Fertilization Effect on Torpedograss Control with Drive in Bermudagrass, Brecke & Unruh

Nutsedge Management in Bermudagrass, Brecke & Unruh

Pennant Formulation Evaluation in Bermudagrass, Brecke & Unruh

Pennant Tolerance in St.

Augustinegrass, Brecke & Unruh Poa annua Control in Non-overseeded Bermudagrass, Brecke & Unruh

Poa annua Control in Overseeded Bermudagrass, Brecke & Unruh

Post emergence Annual Grass Control in Bahiagrass with Envoy, Brecke & Unruh

Post emergence Annual Grass Control in St. Augustinegrass with Envoy, Brecke & Unruh

Post emergence Herbicides, Weinbrecht & Miller

Pre-emergence Annual Crass Control in Bermudagrass, Brecke & Unruh

Rates, Tank-mixes & Timing of Post emerge Herbicides for

Torpedograss, Weinbrecht & Miller Small Flowered Alexandergrass Efficacy Following Various Combinations of Timed Applications of

Sulfentrazone and Carfentrazone in Bermudagrass, Brecke & Unruh

Sulfentrazone and Carfentrazone in Centipedegrass, Brecke & Unruh

Sulfentrazone and Carfentrazone in St. Augustinegrass, Brecke & Unruh

Torpedograss Control with Drive, Brecke & Unruh

Weed Control Strategies in St. Augustinegrass Production, Dusky & Brecke

Yellow Nutsedge Control in Bermudagrass with Sulfentrazone and Carfentrazone, Brecke & Unruh

#### **General Insect Control**

Chinch Bug Biology, Control and Resistance Studies, Nagata & Cherry Control of Turf Pests in Addition to Nematodes with Curfew Soil Injected on Fairways, Unruh

Effects of Bait Concentration on the Efficacy of Spinosad Bait Applied as a Broadcast Application in Range and Pastures, Unruh

Efficacy of Distance Fire Ant Bait for Control of Red Imported Fire Ants, Unruh

Insecticide Tests to Control Chinch Bugs, Cherry & Nagata

Phytotoxicity of Talstar Impregnated Fertilizer Products to Warm Season Turf, Unruh

Resistance of St. Augustinegrass to Chinch Bugs, Cherry, Nagata & Datnoff

Response of Red Imported Fire Ants to Reduced Rates and Concentrations of DE-105, Unruh

#### **Disease Control**

Dwarf Bermudagrass Tolerance to Rubigan, Brecke & Unruh

Effect of Biologicals and Fungicides to Control Pythium in Bermudagrass Golf Greens Overseeded with Poa Trivialis, Datnoff & Cisar

Effect of Fungicides and Surfactants to Curatively Control Fairy Ring on Golf Course Greens, Datnoff & Cisar

Effect of Heritage and Daconil on Grey Leaf Spot Development, Datnoff & Nagata

Effects of Nutrition and Host Plant Resistance on Grey Leaf Spot Development, Datnoff & Nagata

Effects of Selected Cultural Treatments on the Incidence of Gaeumannomyces graminis root infection of Centipedegrass: Soil pH., Unruh & Lawson

Screening St. Augustinegrass for Resistance to Grey Leaf Spot Caused by Pyricularia Grisea, Datnoff & Nagata

#### **Nutrient Management**

Accuracy of NIRS Instrumentation for Determining Tissue Concentrations of Ca, Mg, P, and K, Miller

Comparative Evaluation of Milorganite as a Nutrient Source for Turfgrass, Sartain

Comparative Evaluation of Sulf-N 45 on Cool and Warm-Season Turfgrass, Sartain



Comparative N and Fe Release Properties of Micromate NS Iron, Sartain

Comparison of Slow-Release N Sources on Turfgrass, Sartain

Comparison of Sybron Organically Based Products with Conventional Fertilization and Evaluation of Their Influence on the Incidence of Dollar Spot, Sartain

Comparison of Viking Ship Products in Turfgrass Production, Sartain

Effects of Nutrition and Modification of Host Plant Resistance to Gray Leaf Spot Fungi and Chinch Bugs, Nagata, Datnoff & Cherry

Effects of Types and Rates of N on the Growth and Quality of Turfgrass, Sartain

Evaluation of Green Technologies Products on Turfgrass, Sartain

Evaluation of Nitrogen Sources for Quality & Longevity, Miller

Evaluation of Sirflor as a Slow-Release N Source for Turfgrass, Sartain

Using NIRS for Nitrogen Scheduling on Two Dwarf-Type Bermudagrass Cultivars, Miller

Using NIRS to Predict Nitrogen
Concentrations in Bermudagrass
Using a SPAD Chlorophyll Meter to
Predict Nitrogen Concentration in
St. Augustinegrass, Miller

Utilization of Nutri-Grow on Golf Course Putting Green Turf, Unruh

### Turfgrass: Breeding and Evaluations

A Study to Screen Tall Fescue Germplasm for Heat Tolerance, Dudeck & Duncan Collection and Evaluation of Florida Bermudagrass and Zoysiagrass Germplasm, Scully

Cultivar Development of St. Augustinegrass, Nagata, Unruh, Dudeck & Cisar

Development of Centipedegrass Cultivars, Nagata & Scully

Effects of Seed Treatment and Media on Germination of 'NuMex Sahara' Bermudagrass, Dudeck

Evaluation of Various Cool-Season Grass Species, Mixtures, and/or Blends for Overseeded Winter Ground Covers Under Golf Course Fairway and Putting Green Conditions, Dudeck

New Grasses: NTEP Test on Ultradwarfs, Cisar

NTEP Cultivar Trial: Buffalograss, Unruh NTEP Cultivar Trial: On-site Putting

Green Bermudagrasses, Unruh NTEP Cultivar Trial: Zoysiagrass, Unruh NTEP Overseed Trials at Grand Cypress Country Club, Dudeck

NTEP Studies Involving Bermudagrass, St. Augustinegrass, and Zoysiagrass, Dudeck

Out-State Trials of Superior
Bermudagrass Selections Under
Golf Course Fairway Conditions in
North, Central, and South Florida,
Dudeck

Screening St. Augustinegrass Germplasm for Winter Hardiness at Blairsville, GA, Dudeck & Duncan

Tissue Culture of St. Augustinegrass, Nagata

UF Breeding Program Cultivar Trial: Dudeck Bermudagrass, Unruh

UF Breeding Program Cultivar Trial: Nagata St. Augustinegrass, Unruh

UF Breeding Program Cultivar Trial: Scully Bermudagrass, Unruh UF Breeding Program Cultivar Trial: Scully Zoysiagrass, Unruh UF Breeding Program Cultivar Trial: Scully Centipedegrass, Unruh Ultra Dwarf Bermudagrass Studies in North Florida, Dudeck

#### Water & Soil Studies

Deficit Irrigation of Turfgrasses, Miller Erosion Control Along Florida Roadsides, Miller, Black & Kidder

Influence of Basic-H on Water Use Efficiency Under Turfgrass Culture, Sartain

Investigation of Coated Sands for Use in Putting Green Construction, Sartain & R. Snyder

Investigations of Soil Amendments for Nutrient and Water Retention, Miller

Soil and Turfgrass Tissue Analysis Correlation, Sartain & Higby

#### **Sports Turf**

Cold Tolerance Evaluations of New St. Augustinegrass Cultivars, Miller

Correlation of Soccer Field Conditions to Player Perceptions, Miller

Correlation of Soil Moisture and Surface Hardness, Miller

Evaluation of Perennial Ryegrass for Spring Transition on Athletic Fields, Miller

Evaluation of Shoe Cleat Design on Turf Wear and Traction, Miller

Evaluation of Soccer Fields for Performance Standards, Miller

Soil and Tissue Analysis Correlation Stabilization of Athletic Field Soils Using Enkamat, Miller

Techniques for Evaluation of Traction on Athletic Fields, Miller

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Before: Hollybrook G&TC No. 5 & No. 6 before Hurricane Irene. Photo by Jim Goins.

We haven't seen the last of the effects of last fall's hurricanes

# Remember the Adage: Ugly In, Ugly Out!

Editor's Note: We received these pictures and comments too late for the last issue. They are included in this issue as a stark reminder of the chaos and damage to our golf courses caused by mother nature just six months ago. As we move into the spring season, Bob Klitz reminds us why we may still see some of the long-term financial and cultural effects from the hurricanes of 1999.

BY BOB KLITZ, CGCS

General Manager Golf Hollywood at Orangebrook

South Florida in October with strong wind gusts and heavy rain. Structural damage was minimal but flooding and electrical power outages were widespread throughout the south Florida area.

Rental cars were unavailable after the storm due to the number of vehicles damaged by flood waters that rose quickly during the early evening hours. Vehicles that had been parked in front of homes or in driveways were submerged quietly in the night as the heavy rains pounded relentlessly. One area golf course had its entire fleet of cars submerged in water that reached over the seat cushions of the carts.

More then three dozen trees were knocked over on the two 18-hole courses at Orangebrook. The gusty winds contributed to the trees' demise, but the soaking rains are probably what caused the more serious damage by saturating the soil in the root zone. The softened soil and soaked roots were easily dislodged by any significant winds that occurred that evening.

The large ficus trees have been trimmed and propped back up, and the melaleucas, and any other exotics have been removed. Four weeks after the storm, some stump removal still needs to be finished. A very large debris pile is waiting for a tub grinder to reduce the volume of the unsightly debris.

Many golf courses throughout the area were closed due to heavy rainfall. The

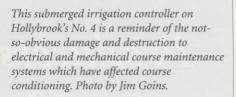




After: The same two holes immediately after the hurricane. Photo by Jim Goins.



One area golf course had its entire fleet of cars submerged in water that reached over the seat cushions of the carts.





...the haunting
reminder of Hurricane
Irene will return for a
visit during spring
transition.

Hollybrook's hole No. 11 was inundated with flood waters from Hurricane Irene, as shown by photo far left. Adjacent photo shows the hole before the hurricane. Saturated soils and the spread of weed seeds will have a lingering effect on turf quality until the next full growing season is behind us. Photos by Jim Goins.

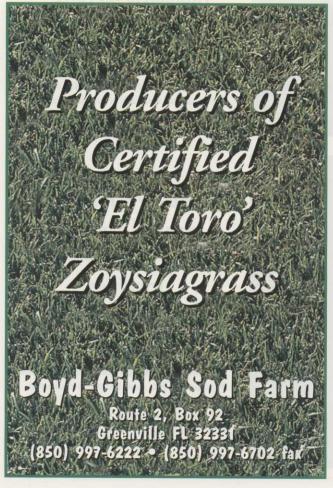




two-day rainfall total at Orangebrook was at least 20 inches. October had already been a very wet month and combined with 30 inches of rainfall from June 1999, this has been one rough summer. Construction projects, cultural programs, and weed control programs have all been hampered by this summer's weather.

As we scurry around to cover our problems with winter overseeding, we cringe at the thought of spring transition, remembering the adage: Ugly in, ugly out. The water levels have receded, the winter snowbirds are here, but the haunting reminder of Hurricane Irene will return for a visit during spring transition.

Extensive tree trimming, replanting and removal placed a tremendous strain on course budgets and work priorities. Many 1999 projects were postponed to deal with course cleanup. Photo by Bob Klitz.





#### **Textron Raving Fans Award**

Golf Ventures, Inc., of Lakeland, was honored by Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products with a Raving Fans Award for 1999, Second Place. The Raving Fans Award, which is based on consumer satisfaction surveys, recognizes outstanding achievement and excellence in customer service. The presentation was made at a dealer meeting during the recent Golf Course Superintendents of America Conference and Show in New Orleans. A special guest at the ceremony was golf legend Gary Player, who participated in the presentation.

Pictured from left are Carl Burtner, CEO TTCSP; Michael McLaughlin, Golf Ventures VP operations; Player; Don Delaney, Golf Ventures VP sales; Phil Tralies, president TTCSP



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It's usually better to laugh at a situation than to cry...

# A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Clubhouse

BY DOUG ABBUHL, GCS

Seminole Golf Course & Club, Tallahassee

ne of the best stress relievers is laughter. Granted its hard to laugh when you have algae on your greens, a tournament around the corner, or your only greens mower just went to that big shop in the sky.

Being responsible for large areas of highly maintained turfgrass can be very stressful for superintendents. Nature can at times be less than cooperative, and golfers may not always be understanding. That being said, it is very important to keep a sense of humor as you approach each day. For example:

#### Follow that duck

It is crucial when training new employees to cover all of the important points. While training an employee in the art of walk-mowing greens with straight lines, I mentioned picking out an object and heading toward it. However, I failed to mention that the object should be a stationary one. It seems the person picked out a swimming duck on the lake as his object, and needless to say, the mowing stripes weren't straight that day!

#### Disappearing pond

Then there was the time my fairway

mower came back to the shop to advise that the pond on our number-six hole was "gone!"

Hmmm, how can a pond disappear? Turns out a sinkhole developed under the half-acres pond and emptied in about five minutes.

That was one the EPA couldn't blame me for the dead fish.

#### High-flying turtle

How about the world's highest flying turtle? We had a backup pump for our irrigation pond, where water could be pumped from a lower-level lake up to the holding pond. it seems that the suction pipe was damaged at the lower lake and water was backfilling down the stand pipe.

After making the needed repairs and the lake level down eight feet, it was time to turn on the pump and recharge the holding pond. Unaware that a very large turtle had been sucked down the stand pipe, we started the pump.

Water came out of the pipe for about five seconds and then stopped. I rowed over in a boat to take a peek down the stand pipe, when all of a sudden this large turtle shot out of the pipe about 50 feet into the air!

I wasn't injured, but wondered afterwards how the accident report would have read: High speed turtle impacts worker in face!

#### For every action...

Once an employee was working with a spring-loaded cup cutter that would supposedly cut a cup with the pull of a trigger. It seems he tried it on frozen ground. Not a good idea. He pulled the trigger and the handle hit him in the chin. Ouch!

#### Not really a morning person

Interviewing potential employees can also be a source of entertainment. Once you put them at ease, you never know what they might tell you. After stressing to the interviewee the importance of an early start to get the course in shape for golfers, this guy looked me right in the eye and said, "You know, I'm really not a morning person." Well, thanks for coming in.

#### A mind of her own

Then there's the old Buckner satellite controller that has been hit so many time by lightning that it looks like an R2D2 unit in a Star Wars battle. it's hard to get parts for the old girl and she acts possessed.

My irrigation man calls her "Christine," the possessed car in the Stephen King novel, because she jumps through the stations with time on them and stops at the ones zeroed out. Sometimes all the lights come on at once and then go dead. That's one scary controller.

#### **Emergency landing**

Last fall, a pilot in a Cessna 172 was close to landing at the nearby airport when he lost power. He couldn't make it to the airport, so he put it down on the driving range. imagine the look of terror in the ball picker's eyes as he saw the plane heading straight for him.

My assistant called me on the radio, "Doug, we've got a plane on the range." Yeah, right. Just then about 20 vehicles pulled into the parking lot – police, fire, FAA, TV, radio. Talk about a circus

So like I said, its important to keep a sense of humor because you never what the next day might bring. Ah, the life of a golf course superintendent is never boring.

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# **Comments on the St. Johns County Fertilizer-Use Ordinance**

# Go to Jail for Using Quick-Release Nitrogen?

Starting May 15, persons who fertilize turf with quick-release nitrogen sources in areas of St. Johns County commit a misdemeanor subject to a fine up to \$500, or 60 days imprisonment in the county jail, or both.

According to Paul Haydt, project director for the St. Johns Water Management District, "Slow-release fertilizers are typically applied once or twice a year, whereas the liquid quick-release kind is applied monthly, whether it is needed or not."

On Jan. 25, The Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County enacted ordinance 2000-6 to prevent summertime (May 15 – Oct. 31) application of quick-release nitrogen sources (ammonium nitrate, ammonium sulfate, diammonium phosphate, potassium nitrate, urea other than slow release, monoammonium phosphate) which it determined could degrade the Guana Marsh Basin.

Covered by the ordinance are the unincorporated areas of St. Johns County bounded on the north by Duval County, on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, on the west by State Road A1A (when north of Mickler Road) and the western boundary of Guana State Park (when south of Mickler Road), and bounded on the south by the southern limit of Guana State Park. Exceptions are farm and commercial agricultural uses, golf course putting surfaces (greens), certified fertigation systems which are supervised on a daily basis, and certain situations of newly sodded, plugged, sprigged, and damaged turf areas. Administrative searches are authorized of any vehicle, container, or other equipment used in fertilizing while in St. Johns County. Anyone so equipped

and intending to fertilize for compensation shall be deemed to have consented to be searched. Any violation shall also be deemed a public nuisance.

The intent of this law is good. The execution is atrocious. First the technical points and then comments:

- 1. St. Johns County Commissioners appear to single out turfgrass, in the title of the ordinance ("providing for regulation of golf course, lawn, and turf fertilization"), but the General Provisions and definition of fertilizing ("applying . . . substances . . . [to] any grass, plant, or other organic material") is too broad. Thus the General Provision ("no Person shall Fertilize using Quick Release Nitrogen . . .") and the definition of fertilizing ("plants") applies to African Violets growing on a windowsill!
- 2. The General Provision applies to the Guana Marsh Basin which is never defined and is only implicit in the definition of the area jurisdiction (above). It should also be pointed out that the present Guana Lake was created artificially in 1957 with the damming of the Guana River.
- 3. The ordinance does not cover a substantial portion of the headwaters of the Guana State Park, such as the area north of Mickler Road and west of A1A. This seems peculiar, unless possibly there is some large property that the Commissioners have purposely decided to avoid.
- 4. The Commissioners' supposed finding of fact ("improper use . . . of fertilizers containing nitrogen cause . . . overgrowth of vegetation in natural and artificial watercourses and basins . . . increasing flooding . . . and . . . damage to the natural environment") is sometimes true, but it is such a general statement that it may or may not apply specifically to the Guana State Park.
- 5. Since the Commissioners state that "soil science professionals

[recognize that] use of slow release . . . nitrogen sources acts to minimize harmful nitrate leaching, why don't they ask the soil science professionals if this ordinance would help the Guana Basin? Even the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods recommends keeping water soluble nitrogen sources down to 30%, but does not say to avoid their use altogether.

A classic study of nutrient loading involving runoff from turf areas was Mattraw, H.C., Jr., and Sherwood, C.B. 1977. Quality of stormwater runoff from a residential area, Broward County, Florida: U.S. Geological Survey, Journal of Research, v. 5, no. 6, p. 823-824. Basically they showed relatively low nitrates in runoff, and the biggest problem was coliform bacteria from domestic pets and naturalized Muscovy ducks.

State and Federal agencies are falling all over themselves to develop management plans for protecting coastal estuaries. This is basically healthy. Because of the sensitivity of estuaries and their economic and natural value, these are programs generally deserving support by all natural resource managers, including turfgrass professionals.

But considering the vast amount of work done at the state and federal level, to develop organized coastal management plans based on sound research and basin-wide knowledge of nutrient loadings, it is shocking that a small county commission would pass such a sweeping ordinance apparently without a shred of data to show that it would do any good.

Don't everybody write at once to the *St. Augustine Record* or to the County Commission. (That would be rather difficult because they apparently don't even have a web site.) When more information becomes available, it will be posted on TurfTalk-Digest.

This bad ordinance is just an

example of what can happen sometimes when people meaning to do the right thing look for quick fixes.

> PHIL BUSEY, PH.D. UF/IFAS Ft. Lauderdale

#### **Don't Point Fingers... Point Out Facts**

hope that all of the people concerned ■about the St. John's fertilizer ordinance attended the FTGA's one day seminars where Dr. John Cisar spoke on his recent work with St. Augustinegrass.

He showed that turf fertilized with 6 lb N/1000 sq. ft./year did not have significant nitrate leaching; levels were at 1 ppm or less. This was done on a sloped area, and confirms what university trials have shown throughout the United States: Turf is an excellent environmental buffer between us and our groundwater. Turf is part of the solution, not part of the

As the vice president of FTGA, and a technical manager for the largest lawn care company in existence, I would like to point out that FTGA lobbies for all of the greens industry. Our members include golf courses, lawn care companies, sod producers, and people servicing sports fields.

Also, please note that golf courses are not exempt from the St. John's ordinance! Only greens are exempt. Fairways, tees, and roughs still must comply with the ordinance. It is very important not to point fingers at other segments of the industry. When

properly managed, all turfgrass has environmental plusses, and we need to be proud of our industry.

> ERICA SANTELLA District Manager TruGreen-Chemlawn

#### **Fertilizer Ordinance** is Really No Surprise

am not surprised that an ordinance was passed limiting the use of soluble nitrogen and phosphorous, but I am surprised that the first ordinance of this kind came from St. Johns County.

I know that the EPA, Fla. DEP, the water management districts in Florida and throughout the country are struggling with this same issue: nutrient loading of waterways and the side effects of those nutrients. We don't have to look far to see some of the symptoms, Everglades, Lake Apopka, Indian River Lagoon, and Lake Okeechobee. Nationally, Chesapeake Bay, rivers in South Carolina and dead zones in the Gulf of Mexico have problems in which nutrient loading of waterways is suspected.

But why is St. Johns County deciding to do something about it? Why just lawns? Why not golf courses and agriculture also? What should we as turf grass managers do about it? (Ed. Note: Only golf course greens are exempt from the ordinance.)

St. Johns County is probably the last coastal county to experience major growth in Florida. As a result of being last, they have the luxury of learning

from everyone else's mistakes. Perhaps they are looking at the growth to the north and further south and what it has done to the natural environments and believe that prevention of a problem may be cheaper than paying to fix a problem.

Don't write off St. Johns County as a

Continued on page 86



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Red Ball **Diamond Clay**  hy do some superintendents support the Florida Turfgrass Association and others do not?

Let me state that I am a golf course superintendent, first, last, and always, and have been for the entire 26½ years since my graduation from the University of Florida. I have been a member of FTGA since 1972, a member of GCSAA since 1977, and a founding member of both the Central Florida and Palm Beach chapters. I am the current president of

the FTGA and a past president of both the Palm Beach and the Florida Golf Course Superintendent Associations. Reciting my professional history, I hope, will give some credibility to the logic I employ in urging superintendents to support the FTGA.

The simple reason is that supporting the FTGA is the most practical way for Florida superintendents to help themselves. "Think globally

and act locally" applies more to Florida than any other state. Florida has a unique environment among the 50 states, and research done out of state may not be applicable to Florida conditions. While there are a few states that have strong and viable university turfgrass programs supported by strong and active industries, most do not, and many university turf programs are scaling back and deteriorating due to lack of support.

The University of Florida turfgrass program, on the other hand, is expanding as a direct response to our interest, support, and activism. It makes more sense for superintendents in other states to throw their support solely behind GCSAA or other large regional programs, just as it makes more sense for us to strongly support the University of Florida turfgrass program.

With more golf courses than any other state and nearly the most acreage of turfgrasses, Florida outstrips all the states in terms of potential. If we could just harness this potential, we could satisfy all our research requirements in state, assuring their validity to our conditions. This does not mean we should not support the GCSAA and its initiatives; it just means that it is more likely that we will get useful and relevant research working with Florida scientists than it does sending our money out of state and hoping it may come back one day to help us. Let's be very selective about the types of programs we send our hard-earned money to outside the state of Florida.

So why work with non-golf turfgrass professionals? Again, the answer is practicality.

Besides research, education, and fellowship with peers, the other reason we bind together in associations is to have some influence with lawmakers. GCSAA is looking out for us on national issues. At the state level, we have to look out for ourselves, and when dealing with lawmakers and politicians, size does matter! We have a much bigger stick when we are aligned with the other turfgrass professionals like lawn care companies, sports turf managers, and sod producers, parks and cemeteries and pest control companies than we do as a very small group of Florida golf course superintendents.

Doesn't this sometimes result in conflicts of interest, or dilution of superintendents' efforts? I've sometimes used the expression "wearing two hats" when talking about my service to either the FGCSA or the FTGA, but I now regard this as a mistake, as some people have interpreted this to mean that there may be a conflict of interest in regards to actions taken or decisions made.

There is no conflict of interest, and I see no potential conflict of interest of any significance in the future, as we work to strengthen our ties with non-golf turfgrass professionals through the FTGA. Superintendent concerns are not compromised, but instead are enhanced and given greater chance of success by working with turfgrass professionals in related fields. Yes, disagreements about the best course of action to take for the benefit of all FTGA members can and will occur, but no more so than currently occurs among the superintendent members of the FGCSA board of directors. Intelligent and

Getting the Big Picture

Mark My Words



Mark Jarrell, CGCS
President
Florida Turfgrass
Association

Continued on page 86



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#### **ORDINANCE**

Continued from page 83

backwoods, good ol' boy network. The county crafted some ordinances such as the anti-nudity ordinance which have stood the test of the courts, and have been utilized by other counties as templates in creating their own similar ordinances. I assure you, whether this ordinance passes or not, other county governments will be considering similar measures to deal with their local problems.

So why did they single out lawns? Well, at this time agriculture is exempt from much and the Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association is one of the most powerful agricultural lobbies in the country. The GCSAA and the FTGA in recent years have presented an impressive showing and shown golf courses in a positive light. Audubon International and its certified golfcourses are showing everyone that golf courses are becoming sustainable habitats for both wildlife and man. So if you can't touch agriculture, and golf courses are the friends of nature,

The turfgrass industry
will not survive into the
future as it has in the
past. Either you can do
your part to improve the
industry and its
practices, or you can sit
back and watch it be
taken away.

then homeowners must be polluting everything, right? Not!

How many turf managers are concerned about the quality of water leaving their property? Do we test our water for nitrogen and phosphorous loading? Have we amended our practices when applying fertilizers to prevent it from reaching water bodies? Do we even know if we are part of the problem?

Suppose there are 1200 golf courses in Florida (the number changes daily, it seems). Of those 1200, 295 (24.58%) are enrolled in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary and Signature Programs. Of those, only 47 (3.91%) are certified.

What about the rest?

One of the key components of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program is water quality. Test your water to see if you are impairing the quality of the water leaving your property, and then do something about it. If you do not have proof that you are not impairing the quality of the water, what is going to stop them from taking your fertilizer away next?

The turfgrass industry will not survive into the future as it has in the past. Either you can do your part to improve the industry and its practices, or you can sit back and watch it be taken away. Be thankful if you are not in this part of St. Johns County, but this or something similar is soon coming to a neighborhood near you!

Tom Stone, CGCS President, Nature Golf, Inc.

#### **JARRELL**

Continued from page 84

dedicated professionals usually know more than one way to skin a cat.

I have yet to see an issue before the FTGA board that pitted one segment of the turfgrass industry against the other; but I have seen issues where a cooperative effort, and/or the actions of non-golf turf professionals, have resulted in a benefit to the golf course industry. Examples include FTGA Vice President Erica Santella of TruGreen-Chemlawn representing us at nitrate leaching workshops and posting/ notification hearings; FTGA Director Tom Benefield looking out for our

I have yet to see an issue before the FTGA board that pitted one segment ... against the other; but I have seen issues where a cooperative effort... (has) resulted in a benefit to the golf course industry.

water interests; Emerald Island Turf

feeding us all at field days and various other supplier members serving on committees and working in the trenches for the good of all.

As for research funding, each group comprising FTGA membership realizes that they exert control over how their donations are used. Money raised by a superintendent chapter is not going to fund a soccer field hardness study or any other non-golf related project unless the superintendents request it.

Superintendents give up nothing by supporting the FTGA, but stand to gain a lot. We have a unique opportunity in Florida to set the standards for the rest of the country — let's take advantage of it!

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get tired of hearing the argument that some clubs can't afford for their superintendents to join associations or participate in conferences, trade shows and attend meetings. How does \$187.50 a month sound? Anybody can find ways to work the budget to find \$187.50 a month. Here's why they should:

Where else can a golf club get (1) subscriptions to three turf management magazines, two newsletters, monthly bulletins

for owners (even if associations have been providing them for free as a service to the industry); (2) access to endless resource materials for labor issues, training, communications, media relations and any other topic you need help with; (3) consulting services on personnel issues like hiring, harassment, payroll/labor laws, family leave, overtime and terminations; (4) political representation in

Tallahassee and Washington on issues like water use permits, pesticide surveillance programs, OSHA, ADA, FQPA, Clean Waters Act, Clean Air Act, Immigrant Labor and a host of others; (5) access to monthly meetings, education speakers and peer networking; (6) access to state and national conferences and trade show where all the suppliers, educators, researchers and allied industry experts gather to share knowledge of products, services and good old one on one problem solving; (7) support for turf research which solves your turf management problems which make your members happy and your job easier?

Let's put a price tag on it! You get all this and more for about \$510 a year. That's \$42.50 a month. Any club can afford that. OK! That's just your up-front cost to belong to the three most significant associations in your professional life: the FGCSA (\$100 average)/GCSAA (\$250) and the FTGA (\$160). I put a slash between the FGCSA and GCSAA because its a dual membership deal. If you join one you have to join

the other. You don't like that? See that list up above? All those services which help and protect you and your club's interests take funding.

Here's the rest of the deal. Don't just be a checkbook member. Go to meetings and participate. If you attend monthly meetings of your local chapter, figure an average of \$40 for meeting, lunch and golf. Skip golf if you have to and save some money, but go get the education and talk to your peers about problems. Isn't it worth \$25 to talk to the best consultants around? Say you make six meetings a year and play golf each time. That's \$240 per year. Still not sure? Go at least once a quarter. That's \$160 per year.

Next item is conferences and trade shows. You can argue till the cows come home about the value of going to the GCSAA and/or the FTGA events each year. If your time and budget permits, then go to both. There will be a wealth of *new* information at each event. If you go to the GCSAA show and plan wisely, you can figure about \$1,000 to \$1,500 for a four- to five-day stay. That would include taking several college-level seminars, the no-fee general sessions and the trade show. You can make it a weekend or a week. It's your call.

If you can't get away to the national event, then by all means don't miss the FTGA conference and show. Registration, education, trade show and a one- or two-night stay might run \$500.

OK! Let's total up the damage: \$510 in dues, \$240 for meetings, (let's go big) \$1,500 for conference and show. The grand total is \$2,250 or \$187.50 per month on a budget line item. There isn't a club in the world that can't afford \$187.50 a month to have all the local, state and national turf management resources at your fingertips.

That doesn't count the intangible effects of a club showing support for its superintendent. There's always something new to be learned that results in better playing conditions and/or lowered costs. Both scenarios help offset the \$2,250 spent for dues, education and travel.

Show me a better bargain if you can. For \$187.50 a month you get all the services, resources and information you need to keep your golf course superintendent and your golf course on track for success. You can't afford not to do it!

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Joel Jackson, CGCS Editor

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