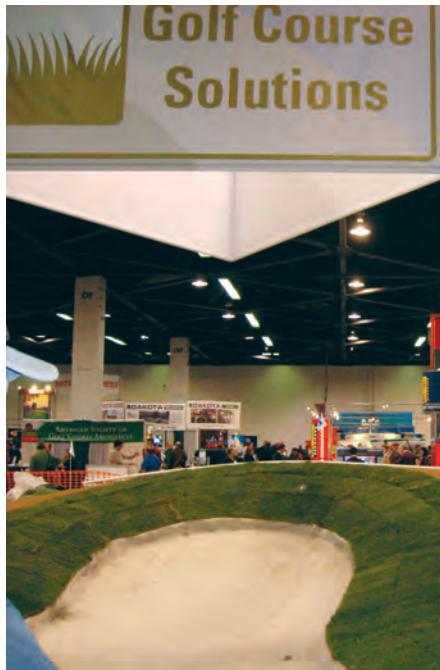


Golf Industry Show breaks records

Exhibitors, buyers, total attendees set new marks; Florida golf team takes national championship

This year's Golf Industry Show Feb. 22-24 in Anaheim, Calif., achieved an all-time high of 23,109 total attendees, surpassing last year's figure in Atlanta by more than 4,000. The most impressive number was the 9,697 qualified buyers (those who are part of the purchase process) in attendance. A three-year best, those buyers were greeted by a record 981 exhibitors covering another record 291,250 square feet of exhibit space.

Leaders from all areas of the golf industry participated as exhibitors, attendees and contributors to seminars, forums, sessions and special meetings. Sixty-eight countries were represented,



In Orlando in 2005 the Golf Course Builders Association built a green on the trade show floor. In Anaheim they built a bunker in the Golf Solutions Center. Photo by Joel Jackson.

with 1,931 international attendees.

Florida's FGCSA golf team finished first in the Team Gross Division and South Florida's Bob Harper tied for second with Paul Jett of Pinehurst, finishing two shots behind Jason Regan of Selma (Ala.) CC. Jim Torba from

the Everglades GCSA finished fourth overall.

Around three hundred people attended the FGCSA Reception in Anaheim at the Sheraton Park Hotel just down the street from the convention center. The annual FGCSA Benevolent Fund raffle earned nearly \$2300 thanks to raffle winner Steve Ehrbar, CGCS, Lost Tree G, who donated back his share to be used for the Mike Ballard Relief Fund in Palm Beach.

The Old Tom Morris Award was presented this year to Charlie "Just Let Me Play" Sifford, the first African-American to win a tournament on the PGA Tour. A video of Sifford's battle to break the color barrier highlighted his playing career and a taped message from Tiger Woods, who calls Sifford his uncle, preceded the award presentation.

Next Johnny Miller, the often critical King of Grain golf announcer, proved to be quite human as his love of the land and of his role as family man came through a surprising and emotional keynote address during the memorable and diverse Opening Session. The session began with a couple of Native American songs played by members



One of the largest post session crowds ever stayed around to meet and greet Johnny Miller after his emotional Opening Session speech. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Charlie Sifford receives the Old Tom Morris Award in Anaheim from GCSAA President Sean Hoolehan, CGCS. Photo by Joel Jackson.

of the Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla tribes from the Umatilla Indian Reservation, where GCSAA President Sean Hoolehan, CGCS oversees the Wildhorse Casino Golf Resort.

Check out the photos highlighting the week that was in Anaheim.



Steve Ehrbar, CGCS donated his raffle winnings back to the Benevolent Fund to help Mike Ballard and family recover from a fire that destroyed their home. Photo by Joel Jackson.



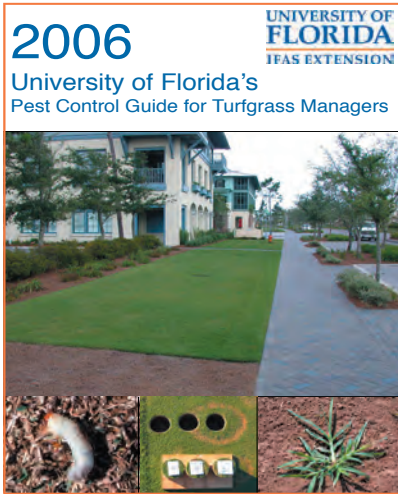
Stephen Fox, the fourth member of the FGCSA Team. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Seth Strickland, Bob Harper and Jim Torba celebrate the Florida Team victory at the FGCSA Reception in Anaheim. Photo by Joel Jackson.

USGA UPDATE

Overseeding Irregularities and Diseases Continue



2006
 University of Florida's
 Pest Control Guide for Turfgrass Managers

UNIVERSITY OF
FLORIDA
 IFAS EXTENSION

The University of Florida produces an excellent pest control manual for turfgrass managers, with a list of recommended pesticides for common turfgrass pests at the following website:

<http://turfpath.ifas.ufl.edu/turfgrass/2006TurfPestControlGuide.pdf>

By Todd Lowe

Warm temperatures in early winter have had a significant impact on golf course playability. As mentioned in previous updates, increased disease activity on putting greens and the need for increased cultivation occurred in early winter. Overseeding consistency

is an additional factor that the odd weather pattern affected.

Some golf courses in our region overseed playing surfaces with cool-season grasses to improve color. Certain factors dictate overseeding success, and one of the most important of these is temperature. Ideally, seeds are applied as soil temperature decreases and bermudagrass becomes dormant or semi-dormant. Increased soil temperatures occurred this past fall, which encouraged prolonged bermudagrass growth during the overseeding establishment period. As a result, the bermudagrass turf became more competitive creating spotty overseed establishment.

Overseeding irregularities were less obvious when the bermudagrass turf was green, and were not observed until frosts occurred in January and February. Low temperatures caused the bermudagrass to temporarily lose its color, accentuating non-uniform overseed establishment and causing numerous golfer complaints. Winters like these have certainly caused clubs to take a long, hard look at whether the practice of overseeding is worth the aggravation and increased resources necessary for good overseed quality, particularly in southern Florida.

Some disease pressure continues to plague golf course putting greens throughout the region. In particular, *Pythium* was observed on several courses in South Florida during recent visits. Temperature fluctuations have, at times, been conducive for *Pythium* outbreaks and it is important to scout, observe weather patterns, and utilize reliable products for *Pythium* control as needed. Just because a product is labeled for the control of a particular

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IFAS

Rapid Turfgrass Diagnostic Service
 Florida Extension Plant Disease Clinic
 Building 78, Mowry Road Gainesville, Florida 32611-0830 Phone (352) 392-1795

This is the correct form for the Rapid Turfgrass Diagnostic Service. Please fill out as much of the form as possible, keep a copy for your records, and submit the original with the sample. See reverse for submission instructions. For the most timely response, call or email to advise when the sample will arrive.

\$75.00 PER SAMPLE **DATE SAMPLE COLLECTED** / /

Attach business card or fill in below

Superintendent or Turfgrass Manager	Sample Submitter or bill to
Name _____	_____
Company _____	_____
Address _____	_____
City/Zip _____	_____
County _____	FAX/MAIL/EMAIL To : Grower <input type="checkbox"/> Submitter <input type="checkbox"/>
Phone No. () _____	() _____
FAX No. () _____	() _____
EMAIL _____	_____

TURF SPECIES, CULTIVAR, PLANTING TYPE _____
 GREEN OR FIELD NUMBER, IDENTIFIER _____

Check/Fill-in all that apply

SYMPTOMS INCLUDE: Leaf spot Blight Patch Ring Decline
 SYMPTOMS ARE: 12" or less Larger than 1 ft Mild and scattered Severe and widespread
 SYMPTOMS DEVELOPED: Suddenly Within the last week Over several weeks
 SYMPTOMS OTHER INFO _____

TURF MAINTENANCE: Height of cut _____ Irrigation water quality/reliability _____
 Growth regulator and frequency: _____ Recent fertility schedule _____
 List fungicide applications for the past month (product and rate): _____

 Additional information that may be helpful: _____

I would like: diagnostic confirmation Fungicide management recommendations Other: _____

Winters like these have certainly caused clubs to take a long, hard look at whether the practice of overseeding is worth the aggravation and increased resources necessary for good overseed quality, particularly in southern Florida.

pathogen does not necessarily ensure that it provides the best control.

The University of Florida produces an excellent pest control manual for turfgrass managers, with a list of recommended pesticides for common turfgrass pests at the Web site shown on the opposite page.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The University also has a Rapid Turfgrass Diagnostics Service which provides accurate disease diagnosis within 24-48 hours. See IFAS form in this section for more information.

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Sealsle Supreme – The new kid on the block

By Joel Jackson

The seashore paspalum grasses have made a big splash in southwest Florida the past few years, with WCI Communities and Bonita Bay Properties choosing to use these varieties for their acknowledged “Wow!” factor. There is no denying seashore paspalum is a good-looking grass and it has some appealing features.

First and foremost, Tim Hiers, CGCS will flat out tell you that without seashore paspalums the Old Collier Golf Club would not exist simply because there was no available fresh water for the club to access. Because paspalum can thrive on higher salinity water, they were able to use a brackish water source for irrigation. For coastal regions, where fresh water is becoming more scarce thanks to continued development, these grasses offer a practical alternative for golf courses.

Sea Isle Supreme is one of the newest varieties developed by Dr. Ronnie Duncan, famed researcher out of Griffin, Ga., and is currently installed at Old Collier and a few other courses. I met with Dr. Paul Raymer, UGA, Harold Pirkle of Pike Creek Turf and John Holmes from Jennings Turf Farms during the 2007 GCSAA show in Anaheim to discuss Sea Isle Supreme.

“What excites us about this grass besides the inherent tolerance for lower quality irrigation water is that it is truly a ‘tee-to-green’ variety,” Holmes said. “All you have to do is change the height of cut for tees, greens, fairways and roughs. That is unique in turf management.”

Like other paspalums, Supreme has good color retention in cold weather. Holmes mentioned that, when compared to other plots in Georgia, the Supreme was the last to go off-color following Tifway then TifSport when cold weather set in. In Florida from Orlando south, it performs very well in cool weather and comes back quickly from cold snaps.

While acknowledging the attributes



Sea Isle Supreme on the Old Collier Golf Club. Photo courtesy of The Branding Firm

of its ability to use lower-quality water, potentially less water use, and less nitrogen use as definite environmental positives, I asked the group about concerns with diseases.

Pirkle responded, “While paspalums may be more susceptible to disease pressure, that is a variable situation related to growing conditions and stresses. Meanwhile water and nutrient requirements are constant universal inputs and so on balance I would say the grass definitely comes up on the positive side environmentally.”

There obviously are good reasons to use paspalum. I asked the group if they feared that the “silver bullet” label would be put on the grass and too much expected of it.

“We went through a learning curve with the ultradwarf grasses, and the same will be true with SeaIsle Supreme and the other varieties,” Holmes said. “The longer time we work with them, the more we will continue to tweak the best management practices and become more comfortable in our management programs. Tim Hiers certainly has started on the ground floor and continues to evaluate and re-evaluate his programs to get the best results.

“A grass like Tifway after 40-50 years is a proven, known entity. We are just

'All you have to do is change the height of cut for tees, greens, fairways and roughs.'

at the beginning of the Sealsle Supreme story. In 10 years we will know a lot more. Right now it's not ready for general consumer use, but as we learn to adapt to the nuances of this grass like we have done for others it might just become very common in home lawns.

And Pirkle added, “All the research in the world on test plots can give you some confidence, but it doesn't matter until you finally install the grass on a golf course and subject it to the day-to-day, real-world stresses.”

Right now Sea Isle Supreme is the new kid on the block and so far so good.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This piece is in part an “advertorial” on SeaIsle Supreme because we somehow managed to leave out their ad scheduled to appear in the Winter 2007 Issue. I appreciate the candor of the interviewees to discuss all aspects of the product.

PLANTS OF THE YEAR



Dracaena deremensis 'Limelight'
Zones: Interior Plant, exterior in South Florida
Mature Height and Spread: 5' x 4'
Classification: Houseplant, tropical
Landscape Use: as a low-light interior plant throughout state and can be used in the exterior in South Florida
Characteristics: With striking bright glossy lustrous lime green leaves, this tropical foliage plant thrives as a low-light interior plant. It's durability makes

it ideal for home or office settings and a low-light location helps maintain its lime coloring. This plant grows more quickly than its relative the Dracaena 'Janet Craig' and can also be used outdoors as a shade plant for south Florida gardens.
Possible Insect/Disease Problems: possible mealy bug, but not common
Propagation: rooted cuttings or air layers



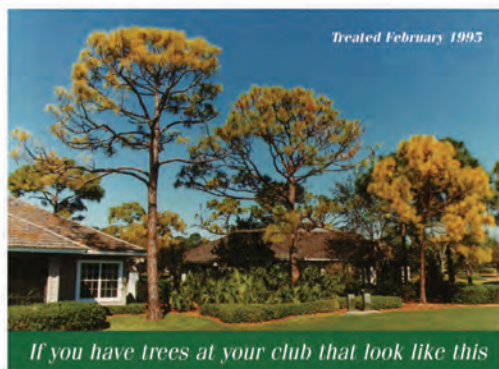
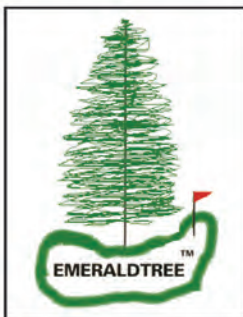
Cyrtomium falcatum
Common Name: Holly Fern
Zones: North, Central & South
Mature Height and Spread: 18" x 30"
Classification: Perennial, Ground Cover
Landscape Use: shade border plant, shade

ground cover, indoor specimen, covered patio container, woodland garden
Characteristics: A low-growing clumping evergreen fern sporting holly-like leaflets. Holly Fern is a shade-loving plant requiring ample moisture for best performance in the landscape. Erect and spreading glossy, dark green fronds arise from a central crown.
Possible Insect/Disease Problems: scale is possible, but not common
Propagation: by division and spread by spores which are visible underneath the leaves

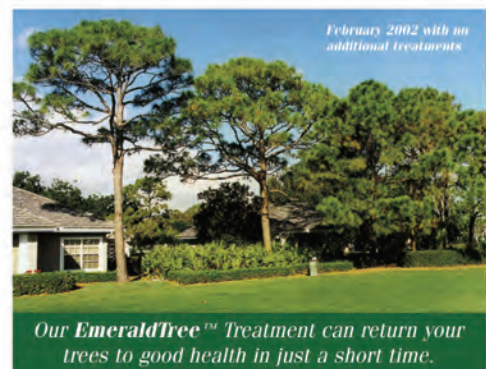
Launched in 1998, Florida Nursery, Growers & Landscape Association (FNGLA) Florida Plants of the Year program designates plants friendly to each of Florida's three geographic regions as Florida Plants of the Year. For 2007, five plants were selected by a jury representing different facets of the state's diverse nursery and landscape industry.



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