



Georgia to Form Turfgrass Foundation

Planners, supporters, researchers and Extension Service Specialists came together at the 16th annual Georgia Turfgrass Conference at the University of Georgia in January to form the Georgia Turfgrass Foundation. At the conference banquet, Steve Mona, executive director of the Georgia State Golf Association, presented a student scholarship to an undergraduate turfgrass science major and a grant for turfgrass research. Randy Nichols, Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association President, and Bud White, the Southeast Regional director of the United States Green Section, acknowledged their organizations' intent to continue financial support for turfgrass research in 1986.

Shown at the conference are (left to right) Robert Carrow, UGA Experiment Station agronomist; White; Nichols; William Colville; UGA agronomy division chairman; Mona; and Gil Landry, Extension turfgrass specialist.

The two-day program was sponsored by the UGA Cooperative Extension Service and the Georgia Golf Course Superintendent Association with a record attendance of 343 people.

(Photo courtesy of Georgia Extension Service)

LANTANA PEAT & SOIL

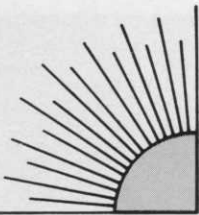
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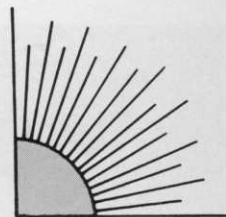
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By: Alan Weitzel

What do we get from the F.G.C.S.A. and G.C.S.A.A. and what do we want? Before one attempts to answer this question, one must first realize what the F.G.C.S.A. and the G.C.S.A.A. are. They are professional trade associations comprised and funded primarily by golf course superintendents with the goal of promoting turf management. Several years ago, there was concern by the golf course superintendents in Florida that the G.C.S.A.A. was not promoting turf maintenance in the southern states, particularly Florida. Thus, the F.G.C.S.A. was reborn with the goal of unifying the Florida golf course superintendents and promoting turf maintenance within the state of Florida.

Every person has certain wants or needs. One of the basic human needs is to provide food and shelter for ourselves and our families. This need is filled through our employment as golf course superintendents. So how can these associations meet these needs? I believe the answer is to provide us with the tools to do our job more efficiently. The main tool is continued education. The G.C.S.A.A. fills this need through its magazine, newsletter, regional seminars, research grants and its annual trade show and conference. The FGCSA fills this need through the Florida Green, the Greensheet, research funding, golf tournaments, and its management seminars. In South Florida, we feel these fine efforts need to be continued.

With the new legislation on the restriction of water use and chemicals becoming more common, we feel the need for a rumor control or "hot line" where updated information on Federal legislation affecting our profession can be received first hand. The G.C.S.A.A. and the F.G.C.S.A. should establish these information centers. We feel that there is always room for more research. We would like to see the G.C.S.A.A. continue on its past trend to provide more educational sessions on southern turf management.

We all have the need to better ourselves not only financially but also our professional image. This enhances our self esteem. The G.C.S.A.A. has done a good job in helping promote the Superintendent's image through its T.V. commercials and its recently completed Public Relations Manual. The F.G.C.S.A. has also done a fine job promoting the Florida Golf course superintendent's image through the Florida Green, golf tournaments, and the public relations committee. In South Florida we feel these programs should not be discontinued but aggressively expanded.

So what do you say to those who still ask the question, what do we get from these associations? I believe, as with any association, be it your church, or your son's baseball team, you get what you put in. Those who are active and participate will naturally receive more from their associations than those who do not. ■

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Iron — A Micro with Macro Influences

Whenever superintendents get together and discuss their turf management practices, at some point the topic of fertilization usually comes up. Everyone is aware of the "big three" — nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium — and their requirements is a balanced fertility program. However, how often do we discuss the micronutrients and their role in plant growth? The following will be a brief discussion of iron and its role in plant nutrition.

Iron plays an important function in two physiological processes of plant growth. It is the constituent of certain enzymes in the respiratory system and it also is required for chlorophyll synthesis. Thus, the level of iron availability can have a direct effect on turfgrass color. Iron deficiencies are observed as a paleness or yellowish discoloration of the turf. It has also been found that iron can influence the vigor of the bermudagrass as it goes into and comes out of dormancy in the fall and spring. An application of iron in the fall can delay bermuda's entrance into dormancy while spring applications are beneficial to spring green-up. Recent investigations have also shown that iron can improve both heat and drought tolerance of turfgrasses.

It has often been stated that iron is the micronutrient that is most commonly deficient in turf. But why is this so? The primary reason for this fact is that while iron may be present in the soil, it is in forms that are unavailable for plant uptake. Plants are only able to take up and utilize iron when it is in the ferrous (Fe^{++}) iron form. Soils that are alkaline, high in phosphate, magnesium, zinc, arsenic, organic matter, water logged or excessively thatched generally exhibit iron deficiencies. It has also

been found that in Florida soils that have been treated for many years with sprays and fertilizers, copper accumulates and causes iron deficiencies.

At the present time, there is not an accurate soil test for iron availability, thus including iron as a regular fertility practice is essential to good turf management. While some complete fertilizers contain iron, the easiest way to handle applications is with foliar sprays. The foliar applications of iron begin correcting deficiency symptoms within one or two hours after application. However, there is no long term effect because of loss by leaching or conversion to an insoluble, unavailable form. Generally, applications at two to four week intervals in pesticide mixtures have proven successful. Consult with your local chemical supplier in regards to specific rates, pesticide compatibility and availability. ■

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MUTUAL BENEFITS

John F. Gerber and Robert C. Kramer¹

Joe and Bill, two local businessmen, face bankruptcy. After discussing their plight, they decide to begin a new business together. The new business is a smashing success! What was the difference? The reason the businesses were failing was that each did part of the business superbly and the other part terribly. Together they managed a superbly run business. This demonstrates that together it is possible to accomplish things that alone may be impossible. Mutual benefit extends beyond business to relations between institutions, organizations, and individuals. Such shared responsibility or partnership is underused and under appreciated. IFAS of the University of Florida is interested in building these partnerships whereby successes can be built where failures might otherwise occur.

The ornamental horticulture industry and the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences promote cooperation. Sometimes it is difficult for IFAS alone or the industry alone to find the necessary resources and expertise to solve problems. Even though cooperation does not offer the sheer exhilaration of intense competition, with cooperation all benefit, and like the rising tides raise all ships. If through cooperation, the market for foliage products can be expanded, the quality improved, the production costs reduced, everyone including the purchasers will benefit.

The production of plants from cuttings, from clonings, and cell culture, disease resistance, insect management, the climatization of plants, introduction of genetic material — all are closely related to basic research, some of it performed years ago, some of it performed recently.

IFAS is multifaceted. Everyone comes to the University for basically the same reason. Students come to short-circuit experience and to learn from the experience of others. Scientists come to the University to perform research, structure experience in search of information, producers and lay people seek assistance from the University through the extension of knowledge and experience via the cooperative extension service. *These are three of the facets of IFAS: to provide (1) the basic science and technology, (2) the education needed by the leaders of science and industry, and (3) to extend this knowledge in a free-flowing open forum to everyone in need of technology.*

When a business or industry thrives, the benefits flow back immediately as profits. When a research, teaching or extension program thrives, the benefits flow to those businesses which are served. Funds, for additional research and teaching, or extra buildings, are not automati-



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cally generated. Therefore, it is mutually beneficial for your industry, as it thrives and benefits, to assign a portion of these profits to support the needs of the institution that helped make this partnership successful. It is individual scientists who discover things — not the institution. The support is not for the institution per se but for the support of those individuals who supply the creativity and the ideas that build the partnership.

Creative individuals are usually ahead of their time. By being ahead of their time, they lay the basis for new industries, such as the basis that was laid for the ornamental industry. Funds for creative programs are always limited. Institutions and trade associations are formed only in response to thriving industries. An important investment in this partnership is funding to support new, innovative, creative and sometimes what appear to be far-out or blue sky ideas. But these are the ideas that are the guideposts for the pioneers in research. Columbus' trip to the New World was not funded by the "Flat Earth Society," but rather by a daring and innovative queen who did not know what lay beyond the horizon. Ideas and work on those concepts which lay over the horizon and will become tomorrow's technology are an essential part of support to IFAS-SHARE. This is a commitment to the future — faith in the new ideas that entrepreneurial scientists visualize not only as ideas, but concepts; flowers that bloom out of season, genetic resistance to diseases, and plant materials now common to Florida which were once a botanical curiosity.

Prior investments in IFAS enabled the industry to take off and succeed in many areas. There are IFAS faculty

members who have provided important nurture and helped lead and develop the ornamental horticulture industry in Florida. There are many others who have played significant, important roles. All of these people were once students and graduate students. They helped make the partnership profitable and helped build the synergisms that built this industry.

Research is a powerful teacher. Especially for students who will become managers, technicians, and innovators who are the backbone of any industry. Without research and graduate students, teaching is stagnant, stereotyped, and out of touch with the reality of changing technology in industry. To attract the brightest and the best students to the horticulture industry, it is necessary to attract the brightest and best students to IFAS. These students are quick to grasp where the best salaries are and the best opportunities for economic and professional advancement. Industry in this area has a responsibility to provide good economic opportunities, nurturing, and encouragement during student careers. Graduate students constitute an intellectual resource for the industry that forms the basis of the technology for expansion and development of the industry. These students need assistance and encouragement. Graduate careers are not high-paying careers, but are very rewarding in terms of satisfaction and service.

Gifts or grants which flow to students, especially graduate students, create an environment that demonstrates the regard in which they are held, encourage their careers, and benefits them economically. Perhaps other incentives to attract these "cream of the crop" students to the Uni-

(continued on page 46)



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(continued from page 45)

versity could be the payment of fees or the provision of special scholarships and assistantships. The return on this investment is graduate students doing research and designing experiments to be conducted in Florida nurseries, green houses, and production sites.

All institutions, including universities, are hampered with "rules of the road" that make up bureaucracies. However, "where there is a will, there is a way," and industry can help IFAS do it!

An investment in a partnership with IFAS made in the form of a gift, is made to SHARE. Entering into a partnership to conduct a specific project with mutual benefits to the partners in a specific way, is made as a contract or a grant. Both gifts to IFAS-SHARE and contracts and grants to IFAS-Grants are investment opportunities for businesses and individuals to build cooperation successes just as Joe and Bill did when they pooled their individual strengths to avoid bankruptcy. ■

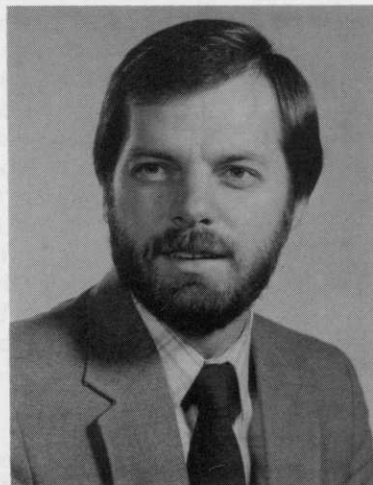
¹Dr. John F. Gerber is the Director of the IFAS Grants office and Dr. Robert C. Kramer is the Director of Sponsored Programs and Development in IFAS at the University of Florida.

DE MATTEO JOINS LOFTS AS TECH SERVICE AGRONOMIST

Lofts Inc. recently appointed John De Matteo Technical Service Agronomist. Mr. De Matteo's responsibilities will include technical aid to Lofts professional clients, including golf course superintendents and architects, as well as athletic turf superintendents.

Mr. De Matteo's experience includes his most recent position as Regional Golf Course Superintendent for the American Golf Corporation. Prior to that, his position as Golf Course Superintendent at three major country clubs, included golf course construction and renovation. While at Pinehurst, De Matteo prepared the golf course for several prestigious tournaments, including the PGA Tour's Hall of Fame Golf Classic and the USGA-sponsored Men's World Team Amateur Tournament.

A graduate of Pennsylvania's Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture, Mr. De Matteo is a certified Golf Course Superintendent. He is a member of the American Society of Agronomy as well as *Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities*. ■



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DeBra Opens Stuart Office

DeBRA, the largest commercial turf equipment distributor in North America, has opened its fourth Florida location here at the Palm City Turnpike Industrial Park.

The new 4,000-square-foot Stuart facility will service the Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River tri-county area, according to Dave DeBRA, company vice president.

Distributor for several top manufacturers, DeBRA's Stuart office will sell and service turf maintenance equipment for individual homeowners, commercial landscapers, golf course superintendents and governmental agencies. DeBRA will also carry a line of industrial equipment, including sweepers, scrubbers, tractors and loaders.

"This tri-county area represents a significant market for DeBRA, and we intend to provide the best equipment and servicing possible," DeBRA said.

Founded in 1946 and in Florida since 1960, the family-owned company provides full servicing to back up its equipment sales. To insure quick service, DeBRA stocks \$1 million in replacement parts.

"Equipment downtime can be critical to the commercial customer, so we remedy the problem quickly and cost-effectively with our mobile repair service," DeBRA pointed out.

Staffing the new Stuart area facility are Don Barth, golf course sales representative; Ed Rosedahl, commercial and industrial sales representative; Rick Levy, field service; and Gregory Schaumberg, parts and service manager.

In addition to Stuart, DeBRA is also located in Hollywood, Tampa and Ft. Myers.



SHERWOOD A. MOORE

Mr. Golf Course Superintendent

One of the hallmarks of a great golf course superintendent is a healthy willingness to admit that there is always something new to learn in the turfgrass and golf course management business. If he follows up this thirst for knowledge with an unrelenting quest to search for, try out, experiment with, and follow up on the new ideas in the industry, it is all the more to his credit. And finally, if he is generous enough to share the knowledge gleaned from his hard work with students, employees and peers, then you have indeed found that one-in-a-million person.

Throughout a career spanning five decades, Sherwood A. Moore has exemplified all of these characteristics and more, and is eminently qualified to receive the Green Section Award.

As golf course superintendent par excellence, Sherwood has applied his expertise at the Lake Mohawk Golf Club and Hollywood Golf Club, both in New Jersey, Woodway Country Club in Connecticut, and during two tenures as superintendent at the Winged Foot Golf Club in New York, he was responsible for preparing for three USGA events, including two U.S. Opens (1959, 1984) and one Senior Open (1980). Finally, in a move indicative of a person always in search of a greater challenge, he is now serving as construction superintendent of the new Cap-tains Golf Course in Brewster, Massachusetts.

One of the distinguishing achievements in Sherwood's career has been his work with the younger people in the profession. Dozens of people from across the country and around the world have apprenticed under his guidance over the years, and many have gone on to establish successful careers of their own as golf course superintendents.

Always a believer that education knows no bounds, Sherwood began his own formal training in the early 1930's by earning an Associate of Science degree from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture, University of

Massachusetts (then Massachusetts State College). He then went on to complete the Ten-week Winter School for Greenkeepers in 1936 and the Advanced School for Greenkeepers in 1937. Since that time, he has participated in hundreds of educational conferences, meetings and seminars, and has been a speaker at many of them. Sherwood has served as an instructor at the Rutgers Winter School, and has been a guest speaker many times at various university student programs. He has also written dozens of articles for various turfgrass publications over the years, dealing with pertinent issues in the industry such as budgets, irrigation, *Poa annua* control, golf carts, water conservation, and the Stimpmeter. Never taking the easy way out, his articles have always been insightful and probing, giving the reader a perspective which is gained only after many years of work and study.

The golf course superintendents' profession has been well served by Sherwood's contributions through professional associations. After serving several years on the board of directors of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, he was elected President of GCSAA in 1962. Sherwood also served as President of the New Jersey GCSA in 1953-54, and President of the Metropolitan GCSA in 1965-66. He continues as an active member of many associations, including golf course superintendents associations in Connecticut, New Jersey and New York, and the New Jersey and Massachusetts Turfgrass Association. he also serves as a member of the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research Foundation.

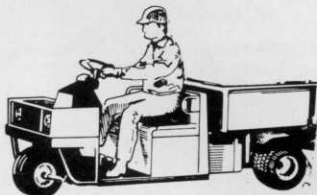
In addition to his many professional achievements, Sherwood has been a solid family man and active in civic affairs. Sherwood and his wife, Marie, have been married for forty years and have raised three children, Sherry, Carol and Glenn.

Many church and service clubs have benefitted from his dedicated efforts. He has been particularly interested in Rotary, having served as president of the Darien Rotary Club. He and his family hosted Rotary exchange students from France, South Africa and Sweden over the years.

Recognized by GCSAA in 1982 with its Distinguished Service Award, Sherwood has also been honored by many other groups in the turfgrass and golf industries. For his unflinching dedication to the golf course superintendent, to the game of golf, and to the art and science of turfgrass management, we salute Sherwood A. Moore. ■

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A March opening is scheduled for the LESCO Irrigation Center in Rocky River, OH. The new center is designed to service irrigation contractors, landscapers and homeowners.

According to irrigation manager Bob Hobar, "The LESCO Irrigation Center will be organized as a self-serve store. We will sell all types of irrigation equipment ranging from garden hose to hand-held spray nozzles to the necessary components to install a complete automatic irrigation system."

In addition to selling irrigation equipment and supplies, the LESCO Irrigation Center will also rent installation equipment such as pipe pullers. A professional design department will be available to assist in irrigation system designs.

The LESCO Irrigation Center will be located adjacent to the company's corporate headquarters in Rocky River, OH. The entrance for the Irrigation Center will be 700 Linda Street; hours will be 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 7:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday. The LESCO Service Center is housed in the same building so LESCO customers may purchase needed fertilizer, control products, turf and irrigation equipment and supplies at one convenient location. ■



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Current Trends in Golf Course Management

- 1) **QUALITY CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES** - There has been a great deal of movement in recent years to concentrate more effort into a quality construction project when developing the golf course. The best designed course can be a nightmare for years if the fairways and tees aren't level or the lake banks continually washout or they are so poorly sloped that they become impossible to maintain. Improved greens construction involving proper soil mixes and drainage has become necessary since the demand for faster and consistent putting surfaces requires better subsurface profiles. Adequate drainage features must be engineered into the courses since more and more developments are required to retain a majority of their storm water run off.
 - 2) **GOLF COURSE SITE SELECTION** - This has become more of a critical feature than in the past because of the concern of environmentally sensitive property since the construction costs skyrocket when working around these areas. Terminology such as buffer zones, wetland preservations and water retention areas now have a major impact on the style of the course and also strongly impact the proximity of housing locations to the course.
 - 3) **DESIGNING THE COURSE FOR PROSPECTIVE MARKET** - It is critical that the development team focuses in on the golfing abilities of their future clients. With this information as a base you are in a much better position to provide the golf course architect with a logical set of design criteria. It is very important to design a course that looks challenging and interesting but plays easy enough to keep the golfers scores at a level that they enjoy the game. Every effort should be made to provide a great deal of variety in design features so that players that play often can continue to appreciate the course.
 - 4) **EFFLUENT WATER USAGE** - After so many years of talking about the usage of effluent water for golf course irrigation the reality of this water source has gained widespread acceptance. Areas such as holding ponds and access points to effluent tie-ins must be planned into the community.
 - 5) **MAINTENANCE COMPLEX DESIGN AND LOCATION** - Since golf course maintenance costs have risen so dramatically in the past decade it only makes good business sense to design and operate a maintenance complex that lends itself to efficiency. The concepts of adequate storage space, proper mechanical repair zones, employee safety with respect to employer liability and the safe handling and disposal of hazardous wastes, are all items to be considered.
- The location of the building is also critical when considering accessibility to golf course and the proximity to future housing.
- 6) **CHEMICAL APPLICATIONS** - In various parts of the country chemical applicators are being asked to notify all surrounding property owners when making chemical treatments. You can imagine the ramifications if golf courses are required to notify all residences and the possibility exists that golfers will not be allowed on the course during the time pesticides are in use.
 - 7) **NEW TURFGRASSES** - The study of utilizing new turfgrasses that are more drought tolerant, disease resistant and cheaper to maintain are still ongoing with the U.S.G.A. A word of caution is to make sure the turf is thoroughly tested in playable situations before you commit your course to the new variety.
 - 8) **NATURAL LOOK** - The use of native vegetation and low maintenance grasses that create a visual texture difference continues to be a topic of much discussion in golf circles. The natural look does create a very scenic appearance on the course, but for the sake of the golfers it does slow up play when there are extreme natural features that are close to the landing areas of the high handicap players. There are also negative features when attempting to merchandise real estate that abutts extreme natural areas.
 - 9) **DETERMINING THE LEVEL OF MAINTENANCE** - The agronomic needs of the turf stays relatively constant from region to region, but each individual course has different demands when considering the manpower to maintain and groom the facility. It is important to determine the standard of maintenance and then apply the costs to reach that goal in order to set the percentage needed for golf course maintenance over the life of the projects.
 - 10) **PRACTICE AREAS** - With all the emphasis on instruction and equipment improvement it is only logical that the golfer will spend more time practicing his or her skills. The utilization of a well planned multi-use practice area can be a valuable asset to a country club.
 - 11) **SPEED OF PLAY** - As always this is one of the most critical aspects of any golf course. It is so important to plan for no wasted movement around the course which will just improve the enjoyability and profitability of the course. Maximizing the course frontage with the land use plan is essential but be careful not to ruin the feel of the course by stretching things to the extreme. ■