

You're on a mission that could decide the fate of your golf course. A mission against your toughest weeds: goosegrass, crabgrass, sandbur and many other broadleaf weeds.

That's why you need a pre-emergence herbicide as powerful as Surflan. It puts an end to weeds before they start.

It's a challenge a lot of other herbicides run away from. But not Surflan. It stays put and waits. Three weeks if need be, without water. Then it won't wash out, even in heavy

rainfall. And once activated, it forms a solid control zone that lasts up to 20 weeks.

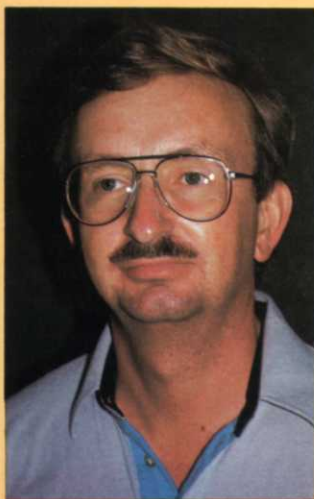
So be in control this year. Take Surflan to the far reaches of your golf course and end the threat of problem weeds. See your Elanco distributor. Or call toll-free: **1-800-352-6776**.

Elanco Products Company
A Division of Eli Lilly and Company
Lilly Corporate Center
Dept. E-455, Indianapolis, IN 46285, U.S.A.
Surflan® — (oryzalin, Elanco)



Surflan.®
Its 20-week mission:
seek out problem weeds
and prevent their germination.

Not everybody can be the head superintendent



Mike Bailey

Mike Bailey
Golf Course Superintendent
The Falls CC
Lake Worth

Last year, one of my assistants quit, leaving me high and dry, because he realized he would not become the superintendent within the next year.

He wasn't satisfied with his "second-level" position.

Does every person entering the golf course maintenance career field need to become the superintendent?

What's wrong with becoming a career equipment manager, spray or irrigation technician or, for that matter, a *career assistant* superintendent?

Sadly, our society looks upon those jobs as "second level" and most golf courses give second-level pay and prestige to the people who fill them.

And that's a shame because those are the jobs that the industry desperately needs filled.

A golf course maintenance department might employ six people or 60, but in each case, only one of them is the superintendent. Yet each job is important.

Not everybody can become a superintendent or a doctor or a lawyer.

Clare Huxtable, who is a lawyer on television's "The Cosby Show," told son Theo that he didn't have to become a professional like his parents. Instead, she said, "Grow up and become as good as you can at whatever you choose. Just make sure you are the best at whatever you become."

But the message isn't getting through.

When I interview employees, I often ask, "Where do you want to be in two to five years?"

Usually, no matter what job they are applying for, they will say, "Sitting behind your desk as the golf course superintendent!"

Ridiculous!

In most cases, the applicant has little or no training in agronomy, no management skills, not a clue about budgeting, but he honestly thinks he deserves a shot at running the whole show.

On the other hand, it is understandable that a person who has just spent two to four years in college training to be a golf course superintendent should aspire to the job he

has trained for, but it isn't realistic.

There aren't that many superintendent jobs open. I'm sure we all know at least 10 good assistants who are qualified to move on, but the jobs just aren't there.

We have a glut of college-educated golf course managers on the job market right now while a number of other important golf course maintenance jobs are going unfilled because those highly-trained individuals find them "demeaning."

Who's at fault here?

Everybody and nobody.

But let's point some fingers, anyway, starting with the society which imbued my generation with the notion that everyone could — and therefore *should* — go to college. Jobs which don't require a college education became less desirable. . . or even *undesirable*.

And then there are the universities, which are currently painting a beautiful picture of the superintendent's post, pumping in those high aspirations.

Granted, the top graduates will make their way to the top of the ladder, but what about the others?

They will have acquired an education worth tens of thousands of dollars and will be capable of performing effectively as assistants and technicians but they won't be satisfied because they have been told since childhood to seek only the top job.

If our assistant were to leave today, I could screen dozens of qualified applicants tomorrow.

But what about the mechanic or spray technician?

I would love to find a college-educated person who would bring a professional approach to the position of equipment manager, pesticide manager or irrigation technician. And I am certain I could convince my employer to offer compensation and benefits commensurate with the qualifications — particularly if the applicant indicated a desire to stay in that position.

And those positions are available. Today. Everywhere.

At our professional meetings, a recurring question is, "Hey, do you know of a good mechanic or spray tech?"

Educators need to be aware of the positions that are actually open and students should be guided toward training for and seeking those jobs.

We have enough chiefs. What we need are some Indians with professional feathers in their caps.

This Gator is at home in the North, but also goes South in the winter.



Gator turf-type perennial ryegrass is a seasoned traveler that is comfortable in any situation, virtually anywhere.

While handsome and tough enough to be in the ryegrass blend that creates Super Bowl turf, Gator is also at home on golf course fairways in the North.

But, that's not all versatile Gator can do.

It goes South every winter where it is a top choice of golf superintendents for winter overseeding of fairways.

Gator really is different.

It's a hybrid of dark green, heat and

humidity tolerant
American varieties with
dense, lower-growing European
ryegrasses.

The result is a fine-bladed ryegrass that germinates in 7-10 days, mows cleanly at any height from 1/8 to 1-1/2 inches, is disease-resistant and heat and cold tolerant.



TURF GRASS SUPPLIES

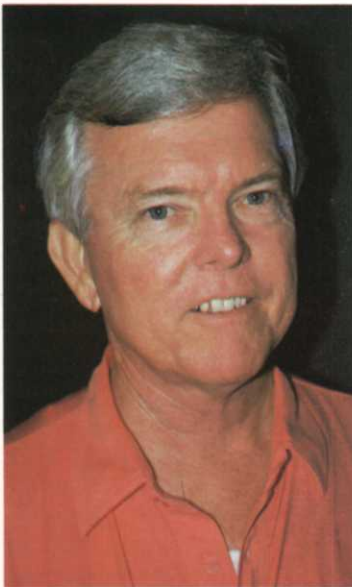
720 KRAFT ROAD • P.O. BOX 807
LAKELAND, FLORIDA 33802
Telephone: (813) 687-2774 - W.A.T.S. 1-800-282-8007

Gator is a product of

"Seed - the Gift of Life"
 **INTERNATIONAL SEEDS, INC.**
Halsey, Oregon USA

'Germ warfare' against the mole cricket appears to be working

It's still too early to tell about the red-eyed fly



Golf Course Manager
Banyan Golf Club
West Palm Beach

As we reported last quarter, a new arsenal has been unveiled in Florida to help fight the state's number-one golf-course pest, the mole cricket. A red-eyed fly and a prolific nematode are joining forces with turf professionals to try to bring mole crickets under control.

J. Howard Frank and J. Patrick Parkman, entomologists from The University of Florida, are spearheading this experimental program. Funding is being provided by The Florida Turfgrass Association. Each of the 30 golf courses participating in the project has paid the FTGA \$8,000.

In late January, a three-hour seminar was held to teach each golf course superintendent how to run the program.

The parasitic nematode project consists of two 3-foot funnels, a million nematodes and two electronic "callers" which imitate the mating calls of the male tawny and southern mole crickets.

The nematodes are placed in the ground under the funnels.

When the female mole cricket comes to the mating call of the male, she falls through the funnel to the ground. She burrows into the ground and a nematode enters her body through a breathing port or through the mouth.

The nematode releases a very specialized bacteria which kills the mole cricket. The nematode lays 50,000 eggs inside the mole cricket and lives off the decaying carcass and the bacteria.

Dr. Parkman came to Banyan GC in mid February to install our callers and deposit the nematodes into the ground. We started to see activity under the funnels the next day.

A serious problem developed on the

third night when the local armadillo population discovered a new restaurant. The grass under the funnels was really torn up so to protect the mole crickets and nematodes, we had to put a fence around the funnels and callers.

By the fifth day, rumors were rampant around the clubhouse about the mole cricket experiment site, which was located next to the 10th green. The best one was that the apparatus was a spaceship.

We had a sign made: *Mole Cricket Research by the University of Florida*. The rumors have abated.

After four weeks, we have had so much mole cricket activity under the funnels that almost all the grass is gone. Weeds are sprouting everywhere. And for this experiment, that is good.

So far, I believe the experiment site at Banyan has been successful in attracting the mole crickets to the nematodes. Now I hope the process spreads throughout the entire golf course.

The red-eyed fly is also a host-specific organism for the mole cricket.

It seeks the mole cricket out at night and lays an egg on its abdomen. The resulting larva then proceeds to eat the mole cricket until the cricket dies. The larva emerges as an adult and seeks out another mole cricket and the cycle repeats itself. Fifty red-eye flies are to be deposited at each participating golf course.

There is hope that, with these latest weapons, the mole cricket will eventually go the way of the dinosaur.

The twin funnels and mole-cricket callers shown here off the 10th green at Banyan GC in West Palm Beach may someday become as common a sight on golf courses in the South as ball-washers. More photos of the installation on next page.



FTGA-funded mole cricket control research project



- ## Participating Golf Courses
- Sun City Center Golf Courses
Sun City Center
 - Cypress Run CC
Tarpon Springs
 - City of Ocala Golf Courses
Ocala
 - Interlachen CC
Winter Park
 - Citrus Hills GC
Hernando
 - Quail Ridge GC
Spring Hill
 - Woodfield CC
Boca Raton
 - Tournament Players Club
Ponte Vedra
 - Silver Oaks GC
Zephyrhills
 - Countryside CC
Clearwater
 - Cypress Creek CC
Orlando
 - Riviera CC
Ormond Beach
 - Riviera GC
Naples
 - Fiddlesticks CC
Fort Myers
 - The Bay Hill Club
Orlando
 - Royal Poinciana GC
Naples
 - Banyan GC
West Palm Beach
 - North Dale CC
Tampa
 - Foxfire GC
Sarasota



DAN JONES

Drs. Howard Frank, left, and Pat Parkman of the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences assemble the two funnels and mole cricket callers off the 10th green at Banyan GC in West Palm Beach. A million nematodes get watered into the ground beneath the funnels, right. The electronic callers entice the mole crickets into the funnels, from which they drop straight onto the nematode-infested turf. The crickets burrow into the ground beneath the funnels and are attacked by the nematodes, which carry bacteria that are lethal specifically to the mole crickets. The nematode-bacteria combination is a natural enemy of the mole cricket in its native South America.



You can get more powerful mole cricket control than Chipco Mocup 5G.



But it gets lousy gas mileage.

It's also tough to putt around. Fortunately, there's an easier solution, because the best mole cricket control you can buy comes in a bag: CHIPCO® MOCAP® brand 5G pesticide. CHIPCO® MOCAP® 5G controls the two major mole cricket species—Southern and Tawny. And CHIPCO® MOCAP® brand 5G delivers this powerful control at all stages of development, from nymphs to adults. In fact, studies at a leading university show that CHIPCO® MOCAP® 5G delivers up to 96% effective control of mole crickets.

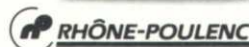
Plus, superior control of grubs and many surface-feeding insects.

And, CHIPCO® MOCAP® 5G is economical, too. One application provides outstanding control for up to five full weeks. That saves time, trouble and money. So, let the Army worry about gas mileage. Get the most effective mole cricket control money can buy with CHIPCO® MOCAP® brand 5G pesticide. Available at your turfcare chemicals supplier today.



Chipco® Mocup® 5G

Brand Pesticide



AFTER WORDS

Thanks for outstanding support of research efforts

Congratulations to both of you!

I, like so many others who have known each of you for several years, know that even before Irene was named assistant editor, she was actively involved in the editorship from day one. As editors, the two of you have certainly provided 16 long, hard years of outstanding service to the Florida Golf Course Superinten-

dents Association and to the whole turf industry.

Dan, you've always been the ideal superintendent to me. You do an excellent job of managing grass and people, two components to find a better way to accomplish your goals.

For this I am most grateful since you always went out of your way to assist researchers in their efforts to find a better way.

As a researcher in Florida for 14 years, you were one of my most valued assets; I could always count on you to help me out, whether it was making a needed contact or

providing space or equipment.

I may be a Texan now, but I still feel very close to the Florida turfgrass industry and am very proud of its accomplishments and I am proud to have been a part of your industry. You have helped to make many of these milestones happen and you should feel proud.

Best of luck in your retirement from The Florida Green; we all know you haven't become inactive.

James A Reinert
Resident Director of Research
Texas A&M University Research Center
Dallas





PALMER & PRELUDE A SURE BET

When your business is turfgrass, you can't afford to gamble. Your ryegrass *has* to be great. That's why you should use Palmer, Prelude or both. They're a sure thing:

- Fine-leafed, dense growth
- Improved disease resistance
- Improved mowability
- Heat and drought tolerance
- Dark green color
- Winter hardiness

Palmer and Prelude — alone or together there's no gamble. Their performance has been proven!



Lofts Seed Inc.

World's largest marketer
of turfgrass seed

Bound Brook, NJ 08805
(201) 356-8700
(800) 526-3890 • (800) 624-1474 (NJ)

Lofts/New England
Arlington, MA
(617) 648-7550

Lofts/Ohio
Wilmington, OH
(800) 328-1127
(513) 382-1127

Lofts/Maryland
Beltsville, MD
(800) 732-3332
(800) 732-7773 (MD)

Sunbelt Seeds, Inc.
Norcross, GA
(404) 448-9932 or
(800) 522-7333

Lofts/Great Western
Albany, OR
(503) 928-3100 or
(800) 547-4063

Oseco Inc.
Brampton, Ontario
Canada L6V-2L2
(416) 846-5080

To locate the Lofts' distributor nearest you, call:
(800) 526-3890 (Eastern US) • (800) 547-4063 (Western US)