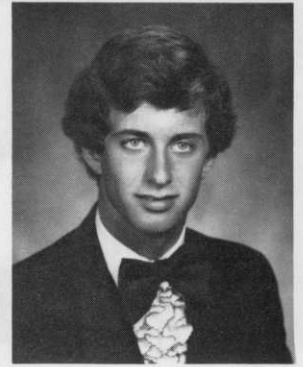


Safety and the Superintendent

By DAVID MEDA
Lake City Community College



In the event of equipment operating, safety is important in any situation. Whether it's in the rough on a hillside or on a greens surface, you must be aware of all hazards in the operation of your equipment. Equipment is designed to perform a specific function and to provide efficient, time saving methods of doing a job. It is designed with the operator in mind and built to OSHA (Occupational Safety Health Association) standards for the safety of each individual. Though progress is being made to enhance the safety of each product produced, we know we can only control accidents, and that only ignorance, carelessness, and inefficiency prevents us from working with safety in mind. As we produce bigger and more sophisticated machinery to do the work man had to do by hand, new and more extensive safety measures have to be taken.

Practicing safety precautions does not mean eliminating all activity that might be dangerous. There will always be those few that will be tempted. It's up to you, the supervisor, to acknowledge the risk involved and to take action, for it's the safety of each employee that's your concern.

The major problem is adapting persons to work operations and conditions with maximum degree of safety. Records have shown that this is not an easy task. Action has to be taken in such a manner that personnel can comprehend. Working as a supervisor you must be able to work with your people and be able to get people to work with you. It is up to you to notice unsafe conditions and unsafe acts. You must be able to correct unsafe acts in a manner which will cause neither confusion nor resentment.

Follow the procedures in accident prevention listed:

1. improve physical conditions, operations, process, so as to minimize the probability of accidents;

2. guard machinery and all moving parts;
 3. design personal practices to train, assign and supervise employees in a way that increase the expectation of safe performance;
 4. analyze accident facts with view toward initiating preventive measures;
 5. know probable or potential hazards;
 6. know actual or existing hazards;
 7. take action and provide information through posted literature and by verbal communication with employees;
 8. provide necessary safety equipment to do a job.
- All of these are significant to the superintendent in providing safe conditions for his employees.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to hire a mechanic who is qualified in the area of golf course equipment. Keeping equipment in top operating condition with all safety devices working, is his main objective. People don't realize the importance of most safety devices on machinery. The equipment is built for the safety of the individual.

A disconnected safety switch and improper repair may cause serious injury to the operator. For example, a greens mower operator dismounts his machine, while it's running, to unclog grass clippings from the reels. In the process, his fingers are severed. Due to improper repair of safety switches to cut off the machine as he dismounted, an operator lost his fingers, disabling him for life. But if all safeguards were operational, accidents would be lessened.

In conclusion, make sure equipment is used in its specified areas, be responsible, take action in providing proper safety equipment, and maintain equipment for maximum SAFETY. ■

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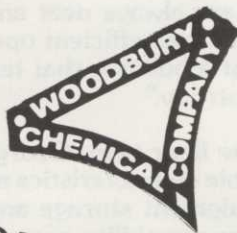
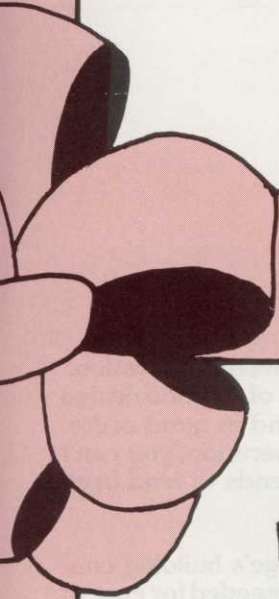
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Treasure Coast "Tide"ings

By JAMES P. CALLAGHAN
Rio Mar Country Club

A Visit to the Maintenance Complex at Piper's Landing

Piper's Landing, a new real estate development golf complex in Stuart, boasts a modern maintenance complex that is one of the finest along the Treasure Coast. Unlike the barns of yesteryear, the modern maintenance building at Piper's Landing provides the staff with a strong foundation for an efficient operation of the 18 hole golf course and landscaping of the development's properties.

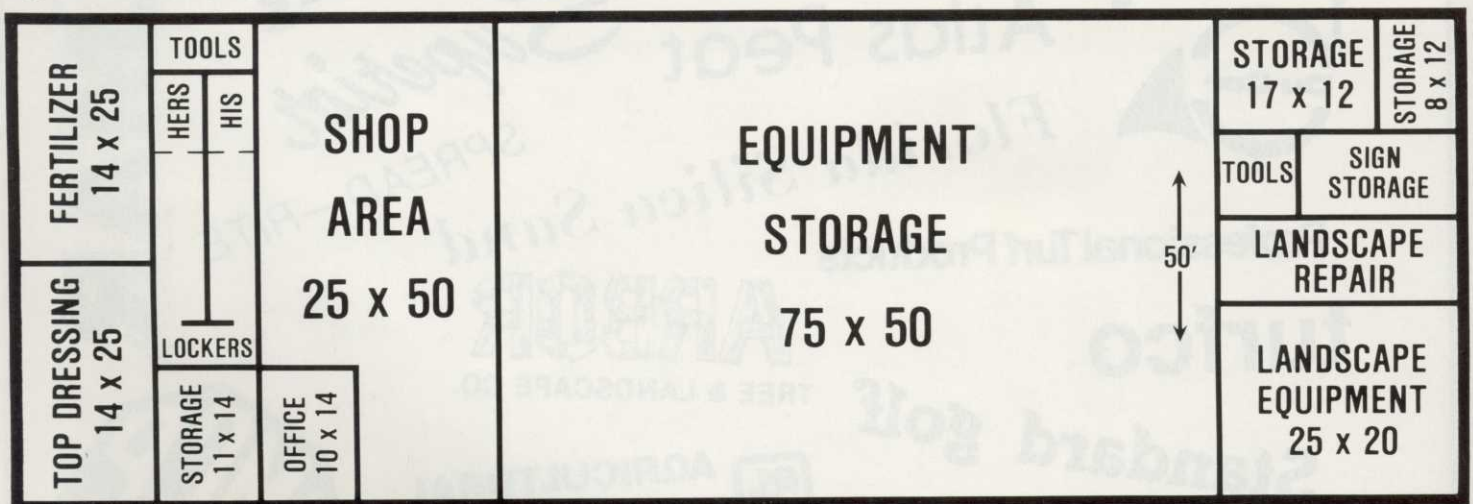
George Ord, C.G.C.S., beamed with pride when he gave me the grand tour of his maintenance building. Designed by Piper's Landing's own architectural staff, the building contains floor area of 7,500 square feet. It is divided into three different sections. An open 75 x 50 area is utilized for equipment storage. To one side, a 25 x 50 area is reserved for landscape operations while a 50 x 90 area at the other side provides shop and support areas for golf course operations. Having the equipment storage area separating the landscape and golf course sections, it provides a buffer zone that allows the two departments to function independently under the same roof.

George Ord is certainly proud of his maintenance building. "It's definitely a pleasure to work with a well designed

building. It is really an asset to our overall operation," George stated. He continued, "Because of its good design and ample area, we are always neat and in good order. With today's demand for an efficient operation, you can't afford to work out of a building that tends to lend itself towards a state of entropy."

As one can see in the floor plan, George's building contains all of the desirable characteristics needed for ease of operation. Large equipment storage and shop areas for easy equipment maneuverability are a necessity today. Ample storage areas for specific items are conveniently located throughout the building. A comfortable office and his/hers rest area have been incorporated into the complex. Adequate fertilizer and topdressing storage compartments are found at the far end of the building.

The maintenance area is extensively paved on all sides of the building and a paved parking area is provided for the employees at the entrance to the complex. Having such a large area surfaced helps to keep the building clean and the entire area neat at all times.



MAINTENANCE BUILDING PIPER'S LANDING

(Continued from page 34)

The location of the complex in relation to the golf course is also a plus. It is situated 150 feet in from the main road and directly between the front and back nines.

Gas pumps are located a safe distance (50 feet) from the building. Since all departments at Piper's Landing have access to gasoline at the maintenance complex, a 15 unit-key lock computerized system is utilized which keeps track of each department's gas consumption.

Flexibility, efficiency, and attractiveness are all desirable elements that we would like to see incorporated into today's maintenance complex. The complex found at Piper's Landing provides these essential elements and has paid off, resulting in a smooth operation. ■



Front view, maintenance building — Piper's Landing.

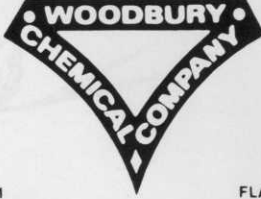


Rear view, maintenance building — Piper's Landing.

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CRABGRASS (*Digitaria spp.*)

By STEVE BATTEN

Is crabgrass a winter weed? Yes, germination begins in mid-January for several crabgrass species. In South tropical Florida, there is a species flowering every month of the year.

Crabgrass is found world wide, and even grown as a turfgrass in Singapore. In Australia the common name is Blue-Couch. In Florida, there are more than 21 species identified as escaped introductions now growing as natives, and many more experimentals in state herbariums. One cultivar, *Servenola*, has recently been released as a forage grass by IFAS. The most common species are Tropical Crabgrass (*D. bicornis*) and Southern Crabgrass (*D. ciliaris*). *Digitaria sanguinalis*, known as Large or Hairy crabgrass is not found in Florida as a common species.

Many species of crabgrass in Florida produce stolons, which make low mowing as a control ineffective. Two of these species are Blanketgrass (*D. seratina*) and India Crabgrass (*D. longifolia*).

Because there are so many species in Florida, winter application of a pre-emergence herbicide in early January may, or may not work for control. Germination time, temperatures, and seed coat chemical reduction (scarification) varies greatly for each species. ■

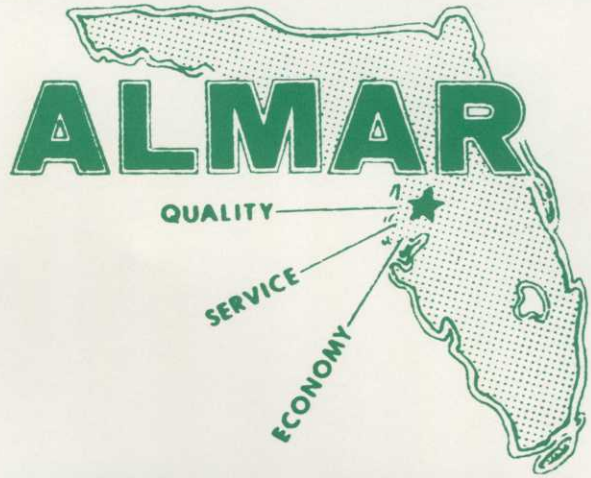
(illustration from *Turf Management for Golf Courses, Fall 1982*, by James Beard, published by Burgess Publishing Co., Minneapolis, Minn., illustrated by Steve Batten)

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EDITORIAL

The past year has been a very difficult one for businesses in the United States. Inflation has reduced the dollars' buying power. This has resulted in less demand for services and has caused all businesses to pull in their belts. The businesses that support our industry have also been duly effected.

"The Florida Green" would like to remind our readers once again that we are supported 100% by our advertising family. Not one of our 2,300 subscribers pays one penny to receive our award winning publication. Neither is it a financial burden to your local chapter or to your state association. The entire expense of putting out "The Florida Green" is picked up by our supplier-contributors.

We would like to urge and remind you that when all things are equal please deal with our advertisers. Show them you are grateful for their support during these trying times (see page 32 & 33).

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