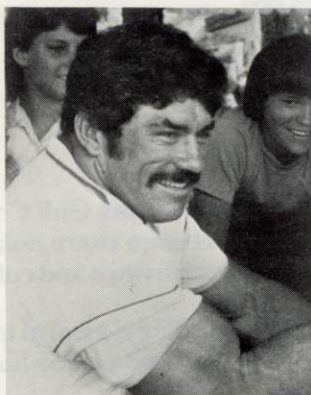


## 1984-85 Turfgrass Educational Short Courses

- September 11 1984 Soil Modifications For Turf & Ornamentals  
Univ. of Florida Extension Service Auditorium  
2350 E. Michigan St., Orlando, FL.  
Contact — Uday Yadav (305) 420-3265
- September 19 1984 Overseeding Shortcourse  
Univ. of Florida Extension Service Auditorium,  
2350 E. Michigan St., Orlando, FL.  
Contact — Uday Yadav (305) 420-3265
- January 17 1985 Turfgrass Management Principals and Practices.  
Univ. of Florida Extension Service Auditorium,  
2350 E. Michigan St., Orlando, FL.  
Contact — Uday Yadav (305) 420-3265.
- March 6 1985 Safe & Efficient Use of Agricultural Pesticides.  
2350 of Florida Extension Service Auditorium,  
2350 E. Michigan St., Orlando, FL.  
Contact — Uday Yadav (305) 420-3265.
- September 10 1985 Turfgrass Irrigation Short Course.  
Univ. of Florida Extension Service Auditorium,  
2350 E. Michigan St., Orlando, FL.  
Contact — Uday Yadav (305) 420-3265.



**WHO:** Bobby Hopkins — World Champion Arm Wrestler and former Tampa Bay Bandit, Right Guard.

**WHAT:** "Living in Today's World."

**WHEN:** Tuesday, October 2, 1984, 7 A.M.

**WHERE:** F.T.G.A. Prayer Breakfast.

# YOU'RE LOOKING AT 365 DAYS OF BROWN PATCH CONTROL.\*

It's that time of year when Rhizoctonia (Brown Patch) can break through your overseeding defenses.

But not when you use CHIPCO® 26019 turf fungicide. You'll have fewer disease problems and healthy overseeded greens when you include CHIPCO 26019 fungicide in your program. Also, additional sprays of CHIPCO 26019 during the year help make a smooth spring transition.



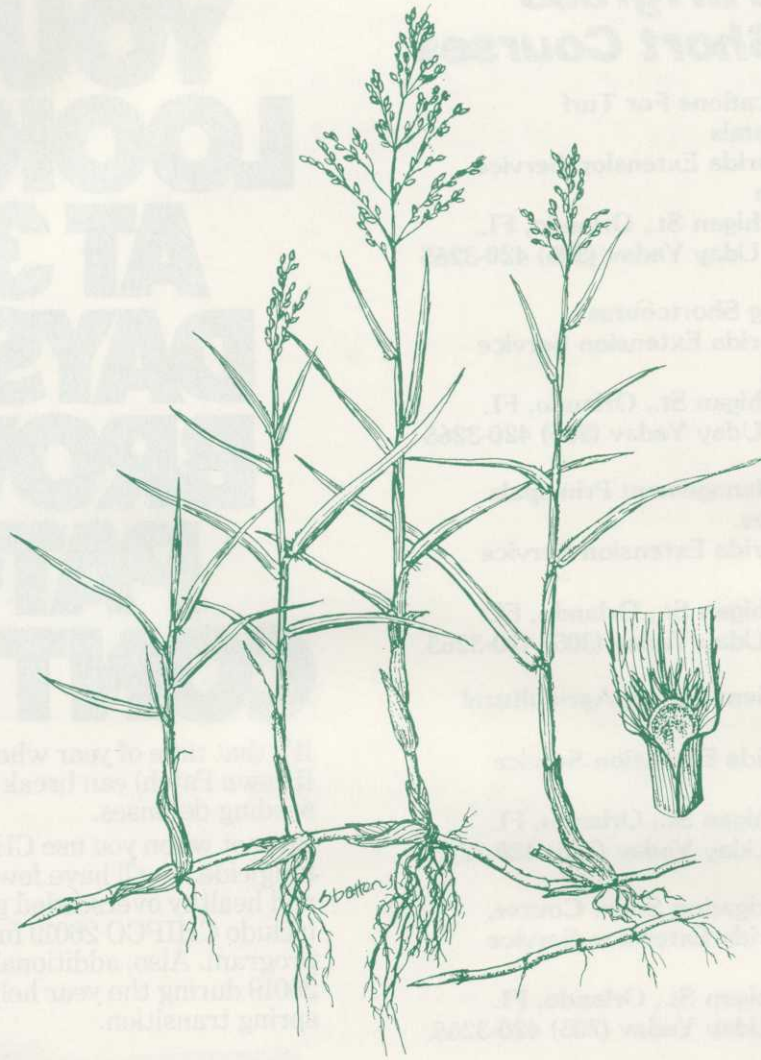
\*Under normal conditions, two bags of Chipco 26019 are sufficient to treat an average size green for 365 days.

EVERYTHING'S UNDER CONTROL.

# CHIPCO® 26019

Turf Fungicide





# **Torpedograss**

(*Panicum roeens* L.)

By Steve Batten

Torpedograss can be found in sandy soils throughout the southeastern United States along the Gulf Coast. It spreads primarily by an extensive rhizome network although it is a vigorous seed producer. The large sharp pointed elongated rhizomes allows the torpedograss to form a turf, so it can quickly invade bermudagrass fairways and collars on greens.

The seeds are produced on open panicles 7 to 12 cm long with the branches stiffly ascending typical of most *Panicums*. The sheaths have overlapping loose hairy margins and the leaf blades are flat or folded and can be hairy or smooth.

Its preference for wet soils makes torpedograss a common sight on lake banks and drainageways of most Florida golf courses. The herbicides that control torpedograss will also control bermudagrass. Non-selective herbicides such as glyphosate (Round up) is the best control. On bermudagrass turf, a few superintendents have even used paint brushes to selectively place glyphosate for torpedograss control. Excavation is often tried, but care has to be taken to completely remove all of the rhizomes. More likely than not excavation will only cultivate a denser torpedograss population.

Fisherman will find torpedograss attractive on lake banks, because it is a favorite hiding place for large mouth bass.

(Illustration from **TURF MANAGEMENT FOR GOLF COURSES**, Fall 1982, by James Beard, published by Burgess Publishing Co., Minneapolis, Minn., illustrated by Steve Batten) ■



# Watching Your Tees & Q's

By STEVE BATTEN AND BUD WHITE  
United States Golf Association-Green Section  
Southeastern Region



## Fire Insurance Is More Than Just A Policy

Fires are a constant threat to golf course maintenance buildings because of the presence of gasoline engines, lubricants, elaborate electrical systems, and storage of many commodities. But there's more to good fire insurance than a purchased policy. This would include good fire prevention, a well educated maintenance crew, an updated insurance policy, and a researched source of additional equipment.

The first place to start a fire prevention program would be in the building itself. You can minimize many of the daily fire hazards by asking a local fire marshal for an inspection. They will gladly help you select the right size and type of fire extinguisher, detector system, and advise the superintendent and golf club on the best method of chemical storage. Some items to consider would be to separate storage of aerosol cans, fuels, lubricants, and commodities such as fertilizers and pesticides. Separation of these items lowers the risk of accidents and increases the control of fires.

Design of the building should include a three way fire detection system for heat, smoke, and chemical fires. Fire exit lanes should be clearly marked. Insulated walls should be considered for fertilizer storage areas and the doors to chemical storage rooms should be clearly marked. The list can go on and on and all these considerations for building design and maintenance can be outlined with the help of the local fire marshal or an insurance inspector.

Education of the maintenance crew is a continuing process. They should know the location of all fire extinguishers and alarm or detector systems. Keeping a clean house will prevent many accidental fires. This could begin with personal lockers to clean up cluttered floor space so that traffic flow through machinery areas is unobstructed. Everyone on the crew should know where the electrical breaker box is located. This extra time spent on education could pay big dividends.

Don't get caught with your pants down without a fire insurance policy. A good policy should be able to replace large mowing equipment at the present cost. The only way to keep the replacement cost current is to update the policy every year and revise the list of insured equipment. The superintendent should be the main consultant with the club management for revising the insured equipment list.

Each time a new piece of equipment is purchased, then it needs to be reported and added to the insurance list the same day as arrival. Be sure to file two to three copies of the insured equipment list in separate offices, such as with the financial office, the club management office, and the superintendent's office. This just adds a little insurance against loss of your records.

If a major fire does happen, then hopefully all of your research and vested hours of paperwork will payoff. Expect the building to be the first insurance settlement.

*(Continued on page 44)*

## FOR MAXIMUM TURFGRASS AT MINIMUM EXPENSE!



*Turfgrass Consulting Services*

**ROBERT L. WILLCOX**

1261 S.W. 27th Place  
Boynton Beach, Fla. 33435

EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONAL  
SOIL TESTING ANALYSIS  
COMPLETE AGRONOMIC  
PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

(305) 736-2056



QUALITY FERTILIZERS SINCE 1904



(Continued from page 43)

Commodities and maintenance supplied will be lost, but these are readily available. The first concern will be to find mowing equipment. Neighboring golf courses and equipment distributors can often lend a helping hand to allow the continued maintenance of the course.

This will mean extra work time for the maintenance crew to mow the turfgrass because machinery will be limited. One of the first priorities is a good temporary work area for the mechanic. Borrowed equipment will mean that special consideration will have to be given to keep up repairs. With an informed crew and good insurance, the reorganization of maintenance priorities will proceed after a fire without affecting the daily loss of golf traffic.

## Strictly Personal...

It's a truism that a good credit rating is based on more than wealth. You also have to have roots, substance, an attachment to the community. Not to mention a record of having paid what you owed.

Tom De Bari of Hoboken, New Jersey, offers new proof of this. A lottery winner, he is assured of an annual income of \$71,000 for the next twenty years. Yet he wasn't able to get a credit card.

### CREDIT CARD NOT ASSURED EVEN IF YOU'RE VERY RICH

The reason the 60-year-old longshoreman wants a credit card is that, although he has always paid cash for everything, he doesn't want to carry cash any longer; there's been too much publicity about his new wealth.

Yet he was turned down for both a Visa card and an American Express gold card. The banks that issue the cards were suspicious not because Tom's record was bad but because he didn't have any record at all. A big income alone doesn't mean anything, they said — that can be frittered away as easily as a small one. And if one isn't firmly attached to the community, what's to keep him from taking off for parts unknown, leaving bills unpaid?

Among the steps Tom might take would be:

- Opening a bank account or two — checking and savings. He might even be able to get a type of account that includes a small amount of credit — to help him establish a good record.
- Opening charge accounts with local merchants — especially department stores that subscribe to a credit-rating service.
- Buying items on the installment plan.
- Paying all bills promptly.
- If he has moved recently, getting any creditors from his old area to report his credit worthiness to credit bureaus where he now lives.

### PROFILE OF A GOOD CREDIT RISK

Credit seekers who are not in Mr. De Bari's special situation should know some of the other factors that can help one establish a favorable credit rating:

- Age (Over 40 is good; over 50 is even better).
- Job duration. The longer you have held your present position, the higher you rate.
- Time at present address. Again, longer is better (The *location* of one's home is also considered a good credit indicator; zip codes used to be a key credit-rating factor. But the Federal Trade Commission interpreted that as a source of racial discrimination, so zip codes now are out.)
- Income. Here Tom De Bari would do fine.
- Ownership of assets that suggest stability, such as a home and car. (If necessary these could be sold, of course, to repay any debts.)

Credit people say that essentially there are three types of assurance they want about any credit seeker: Does the person have the *means* to pay what is owed? Are there *assets* that could be sold if payment is not made? Does he or she have the *inclination* to repay — the honesty, integrity, concern for reputation or whatever you wish to call it? ■

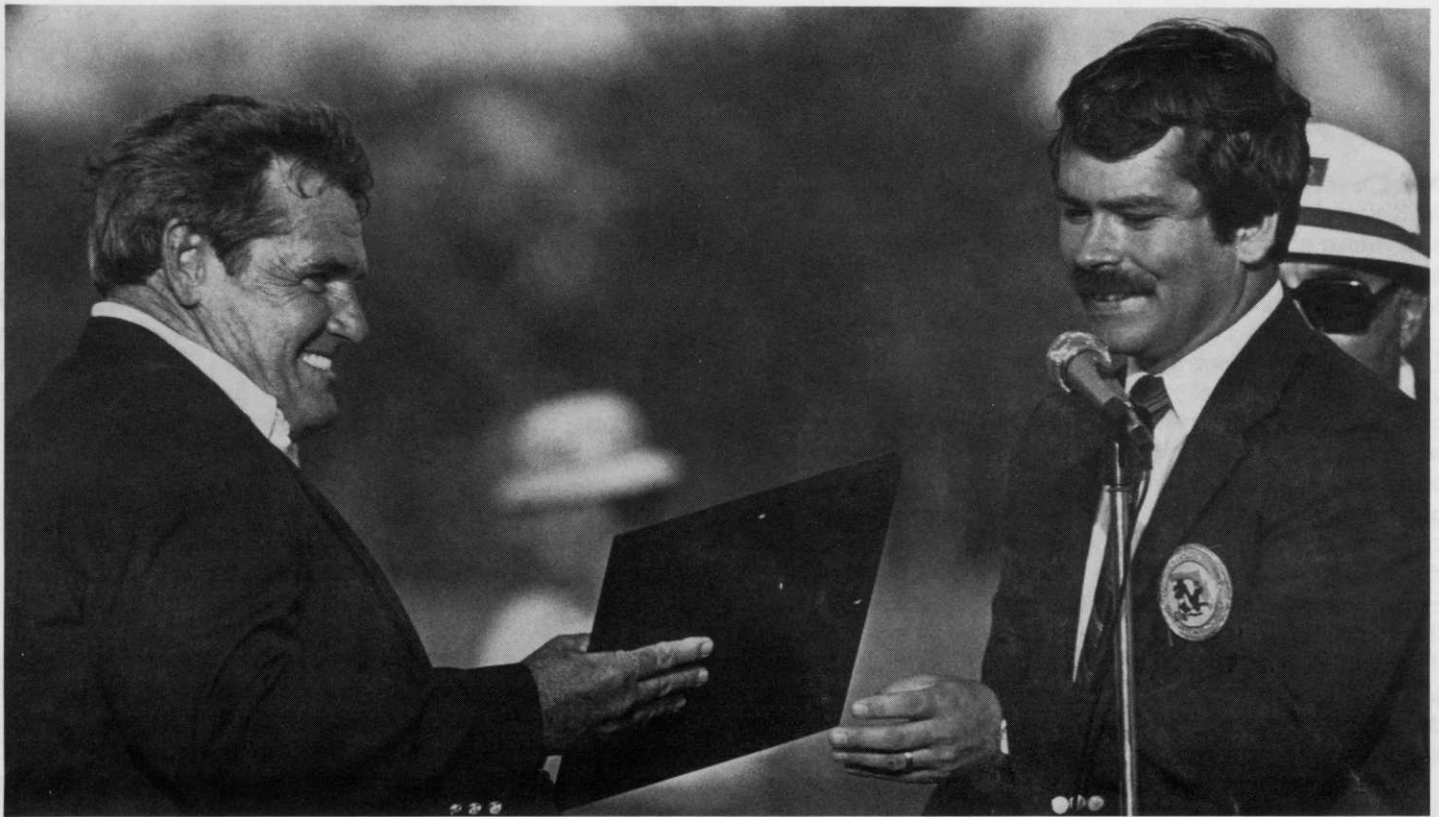


## Atlas Peat & Soil Inc.

P.O. BOX 667  
BOYNTON BEACH, FLORIDA 33435  
(305) 734-7300

QUALITY SOILS  
AND MULCH  
FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS

Call for Quote!



The awards ceremony presentation at the S & H Classic LPGA Event at Pasadena Country Club in St. Petersburg, Florida made on Sunday April 22, 1984 to Bud Quandt, Golf Course Superintendent. The plaque was presented on the 18th green just before the tournament winner was announced. Bud received a standing ovation from the 10,000 in attendance.

QUALITY TURFGRASS  
RESPONSIVE PEOPLE  
PROMPT SERVICE  
MODERN PLANTING EQUIPMENT

=

**TIFTON  
TURF  
FARMS**

**CALL 1-800-841-6645**

outside Georgia and 912-386-8061 in-state about your turfgrass job,  
or write P.O. Box 1912, Tifton, Ga. 31794

Since we grow, harvest and plant our own turfgrass,

*we know turfgrass from the roots up!*



# Physical Measurements Of Soils

By LYNN GRIFFITH

Most everyone in the turf industry is familiar with the traditional soil test. They measure pH, soluble salts, major and minor nutrients, etc. Less familiar are the physical soil test, which measure the physical properties and characteristics of soils.

One basic difference between chemical and physical analysis is that chemical properties can be quickly changed, by adding such materials as lime, fertilizers or trace elements, or by leaching with irrigation. Physical properties of soils can only be changed very slowly, if at all. Because physical structure is so hard to adjust once a golf course is constructed, it is especially important to know the physical characteristics of soils when building courses or rebuilding greens or fairways. Other major uses include the physical measurements of soils for suitability as top-dressing or trap sand, and checking the compatibility of topdressing with existing soils. This article deals with these physical soil analysis, as well as what to look for when interpreting them.

A simple, well known physical test is the texture analysis. This test breaks down the percentages of sand, silt, and clay in a soil. The texture analysis data is then used to characterize the soil into a category, such as silt loam or sand clay. For Florida turf, high percentages of silt and clay are undesirable because of their fine particle sizes. The higher sand percentages are preferred.

A more precise particle measurement is the sand fractions, or particle size analysis. In this test, the soil is passed through a series of screens to determine the percentages of the various particle sizes. The sand fraction test is to determine the percentage of sand in a commercial top-dressing. An example of a sand fraction would be:

## ANALYSIS:

%Very Coarse Sand on #18 Sieve (2-1 MM) ..	6.16
%Coarse Sand on #35 Sieve (1-0.5 MM) . . . . .	32.79
%Medium Sand on #60 Sieve (0.5-0.25 MM) .	24.39
%Fine Sand on #140 Sieve (0.25-0.10 MM) ..	33.68
%Very Fine Sand on #325 Sieve (0.10-0.05 MM)	0.98
TOTAL SAND .....	98.00%

The coarser sands are preferred, and the percentage of very fine sand should be kept to a minimum.

Moisture holding capacity is an important soil characteristic, especially in non-irrigated areas. To perform the test, artificially saturated soil must be weighed, and then the soil is oven dried and weighed again. The difference between the weights is the moisture holding capacity, expressed as a percentage. Moist soils, especially organic ones, will absorb several times their weight in water.

Percent moisture is a physical test which isn't used much in turf. It is a measure of the existing moisture content of a soil at any given time, and is determined by comparing wet and oven dry weights. The test is primarily used for bagged materials, or materials sold by weight.

Infiltration is a measurement of the ability of moisture to enter a soil. It could tell you, for instance, whether a soil would tend to "puddle" during rainy periods. The sample is placed in a vertical column, and water is gravity-fed through the soil for 30 minutes to simulate natural field settling. Then the amount of water which will enter the column is measured for 5 minutes. The analysis is expressed in millilitres of water per 5 minutes, the more the better. The ratings for infiltration of field soils are:

	ml/5 min.	
0-50 .....		Poor
50-100 .....		Fair
100-150 .....		Good
150-200 .....		High

A test often done on peat or muck is loss on ignition. In this test, the peat is placed in a very hot oven to burn off the organic portion, leaving the mineral portion behind. Loss on ignition determines the purity of a peat or muck sample, and tells, for instance, whether it contains sand or other mineral impurities.

Bulk density is a physical measurement used to give a typical weight of a soil. It is usually expressed in pounds per cubic foot. Bulk density tests are important in determining shipping weights of both bagged and bulk materials. It is often used to convert tons to cubic yards, or vice versa.

There are a few other special physical tests available in some situations, but those listed here are available at most soil testing laboratories. They are widely used by top-dressing and peat companies, fertilizer companies, potting soil producers, research labs, architects, and superintendents. A good physical soil structure can make the superintendent's job a breeze or a nightmare, and it helps a great deal to know what your dealing with.■

## It Isn't Easy

To apologize,  
To begin over,  
To be unselfish,  
To take advice,  
To admit error,  
To face a sneer,  
To be charitable,  
To keep on trying,  
To be considerate,  
To avoid mistakes,  
To forgive and forget,  
To think and then act,  
To keep out of a rut,  
To make the best of time,  
To shoulder a deserved blame,  
To recognize the silver lining,  
...BUT IT ALWAYS PAYS!

# Is A Picture Worth A Thousands Words?

By MIKE BAILEY  
Boca Greens Country Club

EDITORS NOTE: PART ONE OF A THREE PART SERIES

How many times have you said, "If only I had a picture of that". Well, photography need not only be for just the professionals. Most amateurs think of the instamatic box type camera and often feel anything beyond a simple camera is much too complex to handle, thereby shrugging off any further advancement in photography. The intent of this article is to stimulate the non-photographer into comprehending that photography is not quite that difficult. This will be the first of a three part series on the aspects of photography. We will discuss the initial purchase of the camera, basic concepts of photography and lastly, advanced photographic techniques.

The first major issue to contemplate is the initial cash outlay of a camera, which if spent on the correct product, could be a lifetime investment that will provide fruitful rewards within our profession, not to mention your own personal satisfaction. In order to achieve a great picture, one generally must have a relatively good camera. Anything short of a several hundred dollar expenditure will result with just a little black box and fuzzy small photographs. The overall most practical camera to purchase is the 35mm SLR (Single Lens Reflex) Camera with the ability to couple interchangeable lenses of which you will expand upon at a latter date. The newer more modern electronically automated cameras are relatively goof proof, whereby the technical knowledge of shutter speeds, aperture settings, depth of field and compensations for contrast are performed automatically. The so called sophisticated cameras can be set into an automatic mode to be almost as simple to operate as an instamatic camera.

You now say "what type of 35mm SLR camera should I buy"? Most any manufacturer, given enough money can proclaim their product as the official camera of the PGA. Look inside the ropes of any major golf tournament and observe what type of camera the professionals use and you have answered your question with the product being dominated as NIKON CAMERAS. With the advent of the increased value of the American dollar and the decreased value of the yen, coupled with keenly competitive marketing, a rather complete photographic ensemble can be purchased for less than \$350. The key here, is to buy the photographic equipment that can be expanded upon or coupled with existing equipment. You are best advised to steer away from equipment that will only temporarily fulfill your needs because you do not want to trade in an obsolete item as you upgrade your system.

First of all, let us consider the very basics; the camera body. That's right, there is the camera body and secondly, the lense which attaches to the camera. Do not buy the

camera with the standard 50mm lense, as right off to bat, you have just bought an obsolete item; being the lense. Instead, look for just the camera body alone: Nikon EM, NY mail order cost \$80. This item will most certainly perform all of your photographic needs forever, unless you plan on turning professional whereby you should consider the Nikon F3AF \$850.

Secondly, the lense must be considered. This item is the key to either viewing pictures of fine sharp resolution or a grainy photograph that is a blur. The standard 50mm lense is virtually useless, when instead, one can purchase multi-focal length zoom lense of wide angle 28mm to slight telephotic range of 80mm such as the Vivitar Automatic 28mm/90mm at a cost of \$140. There are several brands of varying length and cost, however Vivitar manufactures a good product at a fair price.

Thirdly, consider an electronic flash attachment, for those times when existing light is not quite adequate enough to produce a bright clear photograph. Again Vivitar has several good models such as the model 5600 at a cost of \$50.

Fourth, and finally in the initial first order, purchase a gadget bag to carry all of your paraphenalia. The key here, is to order a gadget bag that is too large for now, rather than one of just the right size. You will undoubtedly expand upon your system, thereby needing more room for storage at a latter date. Kiwi offers several gadget bags in various colors with high quality zippers that are plastic coated because normal metal zippers will scratch your nice new camera. Don't buy an inexpensive one, instead you will average \$50 for one such as the Kiwi model 425. These four items are the basics for the beginner. Most importantly, one can expand upon this system and feel proud of what has bought...so far.

Next you say, "How do I go about buying this outfit"? Answer -through the mail. That's right! New York Mail Order Camera Companies offer basically the very best available price because of their sheer volume. Don't worry about the famous fear of receiving a broken camera through the mail with no warranties or service. This is the complete opposite. Instead your purchase will arrive securely packaged, completely insured for face value, warranty cards, options to a complete refund or exchange if damaged upon receipt, not to mention the absence of paying the Florida Sales Tax. One generally regards a local purchase as being more sound because of local service -but lets reveal the facts. If a camera proves to become defective while on warranty, the product will have to be shipped away to an authorized factory repair center, for Nikon that being back to New York City, so -where's the local service?

(Continued on page 48)



(Continued from page 47)

Now that you will consider such an unorthodox manner of purchasing, you ask, "How do I go about looking at what I'm going to buy"? The easiest way to investigate your purchase is to go to your local photo shop and let them give you their typical sales pitch. Evaluate the different products and most importantly, take note of their very best available price.



Now that you have found the theoretical best price available, go to your local newstand and buy a current issue of Popular Photography. The back half of the magazine is packed full of ads. Find your model and compare prices. If they try to upgrade your choice or say they are temporarily out of stock of your choice call someone else who is more receptive to your order. I am totally confident of this style of purchasing as I have made many purchases over the past ten years without one complaint yet. I am not going to say you might not have a problem arise, however if a positive approach is taken with the company you call, you can generally tell from just their attitude on the telephone, if they really want your business. The consumer has the upper hand if you follow these procedures; arrange your method of payment via a major credit card. This way you have recourse if shipment fails to arrive rather than a cashiers check, personal check and never just straight cash. Your shipping address is best to be at a location where you know someone will definitely be there to sign for your camera, such as your place of work, where UPS shipments to a clubhouse address are more common. Do not have it dropped off at your home doorstep and assume it will be there when you get home.



Upon receipt of your photographic outfit, immediately open all boxes and examine for possible damage. Factory packed boxes are generally so well secured you will not find a problem with such. Locate your owners manuals and carefully read your instructions to familiarize yourself with the equipment. Take note of the warranty cards, fill out all pertinent information and mail off to activate your full factory warranties. Now that you have all this fancy gismo you say, "How in the world do I take a picture"? Good question! The next of a three part series, will deal with the basics of good photography. P.S. Pay your charge card off because your camera really will work.■



Mark Jerrel, President of the Palm Beach Chapter of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents holds the flag while David Bailey "sweeps up" the trophies. Palm Beach is now the proud owner of every Superintendents Golf Trophy in Florida this year. Crow Foot Open LOOK OUT!



# GUIDELINES FOR MAKING "THE BIG DECISION"

By: **DAVID L. DeBRA**  
Executive Vice President  
DeBra Turf & Industrial Equipment Company

Selecting the company to supply your turf and lawn maintenance equipment and service can be a tedious job.

But it doesn't have to be. The decision can be made easily and quickly — with complete confidence — by following these guidelines:

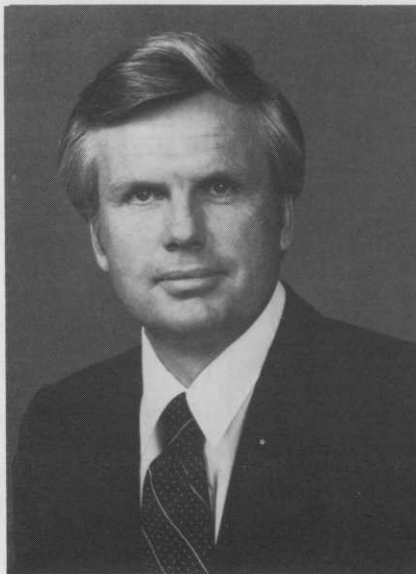
1. Investigate the product lines available. You want a company that can provide the equipment you need from a manufacturer who stands behind the product. Suppliers who handle a limited number of product lines or lines with dubious credentials should be avoided. At DeBra, we offer more than 70 product lines, including the highest quality Jacobsen equipment.

2. Consider the service staff and facilities. Finalizing a sale is only the beginning of an agreement with any supplier. Providing the necessary service from a trained professional is equally important. DeBra features the largest, factory-trained staff and the most complete service facilities in South Florida — including mobile service trucks.

3. Ask about the availability of parts. Down time caused by waiting for parts can be disastrously expensive. If parts are not routinely kept in inventory, ask how long the delivery times average. Our computerized

parts system inventories more than 20,000 of the most commonly needed replacement parts. That equates to more than a million dollar's worth of parts!

4. Read the fine print on cost structures. Special discounts are not always as beneficial as they may first appear. Because DeBra is the world's leading distributor of lawn and turf maintenance equipment, we can offer equipment packages at discounts that other suppliers are not able to compete with. We also work with customers on lease and special terms arrangements.



In short, when selecting your supplier of lawn and turf maintenance equipment it pays to work with the leader in the field. Because of our size and volume, DeBra is able to supply a bigger selection of the finest equipment, outstanding service, and financial packages geared to help you. Our

more than 70 employees work out of the Hollywood headquarters and branch facilities in Tampa and Fort Myers.

And it does not end there. We are constantly looking for new markets to expand into to better serve our customers. It is all in keeping with our 38-year tradition of promises kept.

---

For additional information regarding the equipment and services offered by DeBra, visit any of the three offices or call: 5921 North Oak Street, Hollywood, 305/987-1400; 6025 U.S. Hwy. 301 Tampa, 813/621-3077; 2857 Hanson Street, Ft. Myers, 813/332-4663.

Milorganite... America's Foremost Naturally Organic Fertilizer

**Milorganite®**  
is the  
**greatest**  
**bargain**  
in  
**fertilizer**  
**today!**



Milorganite is loaded with dollar value materials completely lacking in other fertilizers sold for turf and ornamentals.

**PHIL HENDERSON  
VANGUARD  
INVESTMENT  
COMPANY**  
P.O. BOX 380396  
MIAMI, FL 33138  
(305) 751-3459

## Lake Shore Has New Name

LESCO, Inc., is the new name of a major supplier to the turfgrass and horticultural industries.

Effective March 1, 1984, after almost 23 years of operation, Lakeshore Equipment & Supply Co. officially became LESCO, Inc. Lakeshore has had a LESCO Products Division for the past 14 years as a golf course sales unit and manufacturing section. The name change, according to LESCO President Jim FitzGibbon, unifies the organization and facilitates identification.

LESCO recently moved into new offices at 20005 Lake Road, Rocky River, OH, following renovation and completion of manufacturing, formulating and warehouse facilities at Wellington, OH, and Sebring, FL. LESCO also has warehouse and formulating at Windsor, NJ, and a warehouse in Landover, MD. Ag Industries Mfg., a division of LESCO, has a sulfur-coated fertilizer plant in Columbia, AL.

Geographic and product line expansion has moved LESCO from a regional turf distributor to a position as a primary national supplier for golf courses, lawn care companies, cemeteries, government and nurseries. LESCO, Inc., maintains an outside sales force of nearly 60 persons and produces and sells a wide range of products including grass seed, fertilizer, chemicals, replacement parts, golf course and lawn care accessories, sprayers and spreaders. For 1984, 27 direct-sale, routed, warehouse-on-wheels LESCO Trucks will serve golf course and turf care markets. ■

**OUR NAME AND THE BEST  
KNOWN NAMES IN TURF  
EQUIPMENT TOGETHER SINCE  
1932**

Distributors for:  
Toro Mowers & Turf Equipment  
Toro Turf Irrigation  
Toro String Trimmers  
Charmglow Products  
Cushman Turf Care System  
Ryan Turf Care Equipment  
Mitsubishi Tractors

HMC String Trimmers  
Power Trim Edgers  
Lely Spreaders  
McCulloch Chain Saws  
Standard Golf Supplies  
Florida Turf Sprayers  
Broyhill Sprayers  
Olathe Turf Equipment

**ZAUN**  
**EQUIPMENT, INC.**

Jacksonville  
1741 Hamilton St. 32210  
(904) 387-0516

Orlando  
11405 Rio Grande Avenue 32085  
(305) 841-8460

## Treating Burns: Promptness Pays

Burns are among the most painful injuries, simply because their effects are immediate. However, prompt action can minimize the injury, alleviate the pain and lessen the chances of long-term scarring.

First-degree burns, those caused by hot water or steam, usually don't require medical treatment. Submerge the injured area in cold water (not ice) until the pain subsides, then blot the area dry with a sterile cloth and apply a dry dressing.

The same treatment is effective for second-degree burns. Second-degree burns usually can be identified by a red or mottled appearance and blisters.

For third-degree burns, which look white or charred, don't immerse in water. Simply cover the burned area with a sterile dressing and seek immediate help.

Contrary to some folk remedies, you should not put ointments, butter, or any other medicine on a burn. In the case of chemical burns, it is essential to wash away the chemical completely, using large quantities of water from a shower or a hose. Immediate washing is more important than neutralizing the chemical and should be continued for at least five minutes. ■

"Divots"- May 83