



The Florida Green

Winter 2002



Number 13, Country Club of Florida, Village of Golf
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View of cover hole from the tee. Photo by Daniel Zelazek

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In a suburban transitional area between city and wilderness west of Boynton Beach, the Country Club of Florida literally serves as the village green for Florida's incorporated Village of Golf.

29 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: IT'S ALL ABOUT ATTITUDE

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It is critical that superintendents keep their owners advised of water-use issues and solicit their help in educating politicians, water management districts and the general public about golf's true impact on the community.

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David Court looks back over 30 years of golf course management, Mark Jarrell describes the impact of recent state budget cuts on the UF/IFAS turfgrass program and Joel Jackson does unto himself what he usually does to others.

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The Show Goes On

Well, to put it into the proper perspective, I should say, "The 'shows' go on." If I take advantage of all the educational opportunities and trade shows offered by the associations I am a member of or affiliated with in early 2002, I'd be away from work with the exception of one week during the period from Jan. 12 through Feb. 10.

I would fly from Orlando to West Virginia (National Institute of Golf Management, Jan 13-17) to Phoenix (NGCOA Conference Jan. 19-23) to Harrogate, UK (BTME Jan. 22-24)

back to Orlando (PGA Merchandise Show Jan. 24-27) and finally after a week at work (GCSAA Show Feb. 3-10). All of these conferences are directly related to our industry. All are equally important in terms of the information they provide and all of this going on when I'm up to my armpits in members down here for the season!

So which conferences to attend? Without a shadow of a doubt, you should pencil in the GCSAA conference and show regardless of the location (those who attended last year will know what I mean). If travel costs are an issue, at least attend every third year it is held in Orlando.

The conference and show provides great educational opportunities for everyone with topics from communication skills to agronomic principals and environmental awareness. The opportunity to network with those from other states and from abroad, who share the same passion for their jobs as you do, is

invigorating. The opportunities to experience the latest and greatest in equipment; to discuss new chemistries now available for pest control and the see the advances in fertilizer technology are boundless. Don't forget the little guys and new companies. It's amazing what some of those little guys will grow into.

Secondly if you and the golf professional are on good terms (as I know you all are) then ask if you can attend the PGA Merchandise show with him/her. If a joint trip isn't possible, then go yourself. The show is immense and just walking around the exhibits will help you realize the magnitude of our industry. Your appreciation for the work the golf professional performs will increase as well.

The third event I would definitely attend during the year would be the Florida Turfgrass Association Conference in August. It's a little quieter time of year if there is such a thing. It's a little closer to home in the way of travel expense, and a whole lot closer to home in terms of particularly relevant information, the virtues of which I will extol upon in a future column.

The point to all this is, don't be caught with your head in the sand; you can make no excuses for the lack of opportunities that are available to you. Present your case to the powers that be. Highlight the benefits of attending and continuing your education so that as you grow personally, so too will your net worth to the club or facility be increased.

May everyone have a happy and a prosperous New Year.

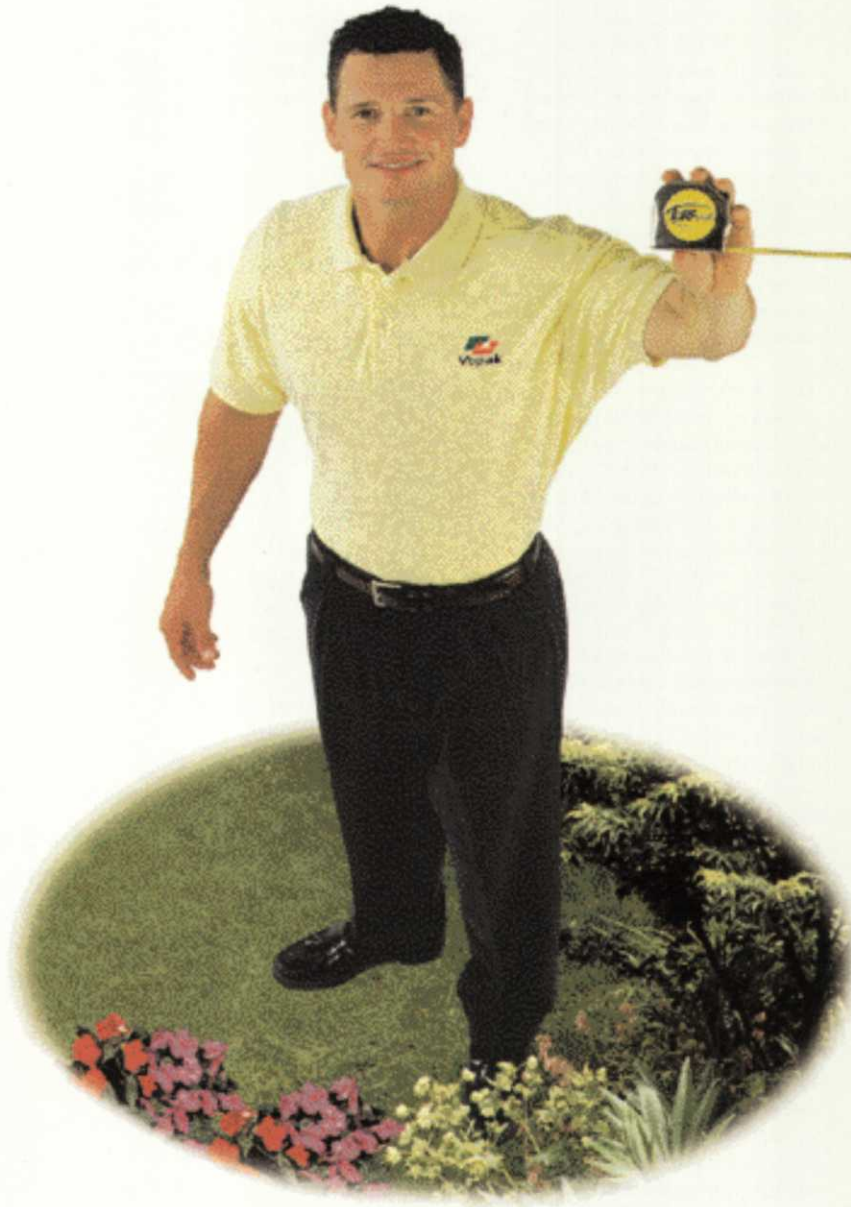
Geoff Coggan


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Geoff Coggan, CGCS, MG

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South Florida Chapter Past President Jim Walker never gave up his love for baseball even though he never made it to "The Show." Much to our benefit, he traded in running bases to running golf courses. In tribute to his leadership, the SFGCSA presented Walker with the FGCSA President's Award for Lifetime Service.

SFGCSA PRESIDENTS AWARD

It Has Been A Long Road From Night Water Man

An Autobiography

The road leading to my receiving the 2001 FGCSA President's Award from the South Florida GCSA began 31 years ago at the Pecan Valley Country Club in San Antonio, Tex. I was the assistant irrigation technician (night water man) plugging in quick couplers and doing course prep work.

Pecan Valley hosted the PGA Championship in 1968 and it was a great place for a golf hound like me to begin my career. The course was a J. Press Maxwell design and I consider myself lucky to have run or worked at many courses that had great architects.

After Pecan Valley, came the Ocala Golf Club where I worked under Jim Yancey, older brother to PGA great Bert Yancey, the course manager and golf professional. He had hired Jim to be a working superintendent and the experience there was great. Bert hosted tour players Frank Beard and Deane Beamon who came down in the winter and played until the tour started in California each year. Being around those guys gave me much insight on what top players thought were important in course conditioning.

Two and a half years later I left Ocala GC to become the assistant superintendent at the Silver Springs Shores GC also in Ocala. One reason for making the move was that Mel Sligh, the superintendent, was a UF graduate who had studied under Dr. G.C. Horn and had a lot of knowl-

edgeable friends in the area. I drove Mel nuts asking technical questions, but I'm glad I did. About a year later Mel left for the Palma Ceia CC job in Tampa, and there I was, the superintendent of a first-class private club. The course is a Desmond Muirhead track spread out over 250 acres with water and sand everywhere.

In 1976 I went back to San Antonio and worked for Watson Distributing. They were the Jacobsen, Cushman and Ryan distributor for all of Texas. Selling orange and green iron for a couple of years was another learning experience I was happy to have had. While there, San Antonio hosted the GCSAA National Convention and meeting the factory engineers and designers was very educational.

Two years later I returned to Florida and the Miami area where I was born and raised. While growing up in Miami I had played golf and baseball for Hialeah High School. I attended Miami Dade Junior College and Valdosta State College on a baseball scholarship and, in my senior year, I was on the NCAA Division 2A National Championship team. I was MVP for the series going 8 for 11 at the plate with three home runs, a triple and a double. I got looks from the Chicago Cubs and Boston Red Sox after college, but my fastball was too slow and major league pitching is a world of difference from college ball.

For the past 23 years, I have been the manager or superintendent at various times at the Key Biscayne, Palmetto, Briar Bay and Greynolds Park golf courses for the Miami-Dade County Parks Department. It was also in 1978 that I met Alan Weitzel, my long time friend and sometimes boss. Those 23 years have been interesting to say the least. I'm a Howard Cosell type of guy so politics was never my bag. I give Alan a lot of credit for helping me see the importance of junior golf. Over the years we did a lot of work bringing this wonderful game to kids in South Florida. We also started a golf league which is still going strong 23 years later.

One of the things I'm most proud of is the people who started their golf maintenance careers with me. At Briar Bay they included: Carlos McKeon, Eric Knudsen, Robert Wethy and Susi (Goldstein) Walker. At Greynolds Park a long-haired, skinny kid right out of college named Joe Pantaleo mowed and fertilized his first bermudagrass with me.

With six years to go before retirement, I still enjoy the golf course business. I have served on the South Florida GCSA board since 1994 and was president in 1998 to 2000. Susi and I live in the Kendall area and besides playing golf, I'm an ardent audiophile. While all this golf stuff was going on I was a pretty fair jazz musician whose band played at the American Pavilion during the 1964 World's Fair in New York...but that's another story.

Jim Walker, GCSA Greynolds Golf Course

NFGCSA PRESIDENTS AWARD

Amelia Island's Hill Helped Bring Chapter into FGCSA



Ron Hill, golf course superintendent at the Amelia Island Golf Resort was recognized for his 30 years of service to North Florida golf by the North Florida Chapter. Presenting the FGCSA President's Award to Hill are NFGCSA President Andy Maguire (left) and Vice President Glen Klauk.

Ron Hill was honored on July 19 by the North Florida Golf Course Superintendent's Association for his 30 years of service to golf industry in northeast Florida.

In recognition for that service Hill was presented with the FGCSA's 2001 President's Award for Lifetime Achievement at the chapter's July meeting. Ron is currently the golf course superintendent of Amelia Island Plantation, which is an affiliated division of the Harbour Town Corporation. He has been continuously employed by the Harbour Town Corp. for the past 30 years.

After graduating from Lake City Community College in 1972, Hill began his career in the golf business with Harbour Town. In 1973 he became active in the Florida-Georgia GCSA. By 1976 he had risen to the office of chapter president. He assisted in the transformation of the

Florida-Georgia GCSA into the North Florida chapter of the Florida GCSA in 1979.

In addition to helping develop the local organization, Ron has had many of his assistant superintendents and on-the-job training students go on to become successful leaders in the golf industry over the years. Some of these recognizable names include: Bobby Weed, Tim Hiers, Barry Collett, Bill Griffith and Bruce Blanchard.

Ron has also enjoyed a fairly successful amateur golf career. In 1978 and 1979 he made it to the match play rounds in the United States Amateur Championships. He was the Jacksonville area medalist for the 1979 Amateur qualifier. Other golfing accomplishments include member of several Florida GCSA teams competing in the GCSAA Golf Championships and being on at least one national title team; past winner of the Crowfoot Open; participating in the Gate Senior Tournament in Jacksonville in 1997.

We salute Ron Hill, CGCS for his commitment to education, golf and in promoting the golf industry through his leadership. Congratulations Ron!

*Glen Klauk
Secretary*

North Florida GCSA

FGCSA GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Ondo Defends Title in 3-Way Playoff at Southern Dunes



Joe Ondo, CGCS also defending his individual title at the FGCSA Golf Championship by winning a three-way playoff. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Steve Bernard, Joe Pantaleo and Joe Ondo all posted scores of 75 on the windswept Southern Dunes golf course in Haines City as the 6th Annual FGCSA Golf Championship narrowly averted a



The Palm Beach Chapter defended its FGCSA Team Championship at Southern Dunes GC. From left, front row: Steve Bernard and Mark Henderson. Back row: Terry Kennelly, Tyler Warner and Jeff Klontz. Photo by Joel Jackson.

rainout on Sept. 29.

In a sudden-death playoff under threatening skies and falling temperatures, Bernard, from the Adios GC, said "adios" on the first hole of the playoff when he failed to get up and down from just short of the green.

Pantaleo made a routine four and Ondo scrambled from behind the green to save par and force extra holes. The two matched routine pars on the second and third holes. On fourth hole, a par-five into the wind, both players were over the green in three and had long putts after chipping up. Pantaleo's putter, which had made some 30 footers earlier in the day, failed him in the clutch and he three-putted, allowing Ondo to two-putt for a bogey and a victory.

Ondo and the Palm Beach Chapter team both successfully defended their titles as low gross and team champions. The Palm Beach team consisted of Steve Bernard, Mark Henderson, Terry Kennelly, Jeff Klontz, and Tyler Warner. Palm Beach eked out a one-stroke victory over Central Florida.

Ondo's victory secured a spot on the FGCSA team to compete in the GCSAA Golf Championship in February at the World Golf Village in St. Augustine. Joining Ondo on Florida Team No. 1 will be Bob Roessing, the Poa Annu champion; Chris Cartin, winner of the Crowfoot Open and Mark Hopkins with the low average in two of the three qualifying events. Steve Bernard will be the first alternate in the event one of the qualifiers cannot participate. Other prize

winners were first and second low net finishers Chris Clark and John Lammrish.

Only five chapters managed to muster up teams who braved the ominous forecast of stormy weather over the state for the weekend. A stationary front managed to keep most of the rain south of central Florida and the 36 players struggled in the windy conditions and light sporadic drizzle to complete the tournament. Our thanks to superintendent Bayne Calliavet and the folks at Southern Dunes for their assistance and hospitality in hosting our annual championship for the sixth time.

Joel Jackson and
Joe Ondo

SOUTH FLORIDA GCSA

17th Annual Event Raises \$15,000 for Kids in Peril

For the last 16 years, the South Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association has sponsored a tournament to benefit the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children/Florida. To date, the tournaments had raised more than \$140,000 to support Florida programs. On Oct. 5, the donation increased to more than \$155,000 with the tremendous success of the 17th annual tournament held at Colony West Country Club in Tamarac.

Twenty years ago, the Center began its work out of tragic circumstances, the abduction and

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murder of Adam Walsh. Today the center is part of a national network of nonprofit centers helping thousands of children and their families every year.

"The SFGCSA is one of our charter supporters and partners," said Reve Walsh, co-founder and Board member of NCMEC. "The children in Florida have access to child safety information and programs, and their parents have access to an efficient and effective response team if their child is missing. This would not be possible without the continued loyal support of the SFGCSA"

Players in the tournament enjoyed a day of golf that culminated in an awards presentation. The SFGCSA. was presented an award for 17 years of outstanding support from Mike Christiansen, a NCMEC Board member and trustee, and the chairman of the Florida Branch Advisory Board. Colony West Country Club was also presented an award for hosting the tournament for the past five years.

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, a private, 501(c) 3 organization, was established in 1984 as a national resource

center on child protection and a clearinghouse for information on child victimization. Since its creation, NCMEC has assisted law enforcement on over 77,000 cases of missing children, and has played a role in the location and recovery of more than 60,000 children.

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children/FL Branch is the central point for NCMEC child protection education and prevention. Through September NCMEC/FL received 523 missing-child cases and participated in the recovery and location of 308 children. The organization made 88 presentations to 2,073 children and 322 adults, and eight presentations to 205 law enforcement officers.

Nancy A. McBride, Director of Prevention Education NCME/FL Branch

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The Treasure Coast Golf Course Superintendents Association

held its annual Blue Pearl Charity Golf Tournament Oct. 1 at the Medalist Golf Club. Once again Nucrane Machinery was the presenting sponsor.

The Blue Pearl has always promoted the preservation of the environment in which we live. The Treasure Coast GCSA has accomplished this goal by supporting the Audubon Program for Schools with the proceeds from the Blue Pearl event.

However, in light of the tragedy which befell our country on Sept. 11, the proceeds in 2001 will be directed toward an entirely different group of children. After a unanimous vote, the board of directors of the TCGCSA decided to donate the proceeds to the "Families of the Victims Fund."

The Treasure Coast GCSA would like to thank all the participants, sponsors and contributors for their generosity in helping us to raise more than \$13,000 during this year's event.

*Barbara Tierney
John's Island Club*

**BLUE PEARL
TOURNAMENT
RESULTS**

GROSS DIVISION

- 1st Place (59): Ken Glover, Jon Mahannah, Paul Bondeson, Steve Ehrbar
- 2nd Place (62): Walt McMahon, Tyler Warner, Steve Bernard, Terry Kennelly
- 3rd Place (63): Roy MacDonald, Mark Henderson, Gary Fischer, Roy Kimberly

NET DIVISION

- 1st Place (56.7): Dale Mitchell, John Swaner, Phil Peterson, Mark Heater
 - 2nd Place (57): Jim Colo, Paul Leffler, Michael Gibson, Mike Maxwell
 - 3rd Place (57.8): Roger Welker, Randy Vaughan, Scott Bell, Craig Baker
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topchoice[™]**

New Chipco TopChoice provides one-step fire ant control for up to a full year. Formulated specifically for broadcast application with a standard spreader (87 lbs. product/ acre), TopChoice is designed to be very different from other fire ant treatments: No multi-step processes. No time-consuming mound treatments. Just one easy, broadcast application is all it takes to get up to 95 percent control in 4-6 weeks, and eliminate the threat of fire ants for up to a year. Plus, an application of Chipco TopChoice for fire ants will also control mole crickets, fleas, ticks, and nuisance ants.

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New Chipco FireStar delivers fipronil in a unique, easy-to-use granular bait that's highly attractive to fire ants. The result is effective control with just 0.00015% active ingredient, the lowest concentration in any fire ant treatment. FireStar makes an excellent partner for Chipco Choice or TopChoice — use it to treat landscape beds, embankments and sand trap perimeters, the bases of trees, and other hard-to-reach places fire ants favor.

To learn more please talk with an authorized Chipco agent. Call 1-800-843-1702 for the agent nearest you, or visit our website at www.aventischipco.com for more information.

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**38th Bud Quandt
 Research Benefit
 Event Draws 140**

The 38th Annual Bud Quandt Research and Benefit Tournament was held at the Pasadena Y&CC in St. Petersburg Oct. 22. The turnout was excellent with 140 players participating in a four-person scramble.

The day started with a huge buffet breakfast followed by guest speakers Tim Williams of Gatorland in Kissimmee; Joel Jackson, FGCSA director of communications and John Foy, director of the USGA's Green Section Florida Region.

Golf was up next followed by a bountiful buffet dinner. After dinner, chapter recognition awards, sponsor gifts, and tournament prizes were presented. The evening was capped by an exciting raffle drawing.

Everyone had a great time and the proceeds will be donated to environmental turf research, All Children's Hospital, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and student scholarships. A special thank-you to all of our loyal sponsors

and the players who helped make this fund raising event such an outstanding success.

*Whit Derrick, GCS
 Feather Sound GC
 Tournament Director*

**GCSAA Recognizes
 Florida
 Superintendents**

Certification: John W. Sibley, Jr. golf course superintendent at Tequesta Country Club has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent by the GCSAA. The on-site inspection of Sibley's golf course operation was conducted by two certified golf course superintendents: Steve Ehrbar, CGCS, Lost Tree Club; and Dan Jones, CGCS, of West Palm Beach, Fla.

Environmental Management Program: Gary Puckett, golf operations manager for Brevard County in Satellite Beach, earned specializations in Integrated Pest Management, and Storage, Disposal and Recycling. Michael J. Swinson, CGCS at the

**SCRAMBLE TOURNAMENT
 TEAM WINNERS**

GROSS DIVISION

- 1st Place (55): Hruby, Powell, Lyerly, DeSears
- 2nd Place (58): Martin, Knotts, Klinger, Wheaton
- 3rd Place (58): Johnson, Reash, Foss, Whiteleather
- 4th Place (60): Danworth, Ginter, Fletcher, Hoffman
- 5th Place (60): Weeks, Morgan, LaGree, Fruthchey

- Luper, MacEwen
- 3rd Place (53.7): Ayer, Rogers, Huellman, Bryant
- 4th Place (54.1): Andretta, Ley, Lampe, Gonsoles
- 5th Place (54.4): Brawley, Hazzard, Baldwin, Corwin

SKILL CONTESTS

- Closest to the Pin: No. 2 Kevin Vereb, No. 8 Scott Corwin, No. 11 Rick Fletcher, No. 16 Derek Vaughan
- Longest Drive #12: Steve Johnson
- Straightest Drive #13: Mr. Newcamp
- Putting Contest: Bill Blaie and Bill Moore

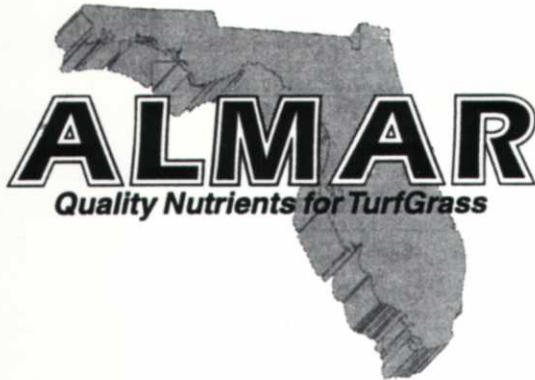
NET DIVISION

- 1st Place (49.2): Cook, Cook, Harding, Futch
- 2nd Place (52.9): Delaney, Lewis,

World Woods GC in Brooksville, Fla earned specialization in Golf Course Development.

Tournaments: Scott Welder, golf course superintendent at Disney

World's Magnolia and Palm courses was profiled on the GCSAA website as host of the PGA Tour's National Car Rental Classic tournament in October.



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Palma Ceia CC - Buddy Carmouche
Pro Source One - Paul Fox
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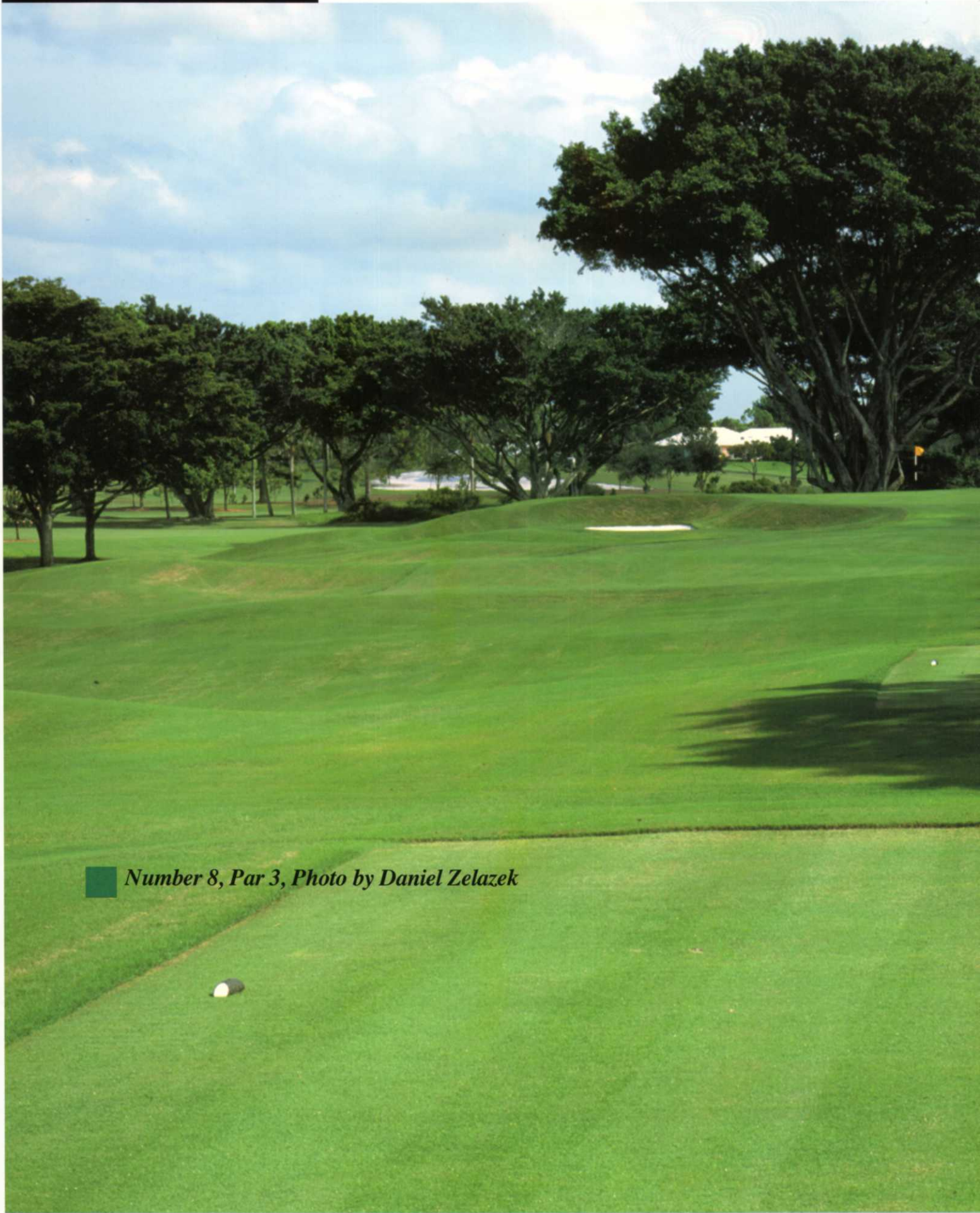
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■ *Number 8, Par 3, Photo by Daniel Zelazek*



THE COUNTRY CLUB OF FLORIDA IS...

The Village Green

By Joel Jackson, CGCS

When most of us think of Palm Beach County, we think of the highly urbanized coastal strip of beachfront hotels, private mansions, high-rise condos and inland waterways. If you go five miles west of U.S. Highway 1 on Golf Road in Boynton Beach, you find the suburbs, which soon give way to the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge in another mile or so. In fact almost 90 percent of Palm Beach County is either agricultural land or wildlife management areas.

In that suburban transitional area between city and wilderness, the Country Club of Florida literally serves as the village green for Florida's incorporated Village of Golf. The 166-acre golf course is surrounded by the homes of the residents whose homes are on a continuous

perimeter road that encircle the course within the gated community. The Country Club of Florida, like so many Palm Beach County golf courses, provides vital green belt areas for the highly urbanized southeast Florida cities.

The Village of Golf and its Country Club of Florida have tried to maximize the environmentally friendliness of the golf course by active participation in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. CCF was designated a fully Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Feb. 1, 1999. It has truly been a cooperative effort among residents, members, consultants and staff. The best part is that the continual "naturalizing" of the course has only served to enhance the golf experience.

JEFFREY KLONTZ



Jeff Klontz (left) inspects work progress on the waterfall project with Lloyd McCumby.

Originally from: Akron, Ohio

Family: Married to Denise Klontz, daughters Brittany 13, Karlea 11; and son Jeffrey II, 6.

Education: Ohio State Agriculture Technical Institute

Employment history: 18 years at CCF. Followed Marsh Benson who went on to Augusta National.

Professional affiliations: GCSAA, FTGA, past president of the Palm Beach GCSA including 7-8 years of board service.

Mentors and Influential People: John Rainieri,

owner of the Paradise Lake GC in Ohio, was instrumental in getting me started in the business. I worked as a caddy initially, but after critical review of my golf swing, John suggested I give up the dream of being golf pro and take up greenkeeping. John helped me see the possibilities in the business and steered me to study at OSU-ATI. I have had four holes-in-one in my golfing career, two here at CCF in 2000.

Marsh Benson at Augusta National was very influential and helped me tremendously. His dedication for quality workmanship and his drive to achieve short and long term goals was inspirational. His message was to never give up on the ideas that you have and keep pursuing them with determination. Be open minded to new and productive ideas that improve golf course operations and productivity.

I have many other friends I enjoy and I know I'll leave some out by mentioning a few, but I have to pay tribute to the fearsome foursome of Mark Henderson, Pete Brooks and Karl Schmidt. We try to play golf weekly and have an annual dinner with our spouses. I miss the company of Glen Klauk, who was my next-door neighbor at Delray Dunes and respect his talent and the excellent job he is doing at Pablo Creek in Jacksonville.

His successor is a member of the new breed of superintendents, Terry Kennelly, and he has become a good neighbor who calls often and shares his experiences. I enjoy the brotherhood of many other superintendents and we must be open minded to each other's abilities and appreciate everyone's dedication and hard work.

I would also like to include all the green chairmen I have had the privilege to work with at CCF. I am presently working with my sixth chairman and their ideas and goals are the building blocks of our programs. We have to understand that they are club members and our employers and their

agendas are assets to the club. And green chairmen in return need to understand and appreciate our concerns and support us in difficult times.

Goals: Personal - First and foremost to be actively involved as a father to raise, love and care for my children as they prepare for the world as it is today. To help them understand the values of good people and the dos and don'ts in society and to appreciate those who help you in life. Professional - Continually enhance the overall conditions here at the club through advancements in grass types, new products, technology and good sound planning to implement improvements for the best playing conditions for the members. Continue the Audubon program with the club and stress the importance of Audubon International how we can easily and positively enhance the environment with the support of the golf course. I want to continue my turfgrass education and would like to pursue GCSAA certification as soon as I get the course recertified in the ACSP program by the end of the year.

Advice: For young superintendents and newcomers to Florida, one of the hardest lessons to learn is to know intimately the turf you have inherited at your new course. You may have come from a course with new high tech turf, but you may now be dealing with some of the older grasses that don't respond well to some of the aggressive programs for the newer grass varieties you may have worked with. Make friends with an experienced veteran in the area before you stress out your course and yourself.

Memorable moments: Before Mark O'Meara won a major tournament he played at the CCF. He took the time to do a photograph with my family on the fifth hole near our maintenance shop. He was very professional and cordial and I'd like to say his visit was a good-luck omen. That year I worked at the Masters tournament and I admit I was almost as happy as Mark was when he rolled in that 20-footer on the 18th hole to win the event.

In February, the GCSAA will present the Country Club of Florida with a 2001 Chapter Environmental Stewardship Award in the private club division at the International Golf Course Conference and Show in Orlando.

Golf course superintendent Jeff Klontz put it this way, "As our environmental awareness grew by participating in the ACSP program, we learned that any time we made a change or improvement to the golf course layout and design to help drainage, playability, and golf conditions, we could just as easily enhance the course by adding native plant materials to help frame holes, fill out-of-play areas to reduce turf area, protect lake banks and provide food and cover for wildlife. Our projects are now planned with an eye to helping the golf game and the environment at the same time."

CCF is planning a renovation of the clubhouse and practice areas in the near future. To provide fill for the project, the Island Corridor Wildlife area will be expanded to create more wetland area. It is a win-win situation for the members and for area wildlife.

For Klontz, who admittedly didn't know

a grackle from a kestrel 10 years ago, the focus on the ACSP program has been a tremendous learning experience. Today his knowledge of birds is very good and his CCF wildlife photo album is proof of his education and expertise. But Klontz is a busy golf course superintendent whose primary job is to provide good golf conditions. Fortunately, CCF club members shared the ACSP vision and helped to get much of the work done on the course. This kind of teamwork and cooperation is a perfect example of the partnership required at a club to make programs successful and self-sustaining.

Perhaps one of the most critical lessons Klontz learned was to re-think his maintenance practices and take the time to see how he could accomplish the desired playing conditions and at the same time reduce inputs to the environment: in other words, walk the talk on Integrated Pest Management.

With the installation of 45 purple martin houses on the course, Klontz began to learn the feeding, nest-building, egg-hatching and fledging habits of the birds. He found that his on-course programs could have huge impacts on the birds by

adjusting the timing of his procedures. If pesticide and aquatic herbicides were applied during nest-building periods, some of the materials could be incorporated into the nests and bird houses, which could have possible negative effects on the young birds. By altering schedules and products, Klontz is able to maximize fledgling survival rates.

In general Klontz has been reducing traditional synthetic chemical applications and using more aggressive cultural practices, like more frequent aerifications, to reduce environmental impacts. He is experimenting with more biological control products to replace older products. Klontz takes the broad view of maintenance, and even simple things like improvements to the irrigation system help by making it easier to grow healthier turf which requires less chemical dependency. Another area being looked at is the turf varieties used on the golf course.

Currently CCF has very successful Tifdwarf greens that are overseeded with G-2 bentgrass in the fall. The club is looking at the possibi-

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THE ROAD TO ACSP CERTIFICATION

THE PATH, PROJECTS AND PEOPLE

1990 - 1996 Small steps: Joined the ACSP program. We watched, asked questions, listened and learned.

Reviewed proper use of all chemicals.

Stocked golf course ponds with largemouth bass and bream.

USGA and Audubon International efforts to enhance golf course wildlife.

Purple martin houses installed - Bill Lugar.

City approves reuse water for course irrigation.

Club signs contract for IQ water.

1997 Getting serious: Established Audubon Committee - Dr. Robert Raborn, chairman.

Members - Buzz Jaskella, Charles Hedlund,

William Fay, William Lugar, Barbara Borden,

Eugene Koch, Kate Shortz and Anne La Salle.

ACSP resource inventory completed.

1/29/97 - over 100 members attend ACSP program meeting hosted by Shelly and John Foy.

Environmental planning projects discussed in Greens and Grounds Committees.

Pesticide applications reduced. More biological products used as replacements.

Cultural practices on the course increased - aeration, etc.

4/97 - Certified in Environmental Planning.

8/97 - Klontz consults with Kilpatrick Irrigation on pump station and pipe plans.

8/97 - Klontz participates in Kidstown Audubon program.

9/97 - Certified in Wildlife and Habitat Management.

Buzz Jaskella designed our first ACSP planting south of the 8th tee.

Dead pines left as snags for cavity nesting birds.

Osprey nest installed on the 11th hole.

34 nesting boxes for woodpeckers, yellow crested flycatchers, Carolina wrens, screech owls and blue birds installed.

Shoreline vegetation planted on the 2nd, 5th, and 11th pond banks - Lorna Tippit.

Aeration devices installed in lakes to improve water quality.

CCF's first Urban Water Bird Survey. 53 varieties of birds

visited the course. - Chuck Hedlund.

Summer project - 9th tee, wetland and Oak Grove Wildlife Corridor completed. A joint project of Beautification and Audubon committees.

10/97 - New pump station and irrigation upgrade completed.

12/10/97 - Annual Wildlife Corridor Walk with 50 members.

12/30/97 - Certified in Outreach and Education.

1998 We're On a Roll: Only three more programs to complete for certification.

CCF prepares to receive IQ Water.

3/16/98 - Certified in Water Conservation.

5/98 - CCF is finally supplied with IQ Water for irrigation.

8/1/98 - Permitting approved for 14th tee project and lake bank enhancement (a joint Audubon and Beautification committee project).

South Florida WMD requires more littoral zone aquatic plants for 14th hole project. Due to fall tropical storms,

original plants were submerged. Many plants have

improved with falling water levels and plant mass

should increase.

11/98 - Certified in Integrated Pest Management.

24 purple martin houses installed for CCF homeowners. 10 more installed on the golf course. 70 young purple

martins fledged - Ann LaSalle, Kate Shortz, Gladys Walsh and Dr. Raborn.

Many homeowners installing bird feeders.

ACSP committee educates homeowners about the ACSP Back Yard Program.

1999 The Home Stretch:

1/3/99 - Certified in Water Quality Management.

1/27/99 - Cleaned all 45 purple martin houses - Gladys Walsh.

2/1/99 - Received full ACSP certification and registered as 24th in Florida and 159th in the world.

6/1/99 - Counted all purple martins: 200 hatchlings.

Installed new purple martin house at pump house. Donated by Elliott Spafford.

Fall - Revised Audubon Island project and developed new ideas for wildlife enhancement. Ideas from

Wakodahatchee Wetland on Jog Road. Buzz Jaskella

helped design new ideas for visual plan for committee members to study.

2001 And Beyond: New Audubon Committee Chairman Chuck Hedlund

Protect and enhance the quality of the environment.

Educate more homeowners about the ACSP Back Yard Program.

Develop Oak Grove Wildlife Corridor with orchids - Dr. Valenti, Orchid Master. In memory of Ms. Betty O'Neil.

Support the Village with wildlife enhancement programs and butterfly garden.

Proceed with expansion of the Island Corridor according to fall 1999 revised plan.

Continue our leadership and stewardship of the land.

Stimulate Florida mallard duck population.

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ty of introducing TifEagle sometime in the future. Most clubs looking at changing green's grasses are well served by growing test plots on practice greens for at least a year to make sure the grass does well in that club's location. This method has saved clubs a lot of money and heartache.

In 2001 Klontz replanted the back nine tee tops in Sea Isle 1 paspalum. So far he likes the density of the grass and its recuperative powers to heal divots more quickly than Tifway 419. Because of CCF's location and Sea Isle's cold tolerance, Klontz hopes to avoid overseeding the back nine tees. Once again turf variety selection helps to reduce environmental inputs.

On the horizon is a possible regrassing project for the fairways. The current composition is a mixture of Tifway 419 and other bermuda off-types. That project is too far away for a specific grass type to be selected yet, but no doubt CCF will consider which turf will best meet the expectations of the golfers and minimize environmental impacts.

Another key environmental input is the reclaimed water used to irrigate the golf course. Klontz has some concerns over the long term effect of reclaimed water on the course soil chemistry which could affect water percolation and nutrient uptake.

While upgrading the pump station and irrigation control system to help deliver water more efficiently, Klontz is experimenting with an ESP electrolysis system that reportedly alters the electric charge of the water molecules, enabling water to be more efficient in the soil. The system, originally developed for sanitation use in the meat-packing industry, has been used sparingly in golf course irrigation applications.

Says Klontz, "We have had the unit installed for six months and subsequent soil reports indicate at least a 90-degree turn in sodium and bicarbonate values. I am taking the long-range view on this tool. I will need to see an overall reduction in water, fertilizer and chemical usage to be totally convinced. But because it is a simple, natural process that can potentially have a huge impact on our budget and the environment; I'm willing to give it a try."

Continued on page 22.

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COUNTRY CLUB OF FLORIDA



Country Club of Florida maintenance staff. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Location: Village of Golf

Ownership: Member owned

Playing policy: Private

18 Holes: Gold Tees 6,746 yards, Par: 72,
Course/Slope Ratings: Gold 72.6/134, Blue
71.0/131, White 67.8/122, Silver 64.8/112

Designed by: Robert Bruce Harris. Opened in
1957. Redesigned by Arthur Hills in 1986 with ren-
ovation by Wadsworth Construction, Inc. Audubon,
tee and range improvements by Steve Hamilton,
Hamilton Grading and Sod Farm.

Management: Club President William Marx;
Green Chairman William Rodawig; Audubon
Chairman Chuck Hedlund; Club Manager Scott
Bragg; Golf Professional John Fleming; Golf
Course Superintendent Jeff Klontz.

Major Renovations/Ongoing Projects: Complete
course renovation in 1986 moving 250,000 cubic
yards of soil to create contours and mounding.
Greens rebuilt to USGA specs with 2-inch choker
layer. The course was replanted with Tifway 419
fairways, Tifgreen 328 tees and Tifdwarf greens. In
2001 we replanted the back nine tees with Sea Isle 1
paspalum and plan to do the front nine next year.
We are also in the process of updating our irrigation
control system with Rainbird Cirrus.

Total acreage under maintenance: 166 acres.

Greens: Average size: 5700 sq.ft. Total 3.5 acres.

Turf type: Tifdwarf base with G2 bentgrass main-
tained all year. Height of cut: .110-.156 inch. Green
speed goal is 10.0 on the stimpmeter.

Overseeding: G2 bentgrass @ 4-6 lbs/1,000 sq.ft.

Tees: 3 acres. Front 9 in Tifway 419 Bermuda.
HOC: .250-.500 inch. Overseeding: Mix of 12 lbs.
rye and 7 lbs. Poa annua. Back 9 in Sea Isle 1
Paspalum. No overseeding. HOC: Same.

Fairways: 40 acres of Tifway 419 Bermuda with
off types. HOC: .350 - .500". Overseeding: None.

Roughs: 35 acres of Tifway 419 & Ormond
Bermuda. HOC: .625 - 1.0". Overseeding: None.

Bunkers: 58 bunkers raked with GA 26 sand, all hand
raked. Fairway bunkers raked with Smithco with
tournament rake and brush.

Waterways/Lakes: 11 shallow lakes covering 10
acres. Installed bottom lake diffusers and aeration
fountains to help dissolved oxygen content.
Irrigation: Water source - effluent stored in a 1-acre
lake. Equipment: Flowtronex pump station 1600
gpm from two 75 hp pumps and a small PM pump.
Control system: Rainbird Maxi V converting to
Cirrus system. Rainbird 16 & 24 station clocks
Heads: Toro 690s and 780s. Plan to convert large
690 heads on tees to smaller specialized tee sprin-
klers. Fertiligation/injection: Inject gypsum, 0-0-22
KMS, liquid fertilizers and Maxi-Green to help bal-
ance soils and nutrition.

Total staff including superintendent: 16 full time
and 1 part time. Average weekly budgeted hours.
Straight time 40 hours. Overtime 4 hours year
round.

Leadership: assistant superintendent, Leonardo
Flores; head mechanic, Lloyd McCumby; reel tech-
nician, Antonio Flores; pest control technician,
Euclid Reid; irrigation technician, Ernesto Juarez.

Special circumstances: Hurricane Irene bombarded
the course with 25 inches in two days. We sustained
damage to the pump house, greens submerged for
five days and some fairways under water for eight
days, which pointed out shortcomings in our 40-
year-old drainage infrastructure for the course.
Working with the City Village of Golf we agreed on
future modifications which are 75% complete and
working well.

Communications: Contribute articles to the club
newsletter on course conditions and projects. Our
new Club Manager Scott Bragg wanted us to build a

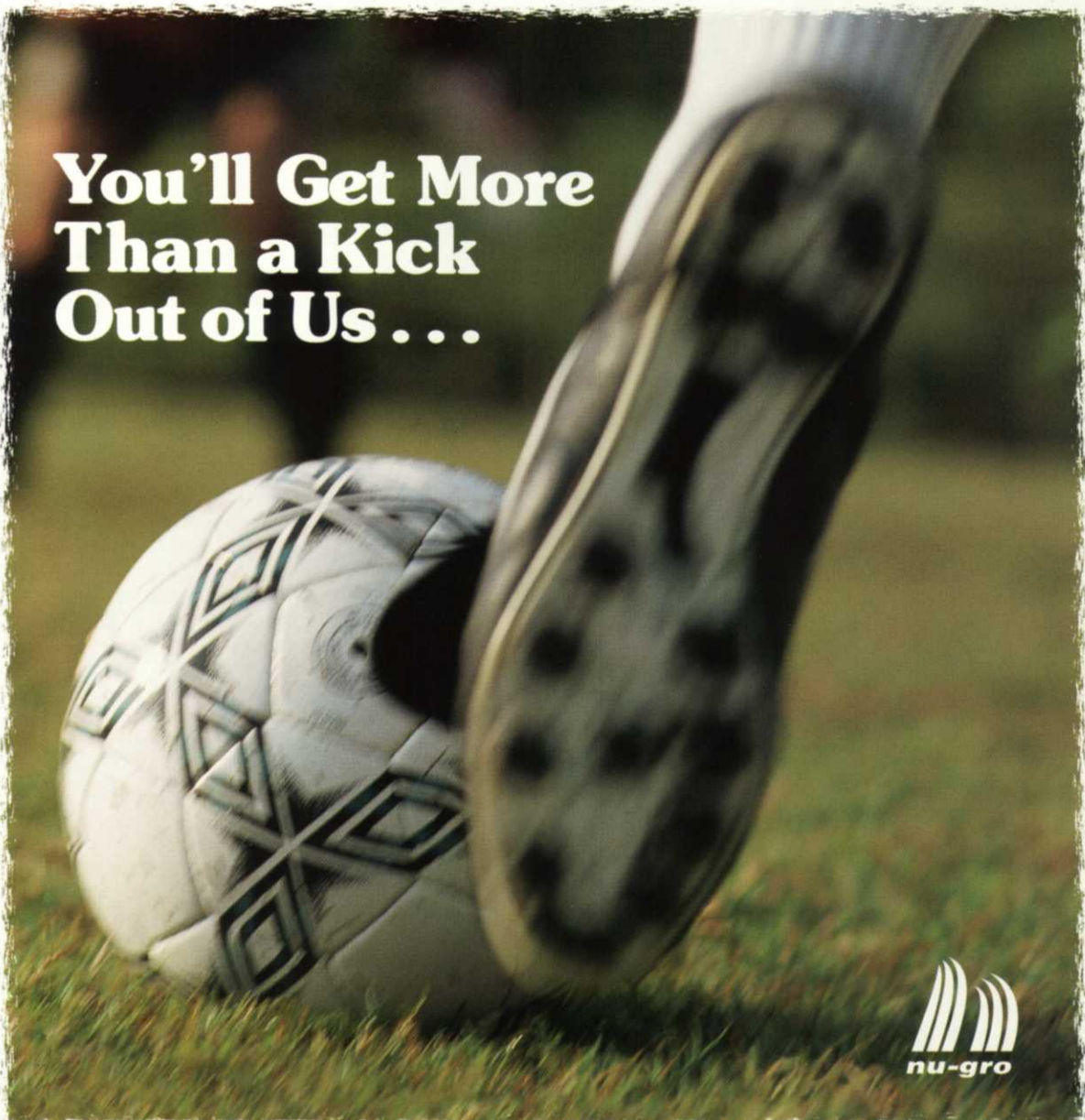
better team network, so this year we have been
meeting monthly and we have improved our inter-
nal communications tremendously. I would recom-
mend this for every club. This group consists of
the golf pro, comptroller and course superintendent.
The membership recognizes this as an asset
for improving club functions.

Cultural/Fertility programs: Deep tine aeri-
fication 2 times per year on greens, tees and fairways.
Top dressing of greens bi-weekly in season and
following summer aerifications. Basic fertility pro-
gram includes annually 8 lbs of N/M on fairways
and roughs with slow release Nutralene or
MESOP and 12 lbs of K/M. The Bentgrass greens
are given more light but frequent applications of
potassium nitrate, MKP and Coron @ .1lb of N
per application so we don't over stimulate the put-
ting surface.

IPM Program: We have a large purple martin
population on the course and they were a large
part of our interest in the Audubon program plus
the fact that it works. We diligently monitor the
nesting and hatching of fledglings and time our
pesticide applications to avoid unnecessary expo-
sure to these birds which are sensitive to pesti-
cides. However, proper nest box location and
maintenance are also critical as well in having a
healthy and thriving purple martin population. We
have established a wildlife corridor and wetland
which we only rogue-out once a year. We plant a
variety of native shrubs in the natural area and
around the course that provide food and cover.

Equipment Inventory: Greens - 18-inch
Jacobsen walk mowers 7x/week; Tees - 26-inch
Jacobsen walk mowers 4x/week; Fairways - John
Deere 363s5 and Toro 5200s 3-4x/week; Roughs -
Toro hydraulic 7-gang pull-behind unit; John
Deere trim mower and tee and green complexes.

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Old Glory snaps in the breeze of approaching storm over the 9th green on the 438-yard, par-4 hole.
Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

continued from page 19

For the record, there have been many anecdotal reports of success for those who have installed the ESP units on their courses. It takes perseverance and commitment to monitor and document the results over time to establish proof of performance. In the meantime, Klontz continues to inject gypsum, 0-0-22 KMS, liquid fertilizers and Maxi-Greens to keep up necessary soil nutrient levels.

For all his belief and commitment to the Audubon program, Klontz had a reality check for those who undertake to naturalize their golf courses. Klontz said, "I don't care what anyone says about natural areas, there's no such thing as 'no maintenance.' There is some cost involved at some point in time - from clearing and installation to the level of maintenance mandated by your club. Some folks are willing to let these areas go 'natural' and that means some weeds are going to get in there. Generally, I'd say members don't want to see a prominent area that's not tended to in some way, so there's going to be ongoing labor and maybe some herbicide costs."

"People need to realize it is a different kind of investment. They are investing in wildlife preservation, water conservation and water quality, course beautification, fewer chemicals and less fertilizer use, but it does still take dollars to control

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STAFF RECOGNITION

Overall loyalty, longevity and low turnover are hallmarks of the Country Club of Florida staff. Thomas Mikel has been with CCF for more than 20 years. Great continuity within the staff has helped produce consistent high quality playing conditions. This performance is appreciated and respected by the club membership. At the end of the season our employees are identified and congratulated at the annual meeting, and presented with 5-, 10-, 15- and 20-year service pins.

Some of our key dedicated employees:

Leonardo Flores is the assistant superintendent and has been Jeff's right-hand man for 18 years. His work ethic and golf course construction skills have been evident in every project undertaken at the club.

Antonio Flores has been with CCF for 16 years and for the last eight years he has served as the assistant mechanic in charge of preparing our mowers. He is an outstanding master of his trade. Euclid Reid has been our licensed pesticide applicator for 12 years and has also been employed at CCF for 16 years. Lloyd McCumby is not merely a

"jack" but a "master" of all trades. He has been the head mechanic for six years and his multi-talented skills, including carpentry, have been a tremendous asset to the club.

Lloyd is a true professional and is

well respected by the membership and staff alike.

The message from the whole staff is that they have a team atmosphere dedicated to quality and they are proud to be employed at the County Club of Florida.



Assistant Superintendent Leonardo Flores stands in one of the bunkers he helped to rebuild and restore to original design. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Building waterfalls is just one of many skills that falls under Head Mechanic Lloyd McCumby's multi-faceted job description. Photo by Joel Jackson.

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View from the elevated 10th tee on this 437 yard, par 4 hole. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.



The 351-yard 14th hole borders one of the 11 lakes on the golf course. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.

weeds and maintain bird houses and feeding stations, or replenish pine straw and mulch.”

Klontz’s environmental approach to managing CCF came from his deep desire to make the world a better place to live. He has tackled the challenge to modify his practices and implement sound programs with enthusiasm and inspiration from his family, club members and staff. His attitude is best summarized by his comments at the recognition ceremony held to commemorate the full ACSP certification of CCF.

“At the County Club of Florida, it has always been our goal to provide the best possible course conditioning and quality for our members. Participation in the Audubon program has allowed us to further expand management of the entire site and enhance the environmental qualities of the property. The Country Club of Florida believes in the Audubon program. We have made sure that our programs uphold the Audubon standards and also enhance The Village environment. Our members are proud of the efforts that have been under way to enhance the golf course wildlife.”



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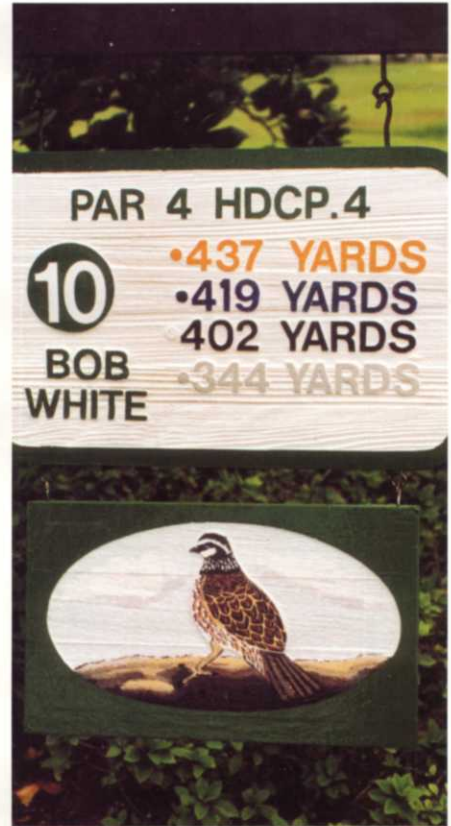
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Flowers, fruits and berries attract birds and butterflies to the natural areas.



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All the holes at CCF are named after birds. The tee signs are laser cut redwood taken from original James J. Audubon paintings.



One of 45 purple martin houses on the course. This one is in the Island Wildlife Corridor, a man made wetland and natural area. Photos by Joel Jackson.



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Professional Certification

TOP TEN REASONS TO SEEK IT OUT

With the passage of the GCSAA Professional Development Initiative, superintendents will be focusing on meeting a set of performance standards to achieve and maintain Class A Superintendent status. Once the self-assessment program is in place, superintendents may want to consider taking the next step - certification. Here's another association's look at why certified professional status has value. It is applicable to golf course superintendents as well.

Everyone knows that M.D. following an individual's name means he or she is a medical doctor; and CPA signifies the individual has met standards and fulfilled requirements to be a certified public accountant. More than a few cryptic initials following a name indicates that thousands of associations utilize professional certification to recognize individuals for their dedication to their chosen career and their ability to perform to set standards.

Ask a certified professional "why," and they'll tell you that the certification process is one of the single most important steps you can make in career development. Here are the top ten reasons you should consider professional certification:

1. **Demonstrates your commitment to the profession.**

Receiving your certification shows your peers, supervisors and, in turn the general public your commitment to your chosen career and your ability to perform to set standards. Since university degrees can no longer represent the full measure of professional knowledge and competence in today's evolving job market, certification sets you apart as a leader in the profession.

2. **Enhances the profession's image.** Certification programs seek to grow, promote and develop certified professionals who can stand "out in front" as examples of excellence in the industry or field.

3. **Reflects achievement.**

A certified professional has displayed excellence in his or her field and fulfilled a set of standards or requirements.

4. **Builds self-esteem.**

Certification creates a standard for the profession, complete with performance standards, ethics and career paths. You'll begin to define yourself beyond a job description or academic level. You'll see yourself as a certified professional who can control his or her own professional destiny and find a deep sense of personal satisfaction.

5. **Establishes professional credentials.**

Since it recognizes your individual accomplishments, certification stands above your resume, serving as an impartial third-party endorsement to your

knowledge and experience. When the industry looks for individuals qualified to perform services, they seek individuals like you who have achieved certification.

6. **Improves career opportunities and advancement.**

Certification gives you the "edge" when being considered for a promotion or other career opportunities. Certification clearly identifies you as an employee who can adapt to changes in work, technology, business practices and innovation.

7. **Preparation for greater on-the-job responsibilities.**

Since certification is a voluntary professional commitment to an industry or field of knowledge, it is a clear indicator of your willingness to invest in your own professional development. Professionals are aware of the constantly changing environment around their profession, and possess the needed tools to anticipate and respond to change.

8. **Provides for greater earnings potential.**

As a certified professional, you can expect many benefits, but for today's down-sized, right-sized, topsy-turvy world, salary increases speak for themselves.

9. **Improves skills and knowledge.**

Ideally, achieving certification shows your individual competence by confirming proficiency and career involvement and assuring knowledge.

10. **Offers greater professional recognition from peers.**

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1250 The value-added 1250 incorporates an electronic spray control system with rocker switches to control boom spray on/off and flow rate adjustment. Includes the Spray Pro system.

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RELIABLE PERFORMANCE The Multi Pro 1200 and 1250 are built for years of reliable service. The enhanced plumbing system features o-ring fittings and a reliable dual-diaphragm pump for continuous leak-free performance. The system even resists damage if applicant runs dry while spraying.



OPERATOR FRIENDLY Both Multi Pro models were designed with the operator's comfort in mind. They include a smooth-riding, front torsion joint suspension, comfortable high back seat and power steering. The outfront operator's position allows for superior visibility and easier entry/exit.



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KEY FEATURES The ergonomically designed cockpit includes fingertip controls and a foot-controlled master on-off switch. The rugged design features four wheel brakes, a new CVT automatic-type transmission with three forward speed ranges and reverse, and a dependable Kohler® 20 hp engine. Both the Multi Pro 1200 and 1250 work well with a broad range of nozzle sizes for application of any rate at virtually any speed. A convenient, electro-magnetic, accelerator locking device allows for easy use in areas requiring hand-gun spraying.



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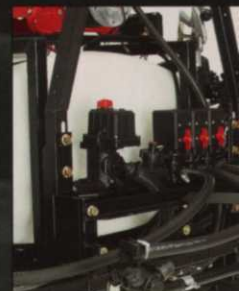
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MULTI PRO® 1200 & 1250 SPECIFICATIONS

MULTI PRO® 1200 (model 41107) & MULTI PRO® 1250 (model 41106)

Vehicle	4-wheel, rear wheel drive, front steer, single operator turf sprayer.			
Engine	20 hp Kohler® V-Twin horizontal shafts governed to 3,350 rpm, w/30 amp alternator, accel. pump carburetor.			
Battery	12 volt with 370 cold cranking amps @ 0°F (-18°C).			
Fuel Capacity	6 gallon (23 liter).			
Front Suspension	Fully independent rubber torsion swing arm.			
Rear Suspension	Rigid.			
Steering	Hydraulic power, center pivot linkage, 60° turning angle 96" (2.4 m) inside turning radius.			
Tires	Front: (2) 18 x 9.5-8 slick. Rear: (2) 24 x 13-12 Multi-Trac.			
Brakes	4-wheel hydraulic drum type with dual chamber master cylinder.			
Lights	Twin halogen headlights.			
Transmission	Integrated transaxle with 3 forward speed ranges and reverse.			
Ground Speed	1st speed range: 0-3.1 mph (0-4.9 km/h). 2nd speed range: 0-5.0 mph (0-8 km/h). 3rd speed range: 0-11.0 mph (0-17.6 km/h).			
Clutch	Centrifugally engaged variable belt drive (CVT).			
Spray Booms (optional)	Choice of 18.5', 3-section open boom or enclosed boom system. Open boom breaks away fore and aft. Raise vertically or cross for storage and transportation. Optional electric boom lift and sonic boom system adjusts boom height to any angle.			
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Sprayer Tank	160 gallon (605 liter) polyethylene tank, inductive agitation. Low profile w/large 7 gallon (27 liter) deep sump. Translucent w/fill level gauge.			
Spray Pump	Dual diaphragm pump, proportional ground speed control system. 30 gallon (11.4 liter) per minute output. Capacity range up to 250 (15 bar) psi max.			
Spray Controls	Electronic switches on Multi Pro 1250. Manual levers and dial on Multi Pro 1200.			
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Credit: New Hampshire GCSA Newsletter. This article is reprinted with permission from the Grounds Management Forum, the official online forum of the Professional Grounds Management Society.

It's All About Attitude



Jim Martello, right, had a good attitude about golf also, and was a perennial contender in golf outings. Jim is seen here with Kevin Downing, left, and Buck Buckner playing a round at the media opening of The Slammer and The Squire GC at the World Golf Village. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Jim Martello

Superintendents have a tendency to get battered around pretty good sometimes, but I have always tried to keep things in balance so I can maintain a positive outlook at work.

Employees are the backbone of our operation. They either help us excel to the next level or they can keep us at a mediocre level. Being a firm believer in having a good attitude, I'd like to share with you a story about the best employee I ever had and how we came together.

I had just started a new position at Halifax Plantation and we were in need of some good employees to get things turned around. On my third day of work I was sitting in my office and I noticed a fellow walking around the perimeter of the maintenance shop. He would stop and look over our equipment and mumble something to himself and move on.

I went out to see what was going on and after introducing ourselves I invited him into the office. He told me he was looking for work and he'd like to come to work here and that he could operate every piece of equipment in the shop, and probably better than anyone I had on the crew.

That was pretty cocky I thought and I asked him about his work history and background. I quickly figured out he probably was the real McCoy. I needed help, so what the heck, I've got nothing to lose. So I asked him how much I would have to pay for someone with all this talent and experience.

He said, "I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll work for you for one week and do whatever you need done. After the week is over we can discuss

hourly wage and benefits. If you don't like my work just be honest with me and I'll be gone. In fact you won't even have to pay me.

Well, he took me by surprise with his matter-of-fact offer, but it only took me about ten seconds to decide to give him a try. I told him to be in the next day at 6 a.m. ready for work.

There are many days when I think back on that encounter. It helps me to balance out all those employee problems that happen at the other end of the attitude spectrum. What a blessing it was to have an employee walk in the door with the right attitude, a working knowledge of the business, a willingness to please, and an all around team player.

I share this with you because I hope that everyone in our business could have the pleasure of having such a person on their crew. Also, it challenges me personally to check my own attitude every morning before arriving at work.

Editor's Note: We lost Jim Martello, superintendent at Halifax Plantation in Ormond Beach, this year to a battle with cancer. While Jim was home trying to win the fight against the disease, he wrote this article to share a reminder that with all the negatives we sometimes face in this business, there are always positive things that happen to us and we need to remember them during trying times.

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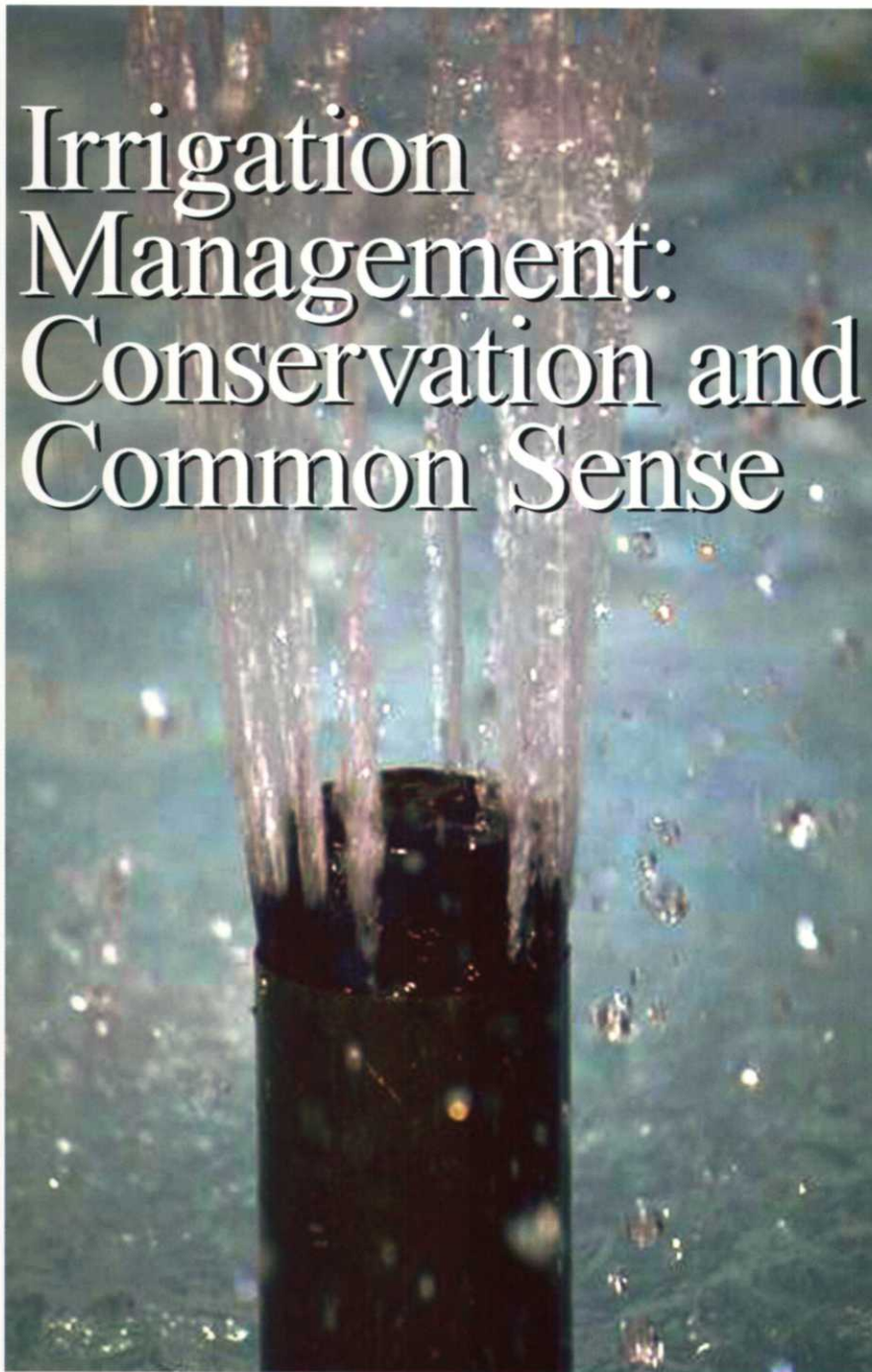



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Irrigation Management: Conservation and Common Sense



By Joel Jackson, CGCS

You should know the story by now. Most of the earth's water is sea water. Some say about 97 percent. Another 1-2 percent is tied up in the polar ice caps. That leaves 1-2 percent of relatively easily accessible fresh water for all of our needs. Agreeing on the priority of those needs is the vexing question facing water-management districts and local authorities, and as we know, golf is low on their list. While playing golf may be a game, managing turf and operating a golf facility is a business... a big business in Florida.

Golf is in one of the lowest water-con-

sumption groups tracked by water management districts. From actual consumption figures I have been able to find on web sites, the recreational/aesthetic use of water generally accounts for only 3-5 percent of the total daily consumption. Keep in mind we're just part of that group so the actual number for golf is lower. National figures compiled by the Irrigation Association suggest golf's water consumption to be around 1.5 percent. Combine that with consumptive-use permits (CUPs), the need to have good playing conditions, and improved irrigation technology and we are some of the best water managers around while being one of the most regulated. All because we are so visible.

It has been my experience to grow up in golf-course maintenance from the late 1950s to the present. I have operated a quick-coupler manual system as a teenager making my rounds during course grow-in. Then at Disney, I got to experience the Binar electrical system, which added lots of flexibility, but those decoder blocks in the ground were great lightning rods. Then I had a Buckner hydraulic system with a rudimentary central control panel. Most of the settings and adjustments were made at the satellite boxes, which made for a lot of trips around the course to make last-minute changes due to changes in the weather or the superintendent's mind.


A Toro Varitime II hydraulic system at Isleworth didn't eliminate the satellite box stops, but the master control board did allow multiple programming of fixed run-time cycles of 4 minutes, 8 minutes, etc. Finally in 1991, I got to experience the Rainbird Maxi V system back at Disney, and computerized control systems have been evolving ever since. They certainly offer a turf manager a lot of flexibility to prescribe water for small areas on the course to prevent wet and dry spots... if the system has been designed properly and you have single-head control.

Besides computerized control systems, the next best tool is a well designed delivery system. That means that the system needs to have correct pipe size, proper head spacing and location and a good isolation-valve network to shut down zones with leaks without shutting down the whole course. There should also be a network of manual quick-couple valves for hand-watering greens and tees and maybe even fairway bunker complexes. Many new courses are installing double-head systems around the greens so that the putting surface can be watered independently from the surrounding slopes, which may be built out of less porous soil and require less water.

Along the way, my water sources were direct pumping from a surface water lake fed by an artesian well, pumping directly from a deep well, pumping from a lake recharged by a deep well and reclaimed water piped into the mainline and pressurized with a booster pump. In my career I never had to contend with water restrictions like we have seen lately, but the goal of turf managers is always to use water wisely for to produce the healthiest turf and best playing conditions. Lately we have been learning to do more with less.

Even reclaimed water is not a panacea. Utilities have been prone to see the gold in them 'thar gallons and outrageous rate hikes of 350 percent have torpedoed course maintenance budgets. Local authorities seem to forget that using golf and landscape irrigation as community spray fields is providing them with a service which is saving them disposal costs.

As we have had to operate under water restrictions the past few years due to the persistent drought, two things have been abundantly clear to superintendents. First, they learned they could manage their golf courses with less water, and second, they could not effectively manage them by following the simplistic but totally ineffective method of restricting irrigation by the day of the week.

A sepia-toned photograph of two children fishing in a pond. The child on the left is wearing a green shirt, tan overalls, and a wide-brimmed straw hat. The child on the right is wearing a striped shirt, tan overalls, a baseball cap, and sunglasses. Both are holding fishing rods. The background is a blurred pond and trees.

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The only thing dictated by day-of-the-week watering schedules is when you water, not how much you water. Some water district officials have admitted that this method did not really save much water. Instead it forced water users to overwater on specific days to try and keep the root zone moist until the next scheduled irrigation.

Overwatering brings on another set of problems including poor playing conditions and poor turf health often requiring application of more chemicals to treat weeds and disease.

For those whose pumping capacity was limited or who had sandy soils, it encouraged - or rather forced - them to water off-schedule just to keep their turf alive and functioning. A rule or law that forces someone or a company to break the rules just to survive is plainly a bad rule.

I heard some superintendents documented their reduction in overall water use to cover themselves, but they watered when they had to, not on the arbitrary day of the week. They met the intent of the law, water conservation, in spades, but they violated the letter of the law which is flawed by not addressing practical agronomy or horticultural requirements. Their message is: We can and will cut back on amounts used during droughts, but let us apply the water when we need it. Enforcement is possible through pumping reports.

To the credit of many superintendents and the water management districts, they have made good strides in working out practical solutions to

these problems. This is a never-ending process and it is critical that superintendents keep their owners advised of the issues and solicit their help in educating politicians, water management districts and the general public about golf's true impact on the community.

TALE OF TWO COURSES

High & Dry or Low & Wet, Use Common Sense

The Highlands Reserve Golf Course is located in northeast Polk County just off US Hwy 27 on the sandy ridge that runs from Ocala to Sebring, and it's also near the eastern boundary of the Southwest Florida Water Management District. Superintendent Dave Datema, CGCS recently moved over from Disney and arrived in time to feel the full effects of the drought on this high and dry layout. Dave's current water source is ground water, but a reclaimed water line is being installed along US 27 from Haines City to the intersection of U.S. Hwy 192. The amount of reclaimed water Dave will have to use is unknown at this time, but hopefully he will be able to pump less ground water in the future.

Meanwhile over in Winter Park, Stuart

Leventhal's Interlachen Country Club was built on an old peat bog that wasn't suitable for residential development. Interlachen is located right next door to the local water treatment plant and so Interlachen irrigates totally with reclaimed water, but does have a backup well in case of emergencies. Drainage and percolation are polar opposites for the two courses and yet the management of the irrigation is based on the same concept - common sense.

Highlands Reserve drains so quickly that, during tropical storm Gabrielle last August, Datema's crew was mowing fairways when the eye of the storm passed over. That was after six inches of rain the previous night and morning. Over at Interlachen when summer rains kick in, Leventhal may not irrigate the fairways for four to six weeks. In fact they often have to go out and trim the grass back off the heads from lack of use.

Under normal conditions Highlands Reserve will pump 350,000 - 375,000 gallons per irrigation cycle and Interlachen will pump an average of 155,000 gallons. Both superintendents are addressing the needs of the turf and maintaining good playing conditions, and both use weather forecasting data to adjust their nightly watering to reflect the constantly changing conditions.

With the sandy conditions at Highlands Reserve, Datema has had to amend his native-soil greens to slow down the water percolation since there is no perched water table effect.

"While the greens drain super, I cannot



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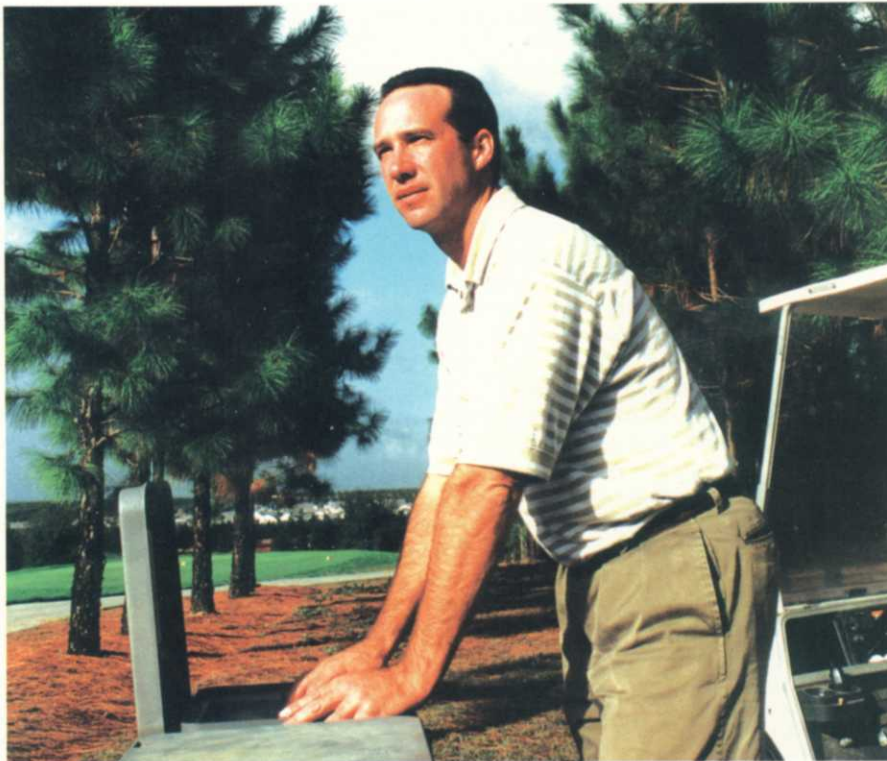
keep the root zone moist without daily watering," says Datema. "This past spring I aerified with 1/2-inch tines on 2x2 spacing, removed the cores and topdressed with a 70/30 sand and peat mix and some granular LescoFlow wetting agent. We dragged that into the holes and found we have helped some of our chronic hot spots to disappear and maintain better turf cover."

Over at Interlachen, Leventah has no real option to amend the heavy soil under the fairways. His salvation has been an upgraded irrigation control system.

"Going to the Rainbird Cirrus control system is the best investment we have made," Leventah says. "With the precise timing control of the computer, we have been able to micromanage our heads and regulate the playing conditions much better than the old electro-mechanical dials which could be off minutes plus or minus."

Both superintendents put irrigation monitoring as a high daily priority, and the superintendent, assistant or irrigation technician inspect, monitor and make changes as needed. To the trained eye, uneven dew patterns in the morning reveal the onset of dry conditions or malfunctioning sprinklers or maybe even a zone or system failure. Wet spots are clues to leaks and stuck heads. Later in the day foot printing (collapsed blades) and gray colored turf are sure signs that wilt conditions are setting in.

Special projects, meetings, repairs etc can take the primary irrigation observers off task on



Dave Datema, CGCS, superintendent at Highlands Reserve GC, adjusts his irrigation program daily to allow for changing conditions and turf stresses. Photo by Joel Jackson.

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any given day, so observation and monitoring is a team effort by the whole staff.

The person who cuts cups is also trained to report wet and dry conditions in the soil plugs taken when moving hole locations on the greens. Other crew members, especially equipment operators, are trained to report damaged heads and wet or dry areas.

Both superintendents employ wetting agents to help the plants take up water more efficiently. At Interlachen the heavy soils can be induced to percolate better and at Highland Reserve they help the quick-draining soil from becoming hydrophobic.

Datema says, "We make a wall-to-wall wetting agent application through our fertigation system about once per week. We also make applications to greens and tees using our portable sprayer. In fact, if rain is forecast we specifically time those applications to help the rainfall penetrate and not just run off."

While Interlachen is not impacted by water restrictions with its reclaimed water source, Highlands Reserve is in a more precarious position.

"I understand the intent of water restrictions during drought conditions, and I make sure we conserve water," Datema says. "When directed or asked to cut back, I cut back, but in all honesty in the performance of my job to manage our turf-grass, I have to fudge on the day-of-the week schedules, but I feel like I am within the rules that

allow for watering to prevent heat stress.

"We normally run 20 minutes per fairway head per night, assuming no rainfall help. With restrictions in force, I can cut that time by 66 percent to 7 minutes per station and thus save water, which is in keeping with the intent of the restrictions. But I cannot keep the root zone moist in this sandy profile by simply cranking up the time on the fairway heads and only watering one or two days per week.

"The soil drains so fast I'm just wasting the water. It makes more sense to put out less water overall, but more often when the plant needs it and can use it. Compounding the problem is our high nematode counts in this old orange grove location. They keep the grass roots short so they can't take up more water even if I increased the times."

Both superintendents agree that people in the industry have gotten more water-wise over the years especially with the advancements in the technology. As Datema says, "There are abusers in every business and I'm sure there are some folks out there who still overwater out of habit or ignorance or a fear that using less will jeopardize their jobs. But most superintendents have tried to live within reason while respecting the intent of restrictions."

One of the best examples of being water-wise was observed when I visited Olde Hickory C.C. last year for a cover story. Instead of

maxing out his run times during periods of no restrictions, John Stach knew that restrictions would invariably return, so he kept his turf hardened off and learned to produce good playing conditions with less water. This is a lesson every superintendent needs to learn in the coming days of water shortages whether they are real or political.

To that end, every superintendent needs to discuss his current irrigation management program with his/her ownership. The owners need to take responsibility for how the superintendent proceeds, especially during water restrictions. It is not good stewardship or responsible leadership to merely tell a superintendent, "Keep it green or else." During droughts, club owners and members need to expect firmer, faster and temporarily off-color turf. Each club should make every attempt to reduce overall water use during droughts and document the savings of water.

As Datema puts it, "The basic tools of turf management have always been irrigation, cultural practices and chemicals and fertilizers. When control of our most important tool, water, is taken out of our hands, it's like trying to manage the course with one arm tied behind your back. We need a good, common-sense approach to water conservation and not some convenient arbitrary rules that don't address the root of the problem."

Joel Jackson, CGCS

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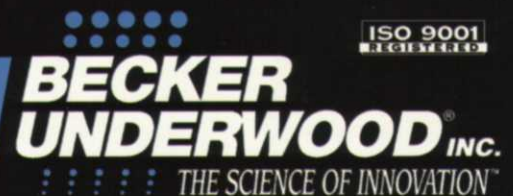


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Our water source at Winter Pines Golf Club since 1984 has been 100 percent reclaimed water, and our main line is connected directly to the Winter Park Estates Treatment Plant approximately two miles away. We are connected from the city's 24-inch mainline by a 15-inch line and then a 10-inch line that runs to the center of the golf course and connects to the course's 6-inch mainline pipe. We share this reclaimed water source with Interlachen C.C. and several of the city's park and recreation areas.

The pump station is located at the treatment plant and maintained by the city. We have 120 psi static pressure in the pipe 24 hours a day which delivers 60 psi at the sprinkler heads. The city maintains the main line and we take care of all other lines on the property. We have no back-up system, so we are dependent on the city for having the system up and going all the time, which is part of the contract. They have been excellent at supplying us with water for the past 17 years.

We have a contract to use around 150,000 gallons a day and to pay for the electricity

to pump it to us. However, we are not required to pump the water if we don't need it on rainy days, and we can exceed that amount if we are in dry period or have to water in pesticide or fertilizer applications.

The overall water quality has been good, but we usually make 1-2 applications of gypsum during dry periods to combat some of the high sodium and bicarbonates in the water until we get some good rains to help flush them out of the root zone. A little extra spiking and slicing also helps minimize any water quality problems on our weaker greens.

Our control system consists of nine Griswold 24-station satellite panels located around the course. To aid in cold and weather protection, each one is mounted inside a separate locked cabinet, which helps provide insulation from heat and cold. We also have Griswold electric valves in the ground which control anywhere from one to five heads each, depending on their location. We don't have a central controller, so each satellite is adjusted daily to meet the conditions or shut off manually when it rains. A normal night irrigation cycle takes six to eight hours to complete.

Inspection of green and tee head operation is usually done twice per week by using a syringe cycle to check proper head rotation and nozzle performance. Fairway heads are checked while syringing off the dew ahead of the fairway mower on certain holes with heavy growth. Any repair work is done by me or the assistant superintendent.

We like to use Rainbird 51D impact sprinklers on the greens and tees so if we need to syringe a localized dry spot, we can just hold the impact arm and aim the head. It saves dragging a hose when time is a factor on a busy public course. We don't have a lot of quick coupler valves anyway.

Most of the fairways have double-row coverage with Rainbird 81B, Thompson 188s or Legacy G90s. We have part circle Rainbird 47Ds and Legacy G95 part circle heads along lake banks, property lines and at the clubhouse area.

The fertigation system was taken out when the old pump was removed and we hooked up to the city's reclaimed water line. All foliar fertilizers, wetting agents and growth regulators are applied with our Smithco 160 Spray Star. Primo (PGR) is used on some of our wetter fairways and the driving range during the summer. Wetting agents are applied as needed on greens, tees and fairways to help moisture penetration along with frequent slicing of chronic problem areas.

As with any older system, we are constantly tweaking the design by moving or adding heads to get better, more efficient coverage to help grow healthier turf.

Joe Ondo, CGCS

Joe Ondo, CGCS is superintendent, Winter Pines GC; 407-657-7565; fax 407-671-3420.

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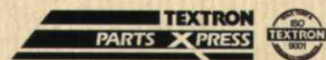
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Elevate to Irrigate Temporary Nursery

Eric von Hofen, director of agronomy at Calusa Pines Golf Club unquestionably had his hands full when he accepted his current position at the recently opened Hurdzan/Fry-designed golf course in Naples. The golf course, which is certain to receive accolades for its dramatic design, will definitely also catch the eye of many for the extensive landscape that complements the 18-hole layout. According to von Hofen, over a million dollars of landscape was installed during the construction of the golf course, for which he was responsible for the placement, and survival. The species that were planted included live oaks, cabbage palms, slash pines, palmettos, and hundreds of thousands ornamental grasses, all of which blend in nicely to the existing flora giving the perception that the course has been in place much longer than it has.

With the ownership of Calusa Pines providing the extensive funds that were needed to con-

To help assure the survival of the vast quantity of containerized plant material, von Hofen directed the construction of a temporary holding area where all landscape material would be delivered... and receive immediate irrigation.

struct the golf course and the facilities, it was expected for all parties involved to be diligent and not allow any waste to occur. To help assure the survival of the vast quantity of containerized plant material prior to installation, von Hofen directed the construction of a temporary holding area where all landscape material would be delivered, stored for an extended period and receive immediate irrigation.

To assure adequate moisture would be provided to each and every plant that was delivered,



A simple, inexpensive quarter-turn ball valve controls water flow to each sprinkler. Total cost of temporary irrigation system was less than \$100 to protect huge investment in plant material. Photo by Darren Davis.

a temporary overhead irrigation system was installed. To accomplish this, six pine trees that recently had been discarded from the golf course clearing process were limbed up and cut to a length of approximately 35 feet. These straight tree trunks were then buried to a depth of ten feet, leaving approximately 25 feet of exposed trunk. A two-inch PVC line was attached on the side of each trunk leading to the top where a full circle Toro 670 irrigation head was secured. Each head can be isolated at the base of the trunk with a quarter turn ball valve. The trunks were placed in a grid, three per side and approximately 60 feet apart.

The water was needed prior to the installation of the computerized irrigation system on the golf course so originally a portable pump was used to supply water from a nearby lake. However, once the irrigation system was in place, a "T" was



Toro 670 heads were mounted on trimmed pine tree trunks to cover nursery holding area. Elevated position insured all plant material received adequate watering. Photo by Darren Davis.

added in an adjacent main line so the system became a little easier to operate.

Being overhead, it was easy for von Hofen and his staff to see from a distance and know that it was in operation which gave them peace of mind knowing their concentration could be given to other necessary tasks. The end cost of the entire system was less than \$100 due to the fact that the six irrigation heads went into inventory for future use on the golf course leaving the only true cost being the discarded PVC pipe and PVC quarter turn ball valves.

Darren Judd Davis.

Darren Davis is director of golf operations, Olde Florida GC; 941-353-4441; fax 941-353-5947; darrenjuddavis@aol.com

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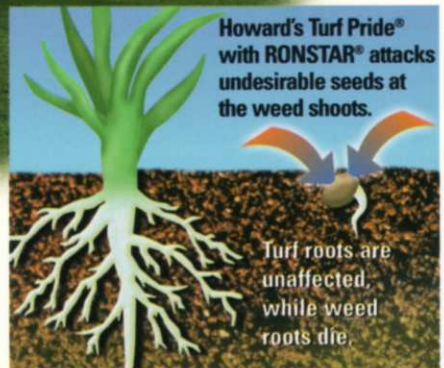


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BENHAM'S BEAT

Other Shoe Drops: IFAS Budget Cuts Go Deeper

By Donald Benham



The University of Florida has been told to cut another \$2 million after already cutting its budget by \$2.1 million. Dr. Mike Martin, vice president for agriculture and natural resources, has sent a letter outlining the new reductions. In other words, the other shoe has dropped. Several of these reductions will

have direct, immediate effect on all of us. For example the closing of three RECs, restructuring of two more, closures and restructuring of selected campus research programs. To quote Dr. Martin "Be forewarned, we will have to reduce or eliminate programs, if we are to keep our commitment to excellence and some very productive, loyal and long-serving staff members will be laid off."

Did you know that Ft. Lauderdale REC is part of the group being looked at for restructuring or closure? What can we do about it? Obviously writing, E-mailing or faxing your local legislator lets them know how you feel. Talk to your board of directors and general manager. You probably have

**DONALD R. BENHAM, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
FLORIDA TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION
7309 LINKS COURT
SARASOTA, FL 33813
OCTOBER 31, 2001**

Dear Donald:

At the recommendation of Jan Beljan, Associate Designer with Fazio Golf Course Designers, you are invited to join Jonathan's Landing Golf Club to officially open our newly redesigned "Village Course". During this event the members of Jonathan's Landing would like to present a check in the amount of \$6,500 to benefit the Florida Turfgrass Association.

The membership at Jonathan's Landing is appreciative of the dedication shown by the organization in developing superior products to better the game of golf. Through your efforts and those affiliated around the country, the continued research improving turf conditions has greatly assisted our industry.

We would appreciate your attendance.
Sincerely,
Peter H. Young, CCM
General Manager/COO

some very influential members in your club.

There is a third way: encouraging your board of directors and general manager to have your membership join "Golfers for a Better Environment." To refresh your memory, the \$5-a-member program is jointly promoted by the University of Florida and the FTGA. We cannot replace the large monetary reduction caused by state budget cuts, but by encouraging your club to join the \$5-a-member program for turfgrass research, we can accomplish two things: First we obviously gain more research money for needed projects with the faculty of the University of Florida. Secondly, and we gain political clout to go to the Legislature for matching funds.

If 25 clubs with an average membership of 500 were to join this spring, 12,500 voting members would be contributing. Take it a step further. If only 25 clubs from each coast joined for a total of 50 clubs, that is 25,000 registered voters supporting turfgrass research in Florida. I am not saying we could save a particular REC. like Ft. Lauderdale, but I am saying we might gain support in the Legislature to promote our turf research with a line item to do it. Politicians listen to numbers of voters. Think about it - only 25 clubs on each coast.

On a happier note, I just returned this morning from a wonderful day at Jonathan's Landing on Friday, Nov. 30. Thanks to General Manager Peter Young, Club President Paul Moore, the board of directors and Michael J. Perham, GCCS director of course maintenance, Jonathan's Landing presented FTGA President R. Alan Puckett and me with a \$6,500.00 check representing \$10 a member from 650 members.

The presentation was made at the official opening of the redesigned "Village" course at the recommendation of Jan Beljan, associate designer of Fazio Golf. I was invited to play the opening round tournament with the club president and general manager. There was a lot of friendly protest when we won the tournament. The FTGA was enthusiastically thanked for its promotion of this grassroots member program. Please see the enclosed letter from the club.

Dr. Terril Nell of the University of Florida and I would be happy to come to your club and explain the program to your club officials.

*Donald R Benham is director of public relations, Florida Turfgrass Association;
941-355-7679; fax 407-896-6857;
rdbenham@aol.com*

USGA UPDATE

Gabrielle Dumps 18 Inches, Unites Members & Staff

Another hurricane season has come to an end in Florida, and golf courses along coastal regions can breathe a sigh of relief. This region has witnessed a year of extremes in weather conditions (especially rain). Even though some areas are still under drought restrictions, many regions experienced more than 40 - 60 inches of rain from June

through September.

September was especially harsh for parts of West Florida as Tropical Storm Gabrielle brought near-hurricane strength wind and rain. Some golf courses only received elevated rainfall while others experienced major wind damage. One such golf course (El Conquistador Country Club) in Bradenton was located near the eye of the storm and received nearly 18 inches of rain and strong winds, which destroyed more than 80 trees and damaged 50 additional trees.

Nearly 50 members came together to help the staff clean the debris from the golf course and get it ready for play. The course was closed for an entire week and the golf course superintendent, Mr. Stephen Wood, CGCS, was overjoyed for their assistance. "With the members' help, we never fell behind on the day-to-day maintenance that sometimes requires several weeks to catch up on", added Mr. Wood. When the entire project was complete, 83 truckloads (25 cubic yards per truck load) were required to haul away the debris caused by Gabrielle. Also, at the end of the week the members took up a collection of more than \$800 for the maintenance staff. We hear of how the nation has been brought together during these trying times, but it's nice to see it on a local level as well.

Todd Lowe

NEW DISEASE IMPACTING POA TRIVIALIS OVERSEEDING

A new patch disease has been making its presence known these days in the SE Region on overseeded bermudagrass putting greens. Dr. Bruce Martin has identified two known cases at the Clemson-Pee Dee Research Station. The new disease has been identified as belonging to the chytridomycete fungal group. Dr. Larry Stowell www.pacepri.com/PTRI/Documents/Diseases/0111. PDF of PACE Consulting originally diagnosed the disease on the West Coast in 1995 at golf courses in Nevada and Arizona. USGA agronomists have seen the disease at Carolina coastal golf courses over the past few years, but never knew the cause of the problem.

The disease impacts Poa trivialis, Poa annua, and perennial ryegrass. It really wipes out Poa trivialis, by far the most popular overseeded turf now on putting greens in the SE Region. The disease resembles the pythium fungus as the turf looks water soaked prior to death along with dime-size spots. The disease tracks along with the mowers and can attack in the both the fall and spring. It is spread by zoospores like Pythium, but the organisms live inside the leaf cells, which is one reason why it has been so tough to identify in the past.

The common denominator at sites with this new disease problem has been poor water and soil quality. The disease operates best with soil or water conditions of high EC, high salinity, and high bicarbonates. It is especially prevalent during droughts (just like we are experiencing now) and at sites without an aggressive soil amendment and flushing program.

From what is known, every variety of Poa trivialis is impacted. Ryegrass is affected as

well, but the impact is less severe. Curative controls have been unsuccessful, but preventive measures with Fore and Compass have been a plus. Stay tuned for more information on this developing story.

Patrick O'Brien and Chris Hartwiger

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Pat O'Brien is director, Southeast Region, USGA Green Section; 770-229-8125; fax 770-229-5974; patobrien@usga.org

Chris Hartwiger is agronomist, Southeast Region, USGA Green Section; 205-444-5079; fax 205-444-9561; chartwiger@usga.org

PRODUCT UPDATES

Insecticide Product Bans Take Effect, Labels Modified

Editor's Note: As a result of the Food Quality Protection Act, the organophosphate family of insecticides is being reassessed and we have seen drastic changes in the arsenal of products we have

relied on for years. The following information has been provided by the manufacturers to update you on the status of some of our insecticides.

OTTO Re-registration Status

At this time the reregistration and tolerance assessment process of Orthene Turf, Tree & Ornamental (Acephate) is nearly complete. The news appears very good for the golf course industry. EPA believes that worker exposure to acephate is within acceptable limits for most golf-course-use scenarios. In addition, EPA has determined that exposure of golfers to acephate residues is not of concern in any current use scenario. Although some labeling changes will be required, they should not significantly affect the viability of Orthene as a pest management tool for golf course superintendents.

The precise changes that EPA will require for the use of Orthene on golf courses have not been finalized. However, it appears highly likely that the following changes will occur:

1. OTTO 75 SP that is not in water-soluble packaging (WSP) will no longer be labeled for ground boom application on golf courses but will remain available as a mound treatment for fire ants. OTTO 75 SP in WSP and OTTO 97 Spray (pellet) will continue to be labeled for application by ground boom.

2. The maximum labeled rate for acephate on golf courses will drop from 5.0 lbs of active ingredient per acre to 4.0 lbs/acre. This means

the "new" labeled rate will be 5.2 lbs of formulated product/acre for OTTO 97. This rate reduction should have no significant impact on a superintendent's ability to control labeled turf pests, including mole crickets, cutworms, webworms, and armyworms.

In addition to currently required personal protective equipment (PPE), workers also have to wear a respirator and chemically resistant gloves when mixing and loading OTTO.

It is possible that EPA will require additional label changes for the use of Orthene on golf courses, but we believe any such changes will have relatively minor impact.

*Joe Chamberlain
Valent Professional Products
Field Market Development Specialist*

Dursban

Old-label Dursban products (labeled for residential use) can be sold to end users until Dec. 31, 2001.

Old-label products for Dursban purchased prior to Dec. 31, 2001 can continue to be used by end users under the direction of the old label while supplies last.

New-label Dursban 50W can be used on golf courses, nursery-grown ornamentals, sod farms and non-residential outdoor areas.

Dursban Pro can be used on golf courses and non-residential areas. Golf Course usage has



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Common name: Compact Walter's Viburnum
Botanical name: Viburnum obovatum (compact form)
Hardiness: Zones 7 - 10
Mature height and spread: 4' - 6' tall, 3'-4' wide
Classification: Native evergreen shrub
Landscape use: Low hedge or specimen plant
Characteristics: This Florida native features white flowers in early spring. These selected shrubs have red new growth and a more compact growing habit. The red fruit turns black in the fall and in North Florida is semi-deciduous.



Common name: Perennial Peanut
Botanical name: Arachis glabrata
Hardiness: Zones 8B - 11
Mature height and spread: 6"-12" tall, 1'-3' wide
Classification: Ground cover
Landscape use: Flowering ground cover, turf replacement
Characteristics: This plant is a good ground cover for well drained soil in a sunny area that tolerates mowing. Bears yellow flowers during late spring, summer and fall.



Common name: Oak Leaf Hydrangea
Botanical name: Hydrangea quercifolia
Hardiness: Zones 5-9
Mature height and spread: 5'-8' tall, 5'-6' wide
Classification: Deciduous flowering shrub
Landscape use: Specimen or mass planting
Characteristics: This native plant needs light to medium shade and has large, fragrant creamy-white terminal bloom-clusters in spring. The large, coarse rusty-brown foliage turns red-orange in the fall.

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been reduced to a 1-pound/arec rate. (This rate is not a season maximum rate but a maximum single application rate.)

The new label Dursban Pro (Caution label) and Dursban 50W (Danger label) are restricted use pesticides.

End users should apply all products for Dursban according to label directions on the container.

Remember the effectiveness or safety of Dursban has not changed. Dow AgroSciences appreciates your past and continued support of Dursban.

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Turcam Update

The Chipco Professional Products group of Aventis E.S. will soon cease production and distribution of Turcam insecticide due to a 1999 EPA-mandated phase-out agreement. While production will cease Oct. 31, 2001, end users can apply Turcam indefinitely from stocks purchased and delivered prior to Oct. 31, 2001. For specific information on advanced purchase specials call 1-800-438-5837.

After your Turcam inventory is gone, end users may wish to consider using DeltaGard and Sevin for broad spectrum control of insect problems. DeltaGard (deltamethrin) is a low-dose insecticide with four to six weeks residual action. Sevin has been around for 35 years and comes in water-soluble packing. Sevin has a low phytotoxicity level and highly effective residual activity.

Jim Fetter, Director of Marketing, Chipco Professional Products

2001 Plants of the Year

Editor's Note: This program sponsored by the Woody Division of the FNGA introduces purchasers to under-utilized, but proven Florida plant material. Selected each year by a panel of horticulturists, nurserymen, educators, landscape architects and other professional members of the horticulture industry, these plants have attributes which attract wildlife or have minimal maintenance impact on the environment.

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STEWARDSHIP NOTES

Water Use Replaces Pesticides as Golf's Top Environmental Issue

By Shelly Foy



We sure have been talking a lot about water in Florida lately. First, we don't have enough; now some places have too much. It's a vicious cycle that unfortunately, will more than likely repeat itself every year.

Ten years ago, I would have said that the misconception of pesticide use on golf courses was the

greatest environmental concern we faced. I have since come to realize that the real danger for golf courses lies in water use. The bottom line is that there is only so much to go around.

There is a Scottish proverb that says, "We'll never know the worth of water till the well goes dry." And perhaps Benjamin Franklin was reading Scottish proverbs when he said, "When the well's dry, we know the worth of water."

I recently had an opportunity to read through Audubon International's updated "A Guide to Environmental Stewardship on the Golf Course," and there is some great information in this publication on water conservation. Jean Mackay, director of educational services for AI, has given me the okay to share some of the information from this publication with Florida Green readers.

Consider this:

- Though water use on golf courses varies widely depending on climate and other factors, an average golf course may use 10 to 30 million gallons of water per year. (USGA Green Section)
- Superintendents continually rank securing adequate irrigation water among their top concerns. (GCSAA)
- Given recent droughts and erratic weather patterns, adopting water conservation measures is essential for addressing public concerns, securing irrigation supplies, and saving this essential natural resource.

What can you do? Audubon International has a self-assessment checklist for water conservation. Read through the following information and "assess" yourself and your management practices as they relate to water conservation.

General Knowledge:

- Train employees to conserve water and make water conservation a priority in your management approach.
- Identify the water sources used for irrigation and drinking water.
- Know how to operate and manage the irrigation system properly.

Irrigation Equipment and Plumbing Fixtures:

- Irrigation system should be properly designed, correctly installed, and performance should be tested.
- Check irrigation system for proper water distribution in all irrigated areas at least once per year.
- Eliminate all non-target watering (e.g., sidewalks, ponds, habitat areas).
- Check all irrigation equipment daily, and maintain the system on a regular schedule.
- Fix leaks in a timely manner.
- Regularly maintain the pump station so that it is working efficiently.
- Update irrigation system, or components of the system (e.g., valves, sprinkler heads, nozzles, computer software), to reduce inefficiency and malfunction and reduce water use.
- Install part-circle irrigation heads where possible to save water.

Watering Practices and Turf Care

- Incorporate evapotranspiration rates or weather data into daily irrigation decisions.
- Avoid running the irrigation system at peak evapotranspiration times.
- Water "hot spots" to target needed areas only, rather than running the entire irrigation system during the peak of the day.
- Work to maintain an effective water cycle to maximize water absorption and reduce runoff and evaporation, including: maintaining soil cover, improving soil structure, adding or maintaining natural organic matter in the soil, and improving drainage to minimize runoff and maximize water penetration through soil layers.
- Reduce or eliminate irrigation on all unused or minimally used portions of the property.
- Monitor daily water use, tally monthly usage, and set targets for yearly improvement.
- Select turfgrasses on greens, tees, and fairways

that are appropriate for local climate and growing conditions.

So, how did you do? I have no doubt that most of you are already doing most of these things to conserve water. If you aren't, then you should be.

Additional information from this book that I found pertinent:

Keep Records

Monitoring your use of water and tracking yearly trends can help you gauge the success of water conservation efforts. Track water use via municipal usage records, information from a fully automated irrigation system, or estimates of the number of gallons used per cycle and per week. Tally the number of gallons used monthly and yearly. Use these records to set realistic conservation targets, detect trends, plan for drought, and promote your success.

Preparing For Drought

The most effective drought management plan is to implement water conservation measures in advance of a drought and on a long-term basis. Planning for drought before one strikes will allow you to mitigate its effects and reduce damage. Being prepared, coordinating conservation measures among staff of various departments of the golf course (grounds, clubhouse, resort amenities, etc.), and implementing a variety of conservation measures will go a long way toward mitigating the effects of drought. In addition to the information in this book, you can also refer to these websites for more information:

According to Audubon International's Managed Lands Survey of 2001, here's what has happened on golf courses since joining the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System:

- 60% reduced water costs
- 89% improved their irrigation system or the way that water is applied
- 69% decreased water usage
- Golf courses saved an estimated 1.9 million gallons of water per year per course since joining
- 86% increased efforts to monitor water quality
- 55% increased emergent vegetation in golf course ponds
- 45% instituted a contained wash off area, compared with just 23% prior to joining

What better incentive than that to get involved in the ACSP for Golf Courses?

So if you want to do your part in helping the environmental image of golf courses, make

water conservation your top priority. There is a great American Indian proverb that says, "The frog does not drink up the pond in which he lives."

Shelly Foy is ACSP coordinator, Florida Region, USGA Green Section; 941-828-2625; fax 941-828-2629; sfoy@usga.org

ACSP UPDATE

New ACSP Members

Airco Golf Club, Clearwater
Burnt Store Country Club, Punta Gorda
Country Club of Orlando, Orlando
Countryside Country Club, Clearwater
IGM - Tiger Point, Gulf Breeze
Links at Boynton Beach, Boynton Beach
WCI/Pelican Sound Golf Course, Estero
Sunnybreeze Palms, Arcadia

New ACSP Fully Certified Courses

Pelican's Nest Golf Club, Bonita Springs
IGM - Maple Leaf Golf and Country Club,
Port Charlotte

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Quotes are from A Dictionary of Environmental Quotations, compiled by Barbara K. Rodes and Rice Odell and published by the John Hopkins University Press of Baltimore and London.



Sun shining through a summer shower: two good reasons not to be running the irrigation system.

The water conservation information is from Audubon International's updated version of A Guide to Environmental Stewardship on the Golf Course, and can be purchased from Audubon International

Audubon International: 46 Rarick Rd., Selkirk, NY 12158; 518-767-9051; fax 518-767-9076;

www.audubonintl.org.

EPA Office of Water: Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20460; 202-260-2090; www.epa.gov/owm/drouhome.htm

GCSAA: Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, 1421 Research Park Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049-3859; 800-472-7878; fax: 785-841-2240; infobox@gcsaa.org

www.gcsaa.org/resource/drought.html

National Drought Mitigation Center: P.O. Box 830749, Lincoln, NE 68583-0749; 402-472-6707;

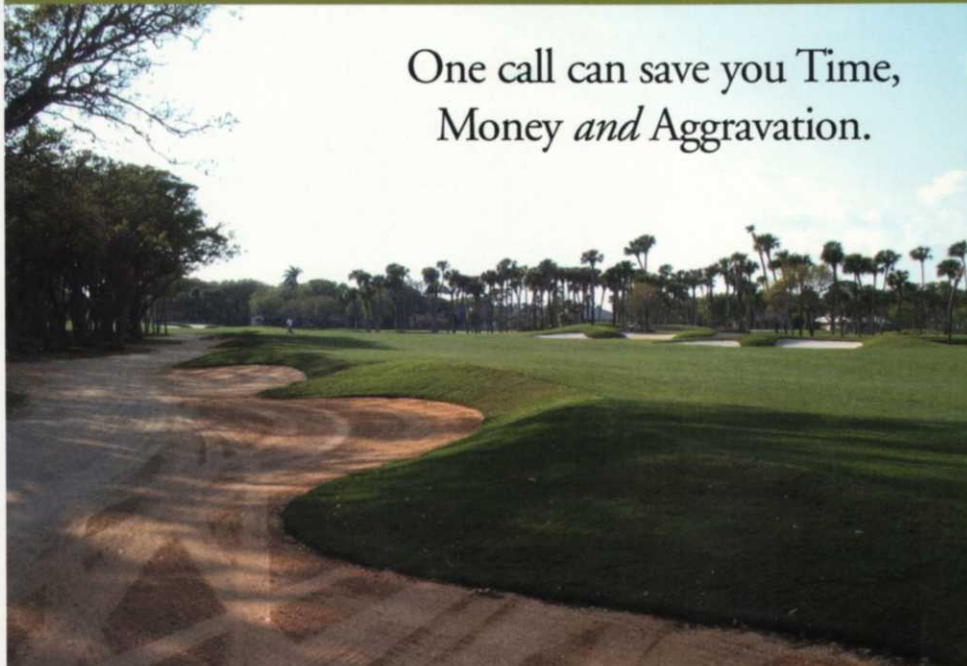
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Preserving Surface Water Quality Is As Easy As 1, 2, 3...

James H. Baird, Ph.D.

Water features are an integral part of many golf courses, especially in Florida. Thus, it is important that turf managers exercise common sense and sound management practices in order to protect water quality and the health of aquatic organisms.

One of the greatest risks to water quality is surface runoff of pesticides and nutrients. Runoff occurs when the rate of precipitation exceeds that of infiltration. Loss of chemicals is influenced by several factors:

- 1) time interval between chemical application and precipitation event causing runoff;
- 2) amount and duration of the precipitation event;
- 3) soil moisture prior to chemical application and precipitation;
- 4) slope;
- 5) amount and method of chemical application;
- 6) timing of application in regard to plant uptake;
- 7) physical and chemical properties of the pesticide or fertilizer;
- 8) rate of chemical degradation/transformation to a benign form;
- 9) soil properties; and
- 10) vegetation type or density.

Given these factors, the following recommendations will help to protect one of our most vital resources and to demonstrate environmental stewardship on the golf course.

Step 1

Have your water features and irrigation water tested to determine baseline values of pH, total salt content, sodium permeability hazard, specific ion toxicity, and critical nutrient levels.

Pay particular attention to levels of nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P). Excessive losses of these nutrients into water resources can result in eutrophication, the promotion of algal growth that causes depletion of oxygen in water to the detriment

of other organisms. In many situations, application of additional P or other nutrients can be avoided by regular soil and water testing.

For more information on interpreting water test results, please refer to the article titled, *Understanding Water Quality and Guidelines to Management* in the September/October 2000 issue of the USGA Green Section Record.

Step 2

Establish emergent and shoreline vegetation surrounding surface water features. Examples of taller emergent vegetation include arrowhead, pickerelweed, sedges, and bulrushes. In addition to slowing down, filtering, or inhibiting surface flow, shoreline vegetation is beneficial to:

- 1) reduce or eliminate erosion;
- 2) help shade and cool water near the edge, thereby helping to maintain adequate levels of dissolved oxygen in the water to reduce algal blooms;
- 3) provide habitat for wildlife;
- 4) help deter Canada geese or other unwanted wildlife since it provides a good hiding place for predators and a barrier for entrance or exit;
- 4) save labor and, more importantly, grass clippings that normally fall into water features following trimming; and
- 5) improve aesthetics of water features especially where water levels fluctuate.

Step 3

In addition to establishing shoreline vegetation, you should raise the height of cut of turf adjacent to water features. Research has demonstrated that bermudagrass turf mowed at 3 inches was more effective in reducing time to runoff, runoff depth, concentration, and losses of chemicals compared to turf mowed at 0.5 or 1.5 inches.

Step 4

Establish areas of untreated vegetation between turf that is treated with pesticides or fertilizer and water features. Buffer strips help reduce surface runoff by diluting applied chemicals, reducing surface flow velocity of runoff water, providing a physical filter of sediment or chemicals in solution, and increasing the potential for infiltration.

Reduced chemical runoff has been documented using buffer widths between 15 and 30 feet. However, the effective size of a buffer is dependent upon several factors including slope, overall size of the watershed, type of vegetation, playability, and potential pollution from maintenance practices.

Check with your state or local authorities to determine if regulations govern size of buffers surrounding water features on your golf course.

Step 5

Avoid application of chemicals immediately before or after heavy rainfall or irrigation. This is almost too commonsensical to mention if it were not one of the most critical steps for protecting surface water quality. A study conducted at Oklahoma State University demonstrated that runoff occurred as much as six times earlier and total runoff was as much as 16 times greater when chemicals were applied to turf under saturated conditions prior to simulated rainfall.

Step 6

When using pesticides and fertilizer near water features, choose rates and formulations that have lower runoff potential. Consult the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for pesticides to find active ingredients with low water solubility and a high adsorption coefficient (KOC). Likewise, natural organic or other slow release forms of nitrogen fertilizer (e.g., IBDU, methylene urea, sulfur-coated urea) applied in smaller amounts are less likely to



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contaminate surface water compared to readily soluble forms.

Summary

Despite recent public concerns about use and environmental fate of chemicals on golf courses, research has demonstrated that turf is an effective filter of most pesticides and fertilizers by interception and degradation in the organic or thatch layer of the upper root zone profile. Chemicals that are highly soluble or not strongly adsorbed to organic matter are more likely to leach or runoff into surface water features.

However, the potential for surface runoff can easily be reduced or even eliminated by employing simple and common sense management practices that include

- 1) incorporation of shoreline vegetation adjacent to higher cut turf both of which are designated untreated buffer strips;
- 2) use of pesticides and fertilizer that have low solubility and high adsorption to soil organic matter (high KOC); and
- 3) avoidance of chemical application when soil saturation favors runoff. It's as simple as 1, 2, 3.

James H Baird, Ph.D. is agronomist, USGA Green Section, Northeast Region; 610-515-1660; fax 610-515-1663; jbaird@usga.org

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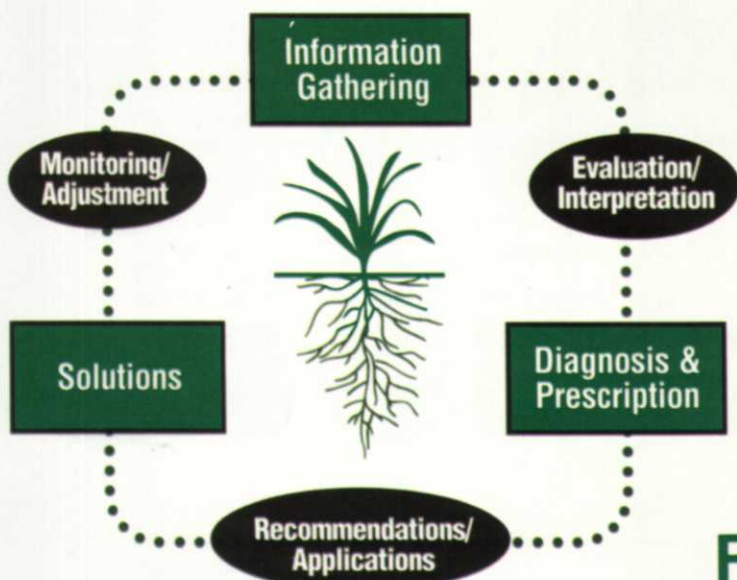
Runoff from rainfall simulators on sloped fairway height plots is stopped by 3" high rough buffer zone. Note standing water that will now infiltrate slowly. Oklahoma State research plots. Photo by Jim Baird.



Raising the height of cut to create a turfgrass buffer zone along this creek bank at the Mendham G&T Club in New Jersey could have helped to prevent the erosion. Photo by James Baird.

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TAKING A LOOK BACK

Whatever the Title, We Still Keep the Green

By David A. Court, CGCS



As the GCSAA is celebrating its 75th anniversary, I can't help but think of all the progress that has been made in our industry over the years. Even though I haven't been in the business for 75 years, it has been more than 30 years since graduating from high school and taking on that summer job at Fort Lauderdale Country Club.

Back in the early 70s the professional on the course maintenance was commonly known as the "green keeper." Ken Roberts, then the green keeper at FLCC was kind enough to give me my first job on the course. He was also the person who initiated the idea of pursuing a career as a golf course superintendent. He didn't lead me in the wrong direction.

In the last 30 years so many changes have taken place in the way golf turf has been maintained. I think it's worth noting how these changes have taken place through the years. I'm sure many reading this will relate to the article and perhaps someone will add some personal experiences in a later issue of the magazine.

Jacobsen, Toro, Roseman and National were the common names in mowing equipment. As I recall, Jacobsen walk mowers with their two-cycle engines were commonly seen along with Toro Series IV as the typical mower used on greens. Greens were mowed as low as 1/2 inch and the stimpmeter was not heard of at that time.

Back then Tifgreen 328 was the grass of choice on greens but Tifdwarf was the new up-and-coming grass for the newer courses. Triplex mowers with wide balloon tires were coming out in the early 70s. These mowers would take the place of walkers on greens in order to save on manpower. One triplex could do what three or four walk mow operators could do. For many of the clubs today it has become more desirable to go back to the use of walk mowers. As the saying goes "What goes around comes around." The triplex still has many uses from mowing tees, collars, verticutting use and at times we see it as a fairway mower for professional tournaments and to create special mowing patterns.

Remember the F-10, Parkmaster, HF-15 and HTM 175? They did a great job replacing pull frames of 5-, 7-, or 9-gang mowers once used on fairways and rough. I'm still using our HF-15 occasionally to scalp down fairways and to reduce thatch build-up.

Topdressing of greens has gone through a metamorphosis not only in the materials used, but the in equipment that applies these materials. Years ago it was not uncommon to use a 70/30 mix on greens. Organic matter was comprised of Florida or Canadian Peat to a product of the sugar cane industry known as Doc Anderson's Topdressing. Equipment used for topdressing has also made a big change. The walk-behind top dresser that would take all day to complete topdressing of nine holes has been replaced with Terra Toppers, Dakota and Tee-Crop equipment that gets 18 greens topdressed in as little as two hours.

Battling insects seemed much easier when we have products like Aldrin and Chlorodane. These were great on mole crickets and grubs as well as other turf pests. The replacements for these seem to be targeted at single pests and less broad spectrum. I'm referring to Chipco Choice, Merit and other pyrethroid products.

A great deal of progress has been made in educating the maintenance staff on the proper way of handling pesticides and other toxic substances used the work place. Today it is expected that the handler of toxic substances will take proper

'I think the area that has made the biggest impact in turf maintenance has been irrigation.'

precautions using personnel protective equipment. This was not always the case. Years ago the practice of spaying greens could involve a three men. One man would spray with a "Spray Hawk" while two men would handle 150 ft. of hose and keep it out of the way. Today sprayers are vehicles with booms that can be raised by the push of a button in order to follow ground contours. It all depends on the bells and whistles on equipment.

I think the area that has made the biggest impact in turf maintenance has been irrigation. Courses have gone from manual, quick coupler, single row systems to the sophisticated com-

puterized systems of today. The antiquated system of the past required night water men to drive from fairway to fairway, plugging in sprinklers on a time table that was as variable as the person doing the job. Superintendents just hoped that the water man would not fall asleep on the job or talk to their girlfriends on the phone too long; otherwise wet spots were sure to occur. I'm sure that superintendents of yesteryear could write a chapter in a book about night water men and some of the characters that they had working for them.

Irrigation systems being installed today require far more technical expertise. Automatic systems years ago were designed to run in about 10-12 hours to fulfill maximum ET requirements. Now these systems can water the same amount in as little as five hours. Larger pumps stations (VFD), larger mainline pipe sizing and computerized control have made a tremendous difference. The two leaders in irrigation technology continue to upgrade software to the point where what was good six or seven years ago is obsolete today. Isn't that the way many things are though? That's progress.

The maintenance staff has also made some changes over the years. In the 1970s it was very common to see more women working on the golf course. At Colony West where I worked on the crew for Richard Lemmel, we had the best crew of all that I have been associated with. We had a crew of 12, six women and six men, and we maintained 36 holes. Everyone worked great together.

Today we see much more of the Hispanic and Haitian labor force throughout South Florida. It is so important for clubs to have someone in a management position who can translate and make sure that instructions are clearly understood. Education training films in both English and Spanish have become very popular. One series of videos has been produced by FGCSA Past President Darren Davis and Paul Latshaw. Safety training films have also become a major part of today's operation. Many clubs today employ a person who serves as the human resources director who handles many of the tasks of employee relations, insurance problems, employment and termination's.

In the past 30 years or so many changes have occurred in the role of the golf course superintendent. As I stated earlier some of the readers will relate to this article and others getting started in their careers will see it as a bit of history.

Happy 75th Anniversary to the GCSAA. I hope to make it for the 100th. Let's see where progress takes us in the next 25 years.

David Court, CGCS is superintendent, Boca Lago CC; 561-482-5017; fax 561-487-9776; courtcgcs@aol.com



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1st Place: Welcome to Bent Tree by Tom Biggy, Bent Tree C.C.



2nd Place: Tabebuia in Bloom by Erik F. Jorgensen, Royal Palm Y&CC

Formal Landscape

Category 2 - includes annuals, shrubs, trees, entrance and tee sign beds

2002 Florida Green Photo Contest Rules

Easy Rules

Submissions for judging must be a color or black and white photograph or a slide. No computer print outs of digital photos will be accepted. Only one entry per category. Don't make us choose.

Photo must be taken on an FGCSA member's course and taken by the member or a member of his/her staff.

Attach a label to the back of the photograph which identifies the category, course and photographer. Do not write directly on the back of the photograph. Attach the photo or slide to a piece of 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper with a loop of masking tape for easy removal for handling.

A caption identifying the category, course and photographer should be typed or printed on the paper below the photograph.

Judging will be done by a panel of FGCSA members not participating in the contest.

Mail entries in a bend proof package/mailer to Joel Jackson, 6780 Tamarind Circle, Orlando, FL 32819, no later than August 1, 2002.

Prizes

1st Place (\$100), 2nd Place \$50 in each category
Editor's Choice - Best Overall Photo - \$100
All winning entries will be published in the Florida Green.

Categories

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

Category 2 - Formal Landscape: includes annual beds, shrubs, trees, and entrance and tee sign beds.

Category 3 - Native Landscape: includes native plant beds, aquatic vegetation plantings, natural areas and any other use of native plants on the course.

Category 4 - Scenic Hole: includes sunrises, sunsets, frosts, storms or any other interesting view of a golf hole.

Words cannot adequately convey the anger and disappointment I feel after learning about the proba-

Turfgrass - The Easy Target

MARK MY WORDS



Mark Jarrell, CGCS

ble additional cuts to the IFAS budget proposed by Gov. Jeb Bush and the Florida Legislature. Twenty years of slow but steady progress building support for the University of Florida's turfgrass program through FGCSA and FTGA activism may be wiped away with the stroke of a pen by the time you are actually reading this. The Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center, along with the Turf Mountain and the USGA green built and supported by Florida's golf course superintendents, is likely to be one of the first victims, but certainly not the last.

Here are the figures under consideration. Of the current \$1.3 billion shortfall in state revenues, half is to be cut from education. \$104 million is to come from our state universities. IFAS may receive up to \$7 million in cutbacks, though V.P. Mike Martin hopes that it will end up being no more than \$2 million.

In Dr. Martin's own words, "Coupled with the previous \$2.6 million in cuts received by UF/IFAS at the beginning of this fiscal year, additional deep cuts to the UF/IFAS budget proposed by the House and Senate during the first special session will result in immediate layoffs and facility closures statewide. It might be possible to avoid immediate closures and layoffs if actual new cuts in the second special session do not exceed \$2 million on top of what's already been made. In avoiding immediate closures, UF/IFAS would be in a position this year to begin an orderly transition of reorganization and consolidation of facilities throughout the state. We view

this to be an inopportune time to disinvest in the agricultural and natural resources industries, which are major parts of the state's economy."

While it may seem unpatriotic and irresponsible to criticize our leadership during a state and national crisis, our industry needs to reflect on how Florida's politicians have viewed us since the first big IFAS budget cuts back in 1987 - long before the current emergency. Think of all the initiatives we've championed over the years and the total lack of respect shown and support given by our state government. Agriculture and the green industry, which includes turfgrass, doesn't seem to be important to our representatives in Tallahassee anymore, despite our continued growth and economic value to Florida. Politicians don't seem to understand that Florida's appeal, and the growth it has experienced, is due to its wealth of natural resources. People come to Florida to enjoy its weather, beaches, fishing, wildlife, and golf courses, more than they come for Disney World and Sea World.

IFAS provides the research and education needed for the protection and enhancement of Florida's natural resources. Properly funding IFAS is an investment in Florida's future. What's the old saying? You give a man a fish and he's fed for the day, but if you teach him to fish, he's fed for life. Our elected officials cannot have a clear vision of Florida's future if they do not understand what the bricks and mortar are that make up the foundation of this state's economy.

I'm confident that turf will get high consideration with Mike Martin in charge of IFAS, but these proposed cuts are unbelievably severe. We need to rally behind him to make the best of a bad situation and keep the turfgrass program moving forward. We have too much invested and too much to lose if the program once again falters.

Let's hope that we can somehow come together as an industry - a green industry and not just a golf industry - to map an effective political strategy so that our legislature one day is made up of officials who recognize Florida's true wealth and understand how best to protect it.

CALL FOR ARTICLES

This is a call for articles for the 2002 issues of the Florida Green.

Contact Joel D. Jackson, editor for more information. Phone or Fax: 407-248-1971. Email: flgm@aol.com. All slides and photographs should include identification of persons in the picture and the name of the photographer.

Hands on Topics: Share your best practices and tips for these upcoming topics. Photographs or slides are encouraged.

Spring 2002 - Managing Summer Stress on Greens

Summer 2002 - The Value of Maintenance Standards and Long Range Planning

Fall 2002 - The Role and Responsibilities of the Equipment Manager

Spotlight: People and events making news in Florida. From award winners to chapter tournaments and other accomplishments. Send in your story.

Superintendents Journal: Personal observations or experiences related to any phase of the turf management profession including balancing family life with work.

Professional Development: General management topics beyond turf. Examples: Education, training, facilities operations, personnel, computers, etc.

Industry News: News items of interest to Florida superintendents from allied associations in the turf/horticultural

industry.

Opinion: Exactly what it means. Article voicing your point of view on any topic concerning Florida superintendents.

Research: A section reserved primarily for university and technical authors to report on research results within the industry. Also reports of practical on-course testing.

Rub of the Green: Articles and anecdotes with a humorous twist.

Stewardship: Superintendents are invited to submit articles and ideas about environmental issues and initiatives at their courses.

Editor's Fun Facts

It's been a tough year and there's plenty to think about - from terrorism to the economy - but I've spent enough time worrying about things I can't control and I'm looking for some humor to brighten up my attitude and fend off depression. The

approaching holidays and a new year just ahead are enough of a reason to... "Roll up your troubles in an old kit bag and smile, smile, smile," as the song goes. So I'm packing away the soap box for this issue and we're just going to have some fun.

I wondered how I would fill in the Fun Facts questionnaire we've been running on the superintendents in our cover stories lately. So here's my version:

Car: 2001 Toyota Camry LE. I tend to own cars for a long time and drive them till they drop, which is easy when you buy American. I traded in my eight-year old Altima for the Camry which had 6,000 miles on it. I've owned 3 American cars and 3 Japanese cars. Guess which ones lasted longer. Sorry, Detroit. But I don't feel guilty; cars are manufactured internationally these days. I think about an SUV, but my Scottish blood and gas prices keep me cruising on four cylinders. Besides, when I travel I rent American.

Last good movie I saw: Monsters, Inc., I don't know why they call these animated films kid-die movies. The jokes and one-liners sound like something from Saturday Night Live, The Tonight Show or David Letterman.

I stay home to watch: That's Life, Gilmore Girls, Ed and West Wing. Good writing is good writing. I've given up on sports except for the Super Bowl, the last game of the World Series, the Final Four, etc. I still follow golf because those guys don't get paid unless they perform. The rest of the pro cry baby millionaires and semi-pro (collegiate) athletes have forgotten their blessings and do really stupid things. I hate to watch stupid rich people play games.

I've been reading: "Too Lazy To Work, Too Nervous To Steal" - a book about being a writer; "The O'Reilly Factor" and "The No Spin

Zone" by Bill O'Reilly; "Band of Brothers" and "D-Day" by Steven Ambrose; Writer's Digest magazines and holiday catalogs from Sharper Image, Harry & David, Swiss Colony and Victoria's Secret.

Favorite meal: The rib platter from Choctaw Willie's in old historic Winter Garden. Tastes great. Priced right. Actually I love too many kinds of food to have just one favorite.

Favorite performers: John Denver and Billy Joel for all the right reasons. Meg Ryan and Julia Roberts for all the wrong reasons.

Prized possession: My sense of humor. Let's not argue. We're supposed to be having fun here.

Personal heroes: Golf course superintendents who do so much, for so many with so little and so few to help.

Nobody knows that I: Am Bob Sanderson's younger brother. My mother takes the Fifth Amendment every time I ask if was I adopted. Check out our profiles. Talk about limited genetic combinations.

I'm better than anyone when it comes to: Channel surfing with the TV remote, I have not seen a commercial in the past five years. Madison Avenue is trying to outlaw remote controls.

If I could do it over: I could break 80 every time I played golf.

I'd give anything to meet: A GCSAA president who didn't change jobs while serving on the board.

My fantasy is to: Be a writer and travel. Oh wait, that's what I do. Hmm...be careful what you wish for.

The one thing I can't stand is: People talking while I'm interrupting. Frivolous lawsuits. Liars. Cheaters. Oh wait. That's four things.

If I could change one thing about myself: It would be my place in the time-space continuum. I'm not entirely pleased with the current molecular configuration that I inhabit. May the force be with you.

The words that best describe me: Fifty-nine, wrinkled, gray haired, overweight and out-of-shape. See above.

Happy Holidays to one and all and regardless of your faith or denomination may the God you worship bless and keep you and yours till we meet again.

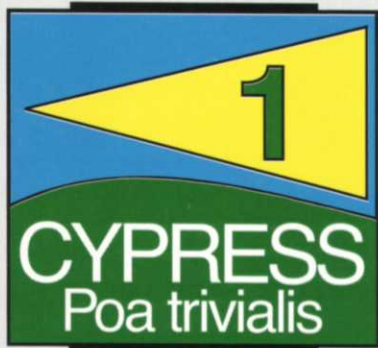
GREEN SIDE UP



Joel Jackson, CGCS Editor

'My fantasy is to: Be a writer and travel. Oh wait, that's what I do. Hmm...be careful what you wish for.'

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"Highest density"

1995-96 overseeded greens University of Arizona

"Highest percent ground cover"

University of Florida. 1995

"Highest mean ball speed scores"

1994-95 overseeded Bermuda greens--University of Arizona.

"Best monthly/seasonal turf color"

of all Poa trivs overseeded on tifway Bermuda--University of Fla. 1994-95.

"Highest seasonal average"

of all Poa trivs"--putting greens evaluation--1997-98 Mississippi State University.

Cypress

"Highest mean for turf color"

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"Highest quality rating"

of all entries in the 1996 Bermuda Triangle Research Center, Palm Springs, California.

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