

**THE QUARTERLY QUESTION**

**Aerifying and Verticutting Rank Most Valuable**

What is the most important or beneficial tool, equipment, product or service used at your course? You can waffle and name two if they are really important to your operation. Briefly tell why?

**MATT TAYLOR, ROYAL POINCIANA GOLF CLUB, NAPLES**

Triplex verticutters and groomers — without them we could not control the mat (thatch) on the greens, everything in my opinion plays off of how much mat you have. And that affects: trueness of ball roll, speed of the greens and quality of cut with greens mowers.

**GREG KRIESCH, HERITAGE PALMS GOLF CLUB, FT. MYERS**

My employees are the most important and beneficial tool I have (most of the time). I would be nowhere without them. The aerifier would be second; with as many rounds as our course receives, I could use at least six.

**STEPHEN FOX, OCEAN REEF GOLF CLUB, KEY LARGO**

I think I would have to say it would be my greens aerifiers and verticut reels. I experience heavy play during season and of course this is the time that the membership doesn't want you touching the greens. Once season comes to an end, I try to and impact 30 percent of the surface through

aerification each summer. This, along with verticuts and topdressing every two weeks during summer, gets us where we want for season. With the new ultradwarfs you better have the aerifiers and verticuts ready to go. It almost doesn't seem like you can impact them enough sometimes.

**FRANK E. SBARRO, LA GORCE GOLF CLUB, MIAMI BEACH**

Solid-tine aerators for the greens. I use the 1/4-in. tines every three weeks from November through April. By allowing water to better infiltrate the TifEagle, a big difference in the turf quality of greens was noticed throughout the winter season. We also just purchased a 350 KW generator for our pump station. *(No doubt prompted by hurricane season – Editor).*

**SHANE BASS, ST. JAMES BAY GOLF CLUB, CARRABELLE**

Right now I would have to say my Blackberry because it keeps me from sitting in the office. All my financial statements from the main office come to it. I am answering your e-mail on No. 2 green right now on it. I can fax from it. I have unlimited Internet on it so that means I have weather and radar anywhere anytime. My calendar is on it and when I get it so I can turn on irrigation from it, I'll have the office on my cart.

**One Adam  
Twelve,  
See the man...**



**AS IT LIES**

**By  
JIM WALKER**

I enjoy being involved with my local chapter's board and the state association as well, but it has always been the dinners afterward at our local meetings that I enjoy the most. It's great sitting around in an informal situation and talking to my colleagues.

We talk about shared problems and others that are unique to just one fellow. Last month's meeting got really interesting when the need to call local law enforcement for vandalism or theft became necessary. So, here are some stories from that round table discussion.

**BILL MC KEE** led off with the funniest story of the bunch, so I'll follow suit.

It seems someone broke into his maintenance shop and stole his torch welding set. They loaded it into the back of a pickup truck, which they started by hot wiring, and drove to the clubhouse. After breaking into

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