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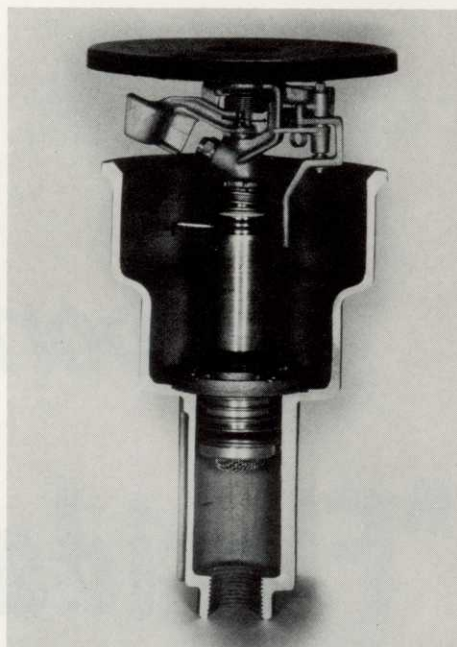
\*Under normal conditions, two bags of Chipco 26019 are sufficient to treat an average size green for 365 days.

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The Model 17091 was developed to fill a need for a large sprinkler with the anti-back splash feature for industrial and commercial uses. The coverage pattern is 49' - 61' radius with 9.6' to 21.8 GPM.

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For additional information contact: Mel Canterbury, Vice President Marketing, Royal Coach/Buckner, 4381 N. Brawley, Fresno, CA 93711, (209) 275-0500.

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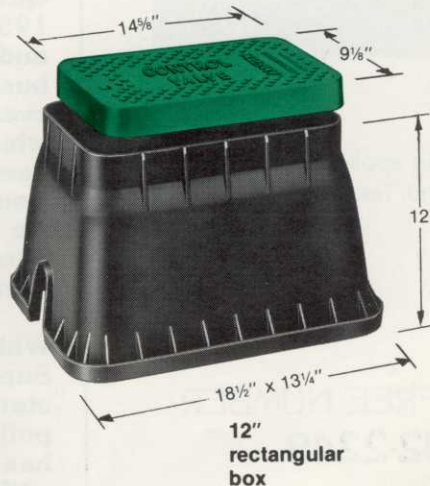
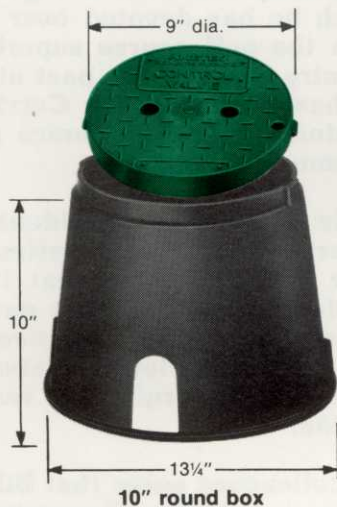


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## ***FT-GA's Most Prestigious Award Presented to Bill Wagner***

At the October annual meeting of the Florida Turf-Grass Association, a surprised and humble, Bill Wagner, accepted the Wreath of Grass Award from out-going President Mike Swanson, along with the gavel representing the beginning of his term of office as President of the Association.

The Wreath of Grass Award is the highest honor the Association can bestow on a person, and is presented to one who has made a significant contribution to the turfgrass industry.

Bill was born in Philadelphia and grew up in Quakertown, Pennsylvania. Moving to Florida in 1959, he operated his own service station, candy and tobacco business. Being in the auto mechanics business with an interest in agriculture, he was eventually led into the golf course business, to which he has devoted over twenty years. He has been the golf course superintendent at Tequesta Country Club for the past nineteen of these years. He has served on the Curriculum Advisory Commission for the mechanics program at Lake City Community College.

While serving as President of the Florida Golf Superintendents, Bill effectively organized the state association so that it became a powerful political influence in the national association. He has also been very effective working very closely with the South Florida Water Management District in establishing rules for restrictive water use in Florida.

His colleagues agree that Bill is a quiet *force* in the turfgrass industry. Congratulations, Bill, for your accomplishments and receiving this distinguished award! ■



## Meyers Wins National Title

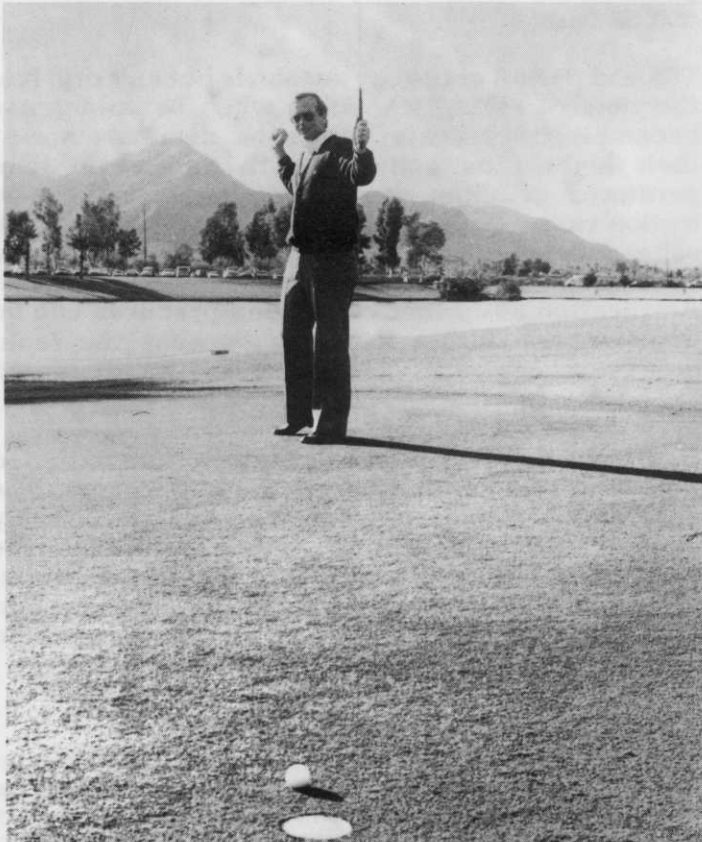
Dan Meyers, CGCS, Carrollwood Village C.C. in Tampa won the G.C.S.A.A. annual golf tournament. The event was held in Scottsdale, Arizona at the McCormick Ranch and Phonician C.C.

The individual championship was the third title for the Florida West Coast member. His past wins were posted in 1979 at Sea Island, Georgia and 1981 at Anaheim, California. His two day score of one over par tied with Chip Ramsey of Colorado. the victory was earned with a par on the first hole of the playoff.

Results in the 4-man team chapter event were not as sweet yet the finish was good. The team event has gained great acceptance in recent years as nearly fifty chapters competed. The Florida team finished 8th. This year's team consists of Dan Meyers; Joe Ondo, Winter Park; Mark Henderson, West Palm Beach, and Steve Pearson, West Palm Beach. The team chapter title for the second year goes to the Carolina GCSA.

Joe Ondo won the long drive contest. His "poke" traveled 287 yards and was rewarded with a nice three foot trophy.

Champagne flowed at the Florida table during the awards banquet. As the toast was given by our champion plans were underway for a fourth title next year at Hilton Head. ■



36 holes of play ended in a 1st place tie.



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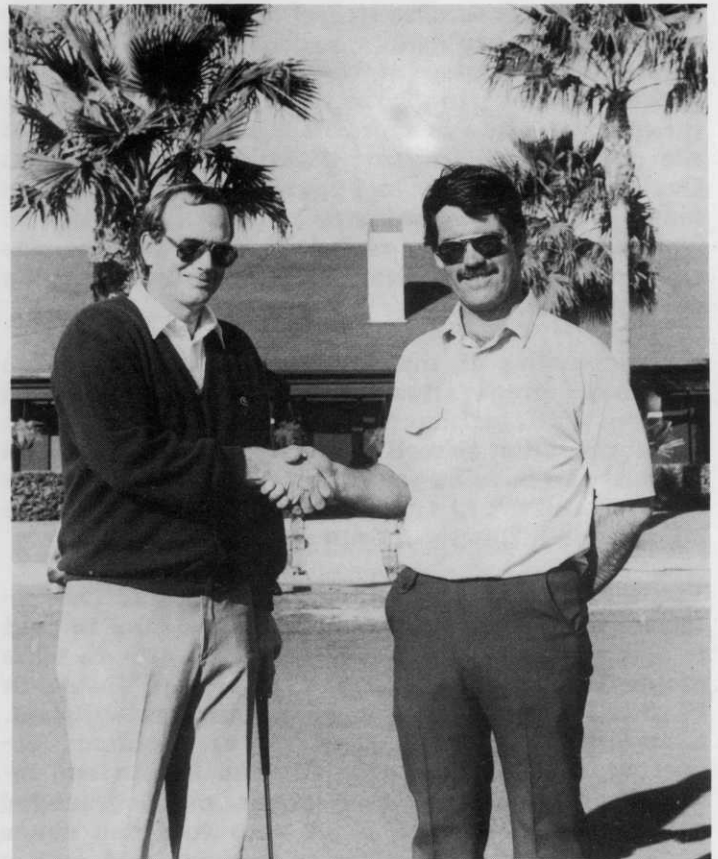
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1st hole playoff victory gave Dan Meyers his 3rd GCSAA title.



# GOLF TURF NEWS

BRUCE J. AUGUSTIN  
Extension Turf & Water Specialist  
AREC Ft. Lauderdale

CHARLES H. PEACOCK  
Extension Turf Specialist  
Gainesville

## *Growing Turf in the Dry Season*

By BRUCE AUGUSTIN

The dry season in Florida occurs during the winter and spring. It is roughly the time spanning from the conclusion of one hurricane season in mid-November until the next hurricane season begins mid-June. On an average during these seven months only one-third of the yearly rainfall occurs. There are three periods during the dry season with which a turf manager has to deal: (1) the end of the wet season, (2) the cool, dry winter, and (3) the hot, dry, spring. Each of these periods has unique challenges for the golf course superintendent.

The beginning period of the dry season is a transition period when the turf goes from a predominantly wet state from frequent rainfall to a dry state that requires irrigation. It is a time when many disease problems occur because of repeated wetting and drying of the thatch which causes fungal spores to form and spread. Helminthosporium often is a problem at the beginning of the dry season. The turf disorder, Bermudagrass Decline, also begins to appear. It is a time when many of the other problems previously masked by frequent rain appear, especially poor root systems caused by nematodes, diseases, or improper management.

The beginning of the dry season is the time to complete preparations for the winter golfing season. Fall fertilization programs should have been completed as well as nematode control so that the turf can have as good a root system as possible going into the dry season. Overseeding should be completed during the month of November.

The middle period of the dry season is characterized by relatively little rainfall and cool to cold temperatures. The bermudagrass growth has stopped in north Florida and slowed in south Florida. Overseeding has become established. Generally there are a few major problems occurring, although isolated attacks by various insects and diseases can occur on overseeded grasses. Pythium and other root rots can cause severe damage if weather is warmer and wetter than normal. Because of slow bermudagrass growth, traffic can result in major damage if not

properly directed to cart paths or roughs. Any turf damage during the middle of the dry season will take a long time to heal over.

A major cultural problem that begins to appear during the middle of the dry season are localized dry spots. These are caused by hydrophobic soil conditions which have developed as soil dried out.

Dry spots are very difficult to rewet by regular irrigation. Best solution to eliminate these spots is a non-ionic wetting agent. Use these materials at labelled rates and soak the dry areas. Exceeding wetting agent label rates and frequencies can cause a yellowing of the turf. Never use laundry detergent as a turf wetting agent! While these detergents are good for cleaning clothes they will cause serious turf damage.

The end period of the dry season is hot and dry. It is the time of spring transition when bermudagrass becomes active again. Irrigation demands are at their highest as active growth and warm temperatures combine to produce high evapotranspiration rates. Mole crickets activity returns with a vengeance and many other insect pests need to be controlled to prevent serious turf damage. Aerification and other cultivation practices can be implemented during this time because the rapid growing grass will quickly cover the disrupted areas.

In all, the dry season in Florida is a time of varied activities and challenges on the golf course. The severity of deviation from the average monthly rainfall and temperatures often determine the success or failure of a turf management program. However, careful implementation of fertilizer and irrigation practices can be extremely efficient and produce excellent turf during the dry season. ■

NOTICE: Anyone wishing to take the G.C.S.A.A. certification or recertification exams, Bruce Augustin is available in south Florida and Charles Peacock is available in north Florida to proctor the tests. Superintendents should contact the national G.C.S.A.A. office regarding details.



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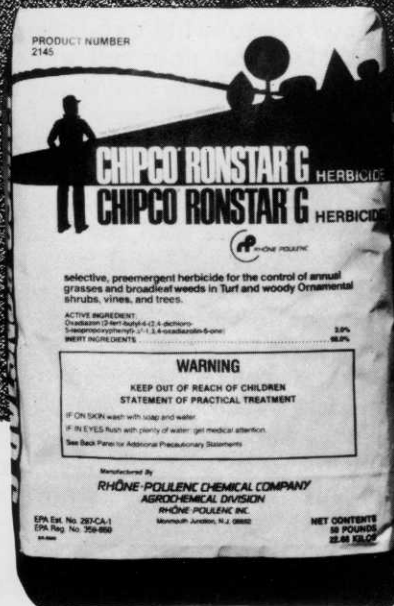
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# The Gator Growls



By HANK MAUS  
President, Everglades G.C.S.A.  
Superintendent, The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club  
Sanibel Island, Florida

## What's a Golf Course Superintendent Worth?

Budget time is here, coming up, or has just gone by for every Superintendent. No matter your salary, small or large, you still face the same basic problems as your fellow Superintendent.

Let's assume you are not happy with your present salary. Have you personally discussed your wages with whomever you are responsible? Have you distinguished the significant value of the Superintendent and of the many fields of endeavor in which you must have reasonable expertise just to perform your duties? Do you yourself even know how to figure your worth in dollars and cents to your employer? I doubt it! You take it for granted they already know. Most Superintendents just take a percentage over the present salary, add a cost of living allowance or in some cases, it's always handy to pull a figure out of the blue and hope it passes approval. Many have never offered pictorial or verbal proof of their value during the past year and just hope the present conditions of the course, at budget time, merits a wage increase. In the majority of the business world, it doesn't happen that way. Proof of our increased value must be shown by special project reports, accomplishments resulting in either less monies spent or an increase in values to the assets of your club, but significant end results are required to merit additional value salary-wise.

This way the Superintendent is not taken for granted by upper management and this also shows extreme professionalism.

Regardless, whether you agree or disagree, I am a respected person in my field and among my peers. I grow and maintain golf turf for a living. I love it and it's what I enjoy doing best. I am proud of what I do and of my accomplishments now and in the past. Things might not always be easy, restricted personnel, budgets, old equipment, adverse weather, insect problems, fungi attacks, or whatever, all tend to make our jobs difficult, but we always come through with usually acceptable results. In essence, we are problem solvers and we do get the problems solved.

I don't know about you, but I wear many hats in my profession. I am an electrician, plumber, carpenter, surveyor, drainage expert, irrigation specialist, landscaper, soils expert, pool maintenance specialist, tennis court expert, purchasing agent, personnel director, machine operator, salesman and a half-way mechanic. (I know I have left something out but by now I think you are getting the idea.) I am also expected to solve problems of the unexpected that can arise daily without any outside help. Yet, my position of Superintendent is probably the least secure of any known profession today.

*(Continued on page 29)*

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Just take any fifteen of these hats, put on an annual salary each of \$10,000 per year, except for the mechanic, 'cause I am only half as good at that, we will give him \$5,000 per year and you have a yearly salary of \$155,000. I'll grant you this may sound absurd, but if there is a Superintendent in the country making a base wage of \$155,000 or even half of it, \$77,500, I have never heard of him or her and know of no one else who has.

I grant the figures quoted may seem funny to you but really the joke is kind of on us. We have proven our worth in all of these fields to our employers. Also granted, is that we are not top experts in all of these endeavors, and our employees help with most of these functions, that is what makes them so valuable to us, yet, we are knowledgeable enough to be the responsible employee of our employer and therefore the quoted values are not so ridiculous, are they?

The number of formally educated Superintendents in the field, the millions of hours of on-the-job training, special workshops, seminars, local, state, regional and national educational meetings, reading materials, day to day contact with our peers, are all facts that requires us, as the Superintendents, to take a back seat to no one. Again, I repeat, we have earned the right and proven our worth. We support and are supported by memberships in local, state and regional associations and in the G.C.S.A.A. Our December meeting showed us in black and white slides where we have been and where we might possibly be going in the next twenty-five years; gentlemen, the days of black and white are gone. We are living in the wonderful world of vivid color. I don't want to know the past and don't really care about the twenty-five year plans for the future. I want to know about NOW!!! What does G.C.S.A.A. expect from us and us from them? Why are we so powerless as to even have honorable mention of the host club's Superintendent name mentioned on televised events of the U.S.G.A., P.G.A., and L.P.G.A. tournaments? Television people always seem to mention the host P.G.A. pro. If the G.C.S.A.A. has a promotional department, why can't they get it done? If money is the answer, let's get it! If it is just a matter of work, let's get busy! Let's tell the golfing world who we are and what we do all in living color.

These past six months as President of the Everglades Chapter, I realize now there is hardly enough time to get your feet wet. There is hardly enough time to initiate a project much less ever see it through locally; but just imagine what all of us together, working with our successors on a continuing basis could accomplish. Let's strive to make the golfing public aware of the Superintendent and his love of and value to the game of golf. Our chapter has an excellent promotional committee which monthly sends newsletters to the media and is promptly printed in the Fort Myers News Press. The Florida G.C.S.A.A. with its new public relations committee, led by Past President Kevin Downing,

has already gotten a commitment for a State-wide recognized Florida Golf Day, May 7, 1984, from Governor Bob Graham, with special events throughout the state, all because of a few Superintendents who are working together.

Well, now we know our worth. All we have to do is sell it, but that is not really hard to do because we are the problem solvers and we know our worth. ■



#### SUPERINTENDENT HONORED

Dan Delaney, left, president of the North Florida Section of Superintendents, presents Bardmoor CC superintendent John Luper a special plaque during awards presentations following the JCPenney Mixed Classic at the Largo course. Luper received the plaque for his outstanding work in the overall upgrading of the Bardmoor layout and for his efforts to get the course into excellent playing condition for the annual PGA-LPGA tournament.

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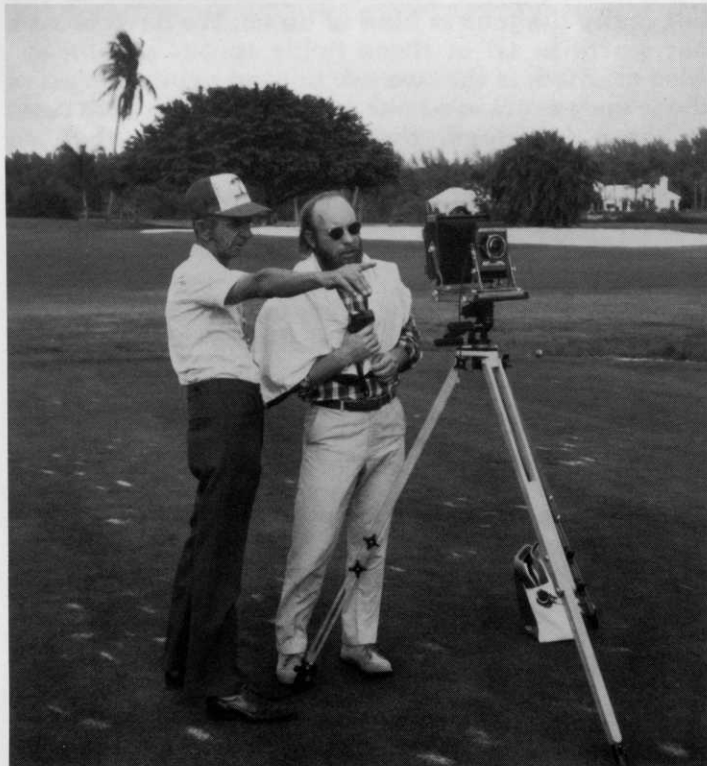
# cover photography

Daniel Zelazek has been our cover photographer the past three years. A University of Florida graduate he received his technical photography training at Brooks Institute in California. He is employed in the photography department at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, West Palm Beach. His assign-

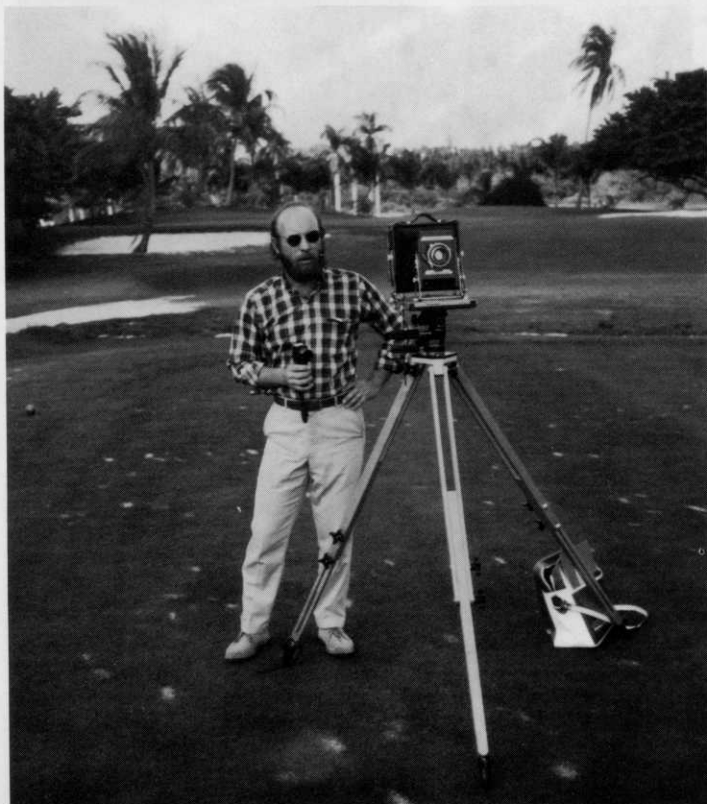
ments vary from jet engine propellers to movies for the armed forces. A award-winning nature photographer, his prints hang in art galleries and museums nationwide. The fact he is an avid golfer and a close friend of the staff helps us secure his talents! Long weekends are part of the job.



Course selection is done months in advance and reviewed with course superintendent. Multi visits are needed for finished product.



All turfgrass, trees, bunkers are reviewed so they will be peaked for set date. Verticut surprises are a no!



Light is critical factor. All work is done either the first or last two hours of day. Advance trips reveal if shot is an AM or PM sun angle. Note precise hand-held lightmeter.



This is the current cover photograph.