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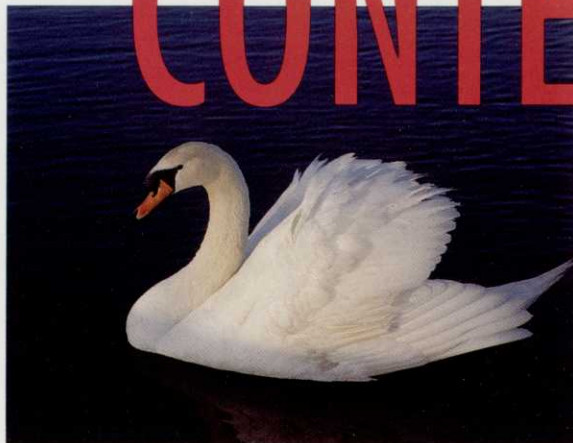
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TURFGRASS QUIZ

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C
A
R
O
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Problem:
Unplayable turf
after irrigation

Clue:
Saturated Green

Location:
Florida

Answer:
Please see Page 6

LESCO

YOUR SEED PRO

Premium Kentucky Bluegrasses

DAWN

Kentucky Bluegrass

A medium bright green, fine textured grass that greens up early, keeps color late into fall and grows well in moderate shade.

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Kentucky Bluegrass

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Premium Turf-Type Perennial Ryegrasses

ASSURE

Turf-Type Perennial Ryegrass

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LEGACY

Premium turf-type perennial ryegrass

A dark green, dense variety with fine leaf texture, dwarf growth habit and high endophyte content. Tolerant of heat, drought, and low mowing.

COMMANDER

TURF-TYPE PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

A rich dark green variety with high endophyte to fend off insects, and good disease resistance.

Regency

TURF-TYPE PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

An early-maturing, low-growing turf with bright green color, medium fine texture and medium density.

Premium Turf-Type Tall Fescues

CIMARRON

TURF-TYPE TALL FESCUE

A moderately low-growing turf-type tall fescue with rich, dark green color, moderate leaf texture, and reduced growth rate.

Wrangler

TURF-TYPE TALL FESCUE

A moderately low-growing turf-type tall fescue with rich, dark green color, good density, and good adaptability.

Premium Dwarf Turf-Type Tall Fescues

TRAILBLAZER

ELITE DWARF TURF-TYPE TALL FESCUE

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TRAILBLAZER II

Elite Dwarf Turf Type Tall Fescue

Darker green color, good shade tolerance, and dense, fine textured turf that requires less mowing.

Premium Creeping Red Fescue

SHADEMASTER

Creeping Red Fescue

A rich, blue-green variety with the ability to form a dense fine turf for a creeping fescue.

Premium Intermediate Ryegrass

TranStar

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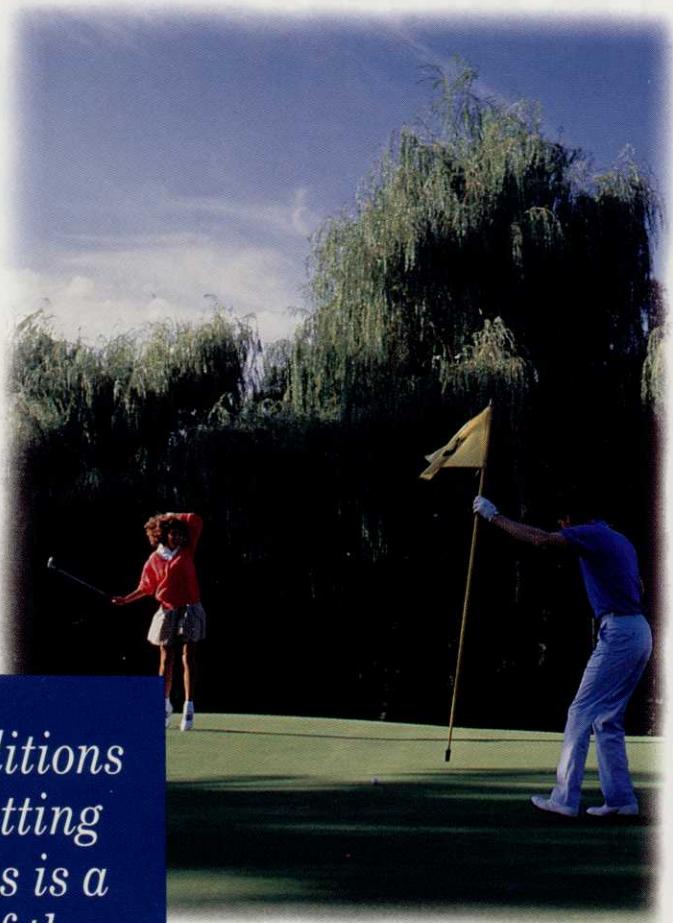
In irrigation, quality means more than quantity. Improving the poor water quality that causes soil

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*John Wright
Golf Course Superintendent
Reflection Ridge Golf Course
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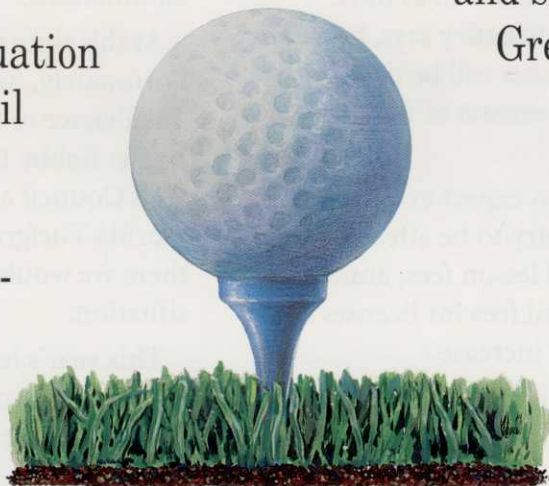
Greens.

proper amount of pHairway Water Treatment Additive is injected into the water to adjust the pH level.

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"Our members were responsive. They thought the greens were better this year . . . and they're a very critical bunch."

*Tom Werner, Golf Course Superintendent
Colonial Country Club, Fort Worth, Texas*

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A Unocal Water Treatment Product

It is that time of the year again when all of our distinguished elected officials have gathered in the state capital to make laws and decide the future of our great state. This year is particularly crucial in that proponents of higher taxes and environmental activists are pressing their agendas to the detriment of our industry.

*Keep your eye
on legislature
— your job
depends on it*

On the taxation front, there is considerable pressure from our illustrious legislative body to force you and me to pay more in a number of areas touching this association.

There is a good chance that we will be paying a sales tax on the membership dues we pay to be a member of benevolent societies such as ours.

Lobbyist Bobby Brantley says, however, that the “tax” issues will be dealt with during a special session of the legislature.

It is prudent to expect every segment of the golf industry to be affected, areas like professional lesson fees, annual memberships and fees for licenses and permits will like increase.

The environmental activist is also hard at work trying to make our life in the golf industry not just difficult but, if successful, impossible to continue. At issue here is who will be regulating the use of pesticides in this state. We have introduced legislation called the “preemption bill”. Basically what this says is that the Department of

Agriculture and Consumer Services would have the authority to set pesticide rules and regulations across the entire state and these rules would pre-empt any local rules.

What the environmentalist wants is the ability of local rule. This simply is that each local municipality or county could arbitrarily set the rules of what you could and could not do in applying pesticides to your golf course. It is easy to envision emotional and irrational activists appearing before the local elected officials pleading their doomsday stories to get their agendas accepted.

This is a scary situation, to think that our industry could be governed by people operating from ignorance instead of scientific data. That these rules will change as you cross city boundaries, and are likely to change again at the whim of the local council is a very unsettling situation. This job is difficult enough without having to live by rules created by the local “condo commandos.”

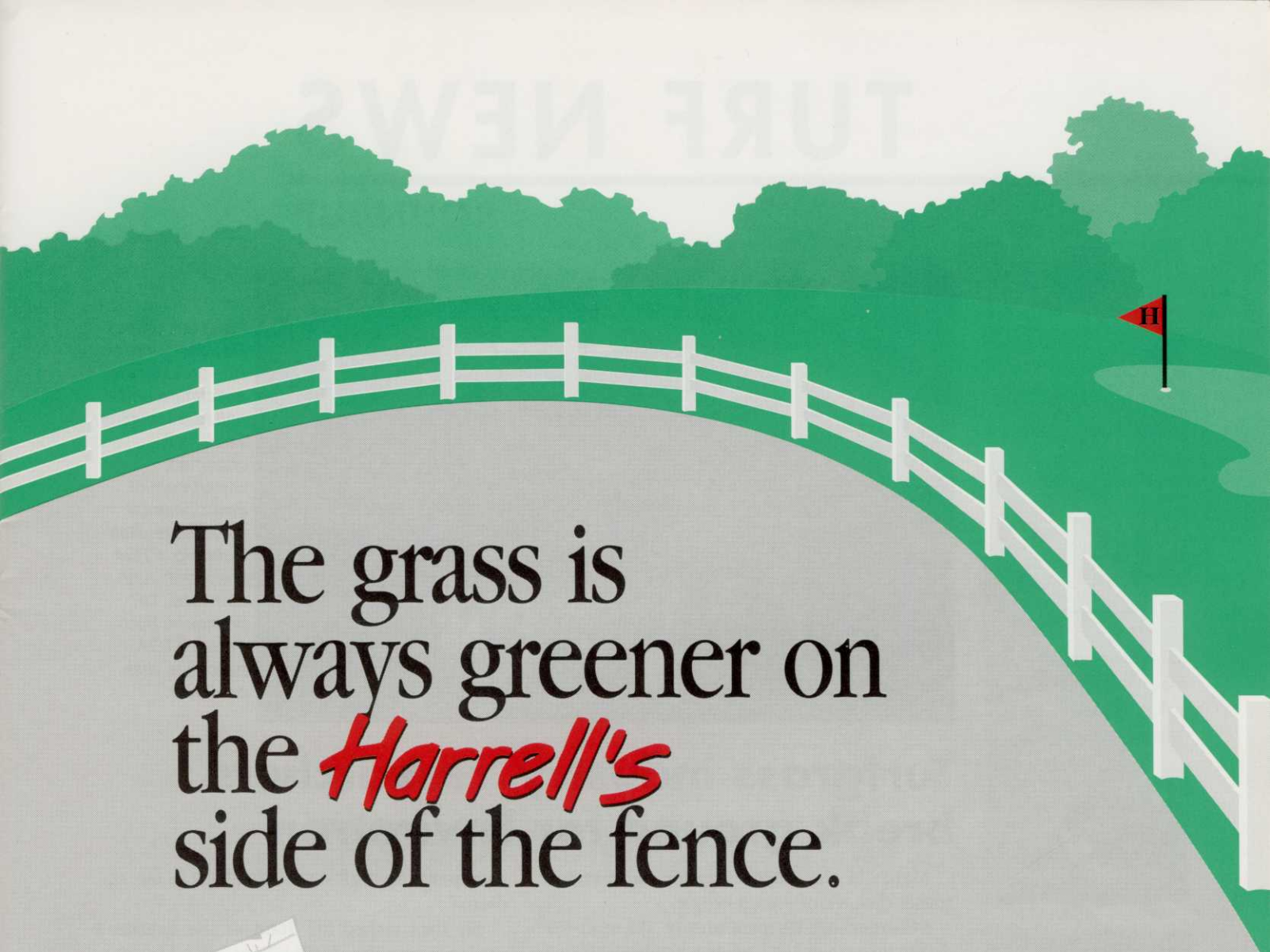
At this time the issue is unsettled. Fortunately, we have good people in Tallahassee to fight our side of the battle: Bobby Brantley of the Florida Golf Council and Tom Latta of the Florida Turfgrass Association. Without them we would be in a much worse situation.

This year’s legislative session has furthered my conviction that more than ever before we need the Florida Golf Council representing us in Tallahassee. Everyone has to do their part. Bobby is doing his and we need to do ours. If you are not a member of the FGC, please join today. You never know. The job you save may be your own.



Tom Benefield, CGCSA
FGCSA President

TURF NEWS



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always greener on
the *Harrell's*
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TURF NEWS

ROUNDUP

ALSO

Golfweek reader poll cites top golf courses in state, nation 10

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TURF QUIZ ANSWER

Green was unplayable after irrigation. Water covered tops of show soles. Capillary pull in the soil profile was interrupted by three layers of buried thatch.

Soil profile remained constantly wet. Recommended rebuilding to USGA specifications.

Alternatives: deep spiking to break up layers of grooving to physically remove layers.



From left, James Davidson, interim vice president for agriculture and natural resources; Terril Nell, chairman, department of environmental horticulture; Bob Rehberg, FTGA president; John Lombardi, UF president; Bob Yount, FTGA executive vice president.

Turfgrass industry, researchers break ground for Envirotron

March 11 was a better day for warm-season grasses than warm-season people.

Mid-morning temperatures in the mid-40s chased more than 100 turfgrass dignitaries into a Fifield Hall conference room on the University of Florida campus at Gainesville to “break ground” for the Envirotron. And after about 20 minutes of speeches, more than half the assembly walked outside and braved the bright, crystalline atmosphere to watch five men dig in the dirt.

The Envirotron is really going to happen.

UF President John Lombardi opened the ceremonies with a summary of the \$700,000 research facility’s scientific and educational mission.

“I’m reading this,” he noted candidly, “because frankly I don’t have a clue what an envirotron does. I’ll wait until it’s finished and I can look at it.

“But we all know that the scientific study of turfgrass is important to this state and its environment. Turfgrass in the state of Florida is a big-time industry and everyone will be very interested in the research that takes place here and all of us will share in the benefits.”

Jim Davidson, UF interim vice president for agriculture and natural resources, brought down the house with the observation that “the University of Florida was not able to win an SEC football

championship until we put turf back in our stadium.”

He then recited the litany of the industry’s economic importance (\$5 billion in Florida), noting that Florida had only 125 golf courses in 1953, the year of the state’s first turfgrass conference. “Now there are more than a thousand.

“Environmental factors dictate that we take a holistic approach to turfgrass maintenance. We must not only find ways to control and eliminate pests and diseases but we must come to solutions that are acceptable to our society while protecting our environment

“The Envirotron will enable us to better serve the state and its citizens.”

Science and education will be the major contributions of the Envirotron, said FTGA President Bob Rehberg in the main address.

“One thing this facility will allow us to do is recruit first-class graduate students. We have built living facilities within the Envirotron so that first-class students can live there as well as study there.

“The leaders of tomorrow are the students of today.”

Living quarters and all the other bells and whistles in the original concept survived the design and budget process, although the final ver-

sion looks nothing like the original "artist's conception" used in fund-raising efforts spearheaded by FTGA Executive Vice President Bob Yount.

In fact, the rhizotron — the rootstock from which the entire project sprang — is not even part of the main building. The subterranean laboratory which enables researchers to study the interaction between roots and soils to a depth below six feet is now a separate facility more than 100 feet away from the laboratory, classrooms, head room and living quarters.

"It had to be that way because otherwise shadows would have interfered," said Jack Ponikvar, associate of the Lewis Brown Jr. architectural firm that designed the building. Ponikvar, who has designed several other facilities for IFAS, was the lead designer of the Envirotron.

Construction will begin this autumn and is expected to take about eight months. The facility will be "functional" by late 1993.

"Now we have to raise the money to equip the lab," said Yount, as the participants and onlookers scattered to the warmth of their offices and automobiles.

— Larry Kieffer

Springtime education brings opportunities around the state

For those clubs and superintendents who strive to be the best, there are educational opportunities aplenty this spring. If you weren't able to travel to the FTGA Conference in Jacksonville last fall or the GCSAA Conference in New Orleans this past February, there are some outstanding local seminars on tap to help you catch up on what's going on in the world of turf management.

MARCH. The USGA scheduled the annual Green Section Conference in West Palm Beach at the Royce Hotel on March 10 and at the Marriott Hotel on International Drive in Orlando on March 12. Because of the increasing demand for this quality program, this is the second year that the conference was held in two locations.



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For golf course superintendents, mole crickets come with the territory. It's not so much a question of whether the insects will be a problem, but rather a question of how best to control them.

These days, more and more superintendents are finding their product of choice to be CRUSADE® 5G Granular Insecticide. Manufactured by ICI Professional Products and distributed by LESCO, Inc., CRUSADE is now approved for non-restricted use on golf courses.

Superintendents Launch

CRUSADE® To Control Mole Crickets

With the active ingredient fonofos, CRUSADE offers excellent control of both the nymph and early adult stages of the mole cricket for four to six weeks or more. Its residual makes this new weapon in the arsenal of mole cricket insecticides the most cost-effective control on the market today.

At Quail Creek Country Club, a private 36-hole facility in Naples, Florida, Superintendent Steve Durand applied CRUSADE twice in 1991. He put the first application on the greens, tees, and fairways of nine holes during the third week of June. In late September, based on the success of the earlier treatment, he applied the product to all 36 holes. "The results in June were excellent and the residual was outstanding,"

"The results were excellent and the residual was outstanding."

*Steve Durand, Superintendent,
Quail Creek Country Club*

Durand said. "With other products, the residual doesn't seem to be as strong. From the results of the first application, I wasn't hesitant to buy a second time. The decision was easy."

CRUSADE is an organo-phosphorus soil insecticide that can be applied to warm or cool season grasses on all turf areas of the golf course. It is also registered for use on commercial sod farms. Applied at the relatively low rate of 80 pounds per acre for mole cricket control, its convenient granular formulation simplifies treatment and is especially beneficial when making partial applications or working in isolated areas.

In extensive testing by university entomologists for more than 15 years, fonofos has repeatedly demonstrated superior control of all economically important turf-grass insects including white



grubs, chinch bugs, sod webworms, and cutworms, as well as mole crickets.

In 1991 tests in Georgia, CRUSADE demonstrated a statistically significant reduction in mole cricket damage by the second week following application. In tests in Florida in 1988–1989, CRUSADE exhibited mole cricket control equal to or greater than six other products.

Application timing is critical with any insecticide. With CRUSADE, timing is especially important because of the product's ability to control both the adult and nymph mole cricket populations. Other products are not as effective against the adults.

Adult mole crickets mate and lay eggs and fly away to die. Nymphs hatch in two to three weeks. With knowledge of what stage of the life cycle the insects are in and proper application timing, the

applicator can apply to control both the adults as they go down into the soil to lay eggs and the nymphs as they hatch and emerge from the soil.

In Largo, Florida, at the Bardmoor North Golf Club, Superintendent Steve Hritsko, who has recently moved to the World Woods Golf Resort in Homosassa, applied CRUSADE in April of 1991 to all fairways and tee and green slopes on the 18-hole course. He reapplied in September.

"With two applications of CRUSADE, I had better results than any other product would provide," Hritsko said. "I did, however, begin to see some activity that had to be addressed around the middle to the end of August. For 1992, I've budgeted three applications of CRUSADE—one in March, another in June and a third in September."

Once CRUSADE is applied and irrigated, the

"With two applications of CRUSADE, I had better results than any other product would provide."

*Steve Hritsko, Superintendent,
World Woods Golf Resort*

active ingredient releases from its carrier and attaches to the soil. The product resists leaching and its performance is not affected by enhanced microbial degradation.

According to Bob Yarborough, Vice President for Control Products at LESCO, the longevity of CRUSADE in the soil makes it a welcome addition to the arsenal of mole cricket insecticides.

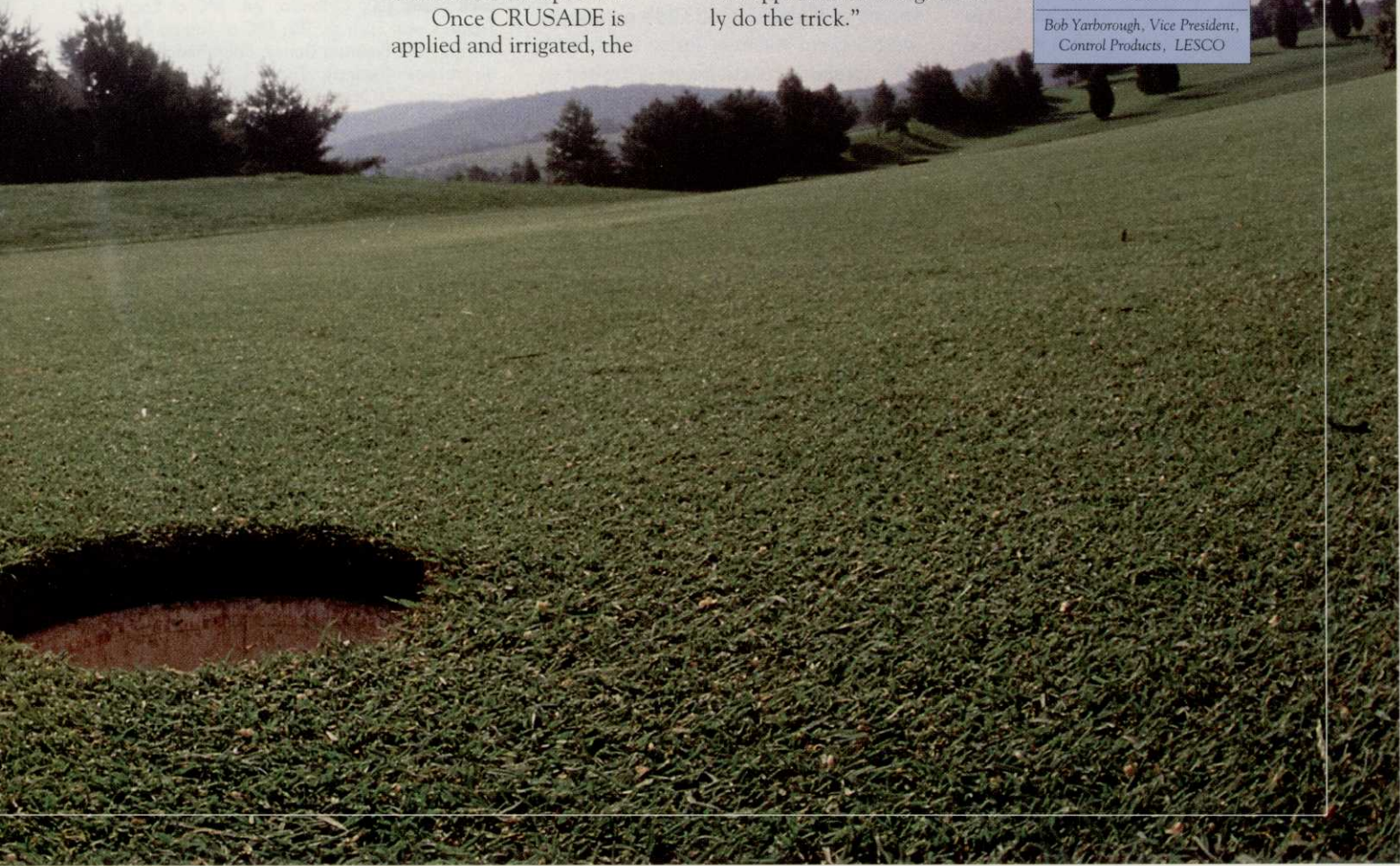
"What makes CRUSADE unique is that it doesn't have the microbial degradation of other soil-active insecticides," Yarborough commented. "That gives it the residual necessary to provide prolonged control of both the adult and the nymph populations. Other products may need to be applied as many as five times a year, but, with CRUSADE, two applications will generally do the trick."

After years of research and refinement, ICI Professional Products is pleased to provide golf course superintendents with this exciting insecticide. CRUSADE is a convenient, easy-to-use granular formulation that demonstrates superior efficacy against mole crickets and other turf-damaging insects. It can be used from tee to green on both warm and cool season grasses and is nonphytotoxic, with performance unaffected by enhanced microbial degradation.

CRUSADE can't promise to end the war against mole crickets on golf courses. But it is guaranteed to make each battle a whole lot easier to win.

"What makes CRUSADE unique is that it doesn't have the microbial degradation of other soil-active insecticides.."

*Bob Yarborough, Vice President,
Control Products, LESCO*



APRIL. On April 9, there will be two blockbuster programs to choose from.

On the east side of the state the **South Florida Chapter** is hosting the Otto Schmeisser Research Green Exposition at the Rolling Hills Golf Resort in Fort Lauderdale.

This is a combination event with a morning Turfgrass Workshop with **Dr. Joe Vargas**, Michigan State University, speaking on "Prevention of Black Layer and Fungicide Resistance", and **Dr. Robert Dunn**, University of Florida, discussing "Nematicides: Promises and Problems in Golf Course Management".

Following the workshop, there will be product displays and equipment demonstrations. This event is the original and primary fund raiser for the building and maintenance of the Otto Schmeisser Research Green at the IFAS Research Station in Fort Lauderdale. It is the only research plot in the state where tests are conducted on turf maintained under playing conditions. For registration information call the FGCSA office at (407) 692-9349.

Meanwhile on the west coast at the Bonita Bay Club, the **Everglades Chapter** hosts a Spring Seminar that is loaded with turfgrass talent! The all-day program includes two presentations by renowned author and Texas A & M researcher, **Dr. James Beard**, "Water Conservation & Turfgrass" and "Bermudagrass Greens Management".

Other speakers include: **Bob Rehbarg**, President of the FTGA; **John Foy**, USGA Green Section director for the Florida region; **Dr. Bert McCarty**, U. of Florida, "Herbicides and New Compounds"; **Dr. William Hagland**, Washington State University, "New Technologies in Nematode Control," and **Dr. Wayne Hannah**, USDA Research Geneticist, "Bermudagrass Breeding and Quality Analysis." For registration information call David Fry, CGCS at (813) 624-6204.

Both of the April 9 Seminars will provide CEU credits for renewing Restricted Use Pesticide Licenses.

Superintendents in North Florida can look forward to the **46th Annual Southeastern Turfgrass Conference** to be held in Tifton, Georgia on April 13

and 14. There will be a golf tournament sponsored by the Georgia GCSA at 1 p.m. at the Spring Hill C.C. on Monday. For those not playing golf registration and inspection of Experiment Station research plots will be available from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.. There will also be a fish fry lunch at Spring Hill and a 6:30 p.m. putting tournament and barbeque at the Tifton Family GC. On Tuesday, April 14 there will be an educational program for golf course superintendents. For more details, you may call (912) 386-3353.

MAY. This magazine won't be out in May so you better check this out now! On May 7, the University of Florida will hold its **Annual Turfgrass Research and Educational Field Day** from 8:30 a.m. to Noon at the Horticultural research Unit on Northwest 71st Street in Gainesville. This is an excellent opportunity to talk one-on-one with the state's leading turfgrass specialists. The event is free but there is a \$5 charge for the noon barbeque. Call Marie at (904) 692-1831 and let them know you'll be eating so they can plan the food. After lunch, the first Gator-Turf Golf Tournament will be held at the University of Florida's Golf Club on Southwest Second Avenue. Entry fee is \$20. The number of participants is limited so please call Dr. Bert McCarty's secretary, Marie, at (904) 392-1831 to insure registration.

If you can't make any of these events, then you aren't trying hard enough! Education is the key for the continued success and survival for every golf club and superintendent in the state.— *Joel Jackson.*

Golfweek reader poll taps Lecanto's Black Diamond Ranch as Florida's best course

Black Diamond Ranch in Lecanto was named the best golf course in Florida in the 13th annual reader survey by *Golfweek*, the weekly golf newspaper.

"We believe the true test of a course's greatness is the appreciation by golfers of all skill levels," wrote *Golfweek* Publisher Tom Stine in the Jan. 18 edition.

Each *Golfweek* subscriber was asked to rank the 10 best golf courses in whichever

state he was most familiar with.

"No restrictions were placed on the voters. We asked that they consider "design, distinctiveness of holes, memorability, condition, fairness, difficulty, playability, and personal preference. The weight given to each category was up to the individual voter."

The rankings:

1. Black Diamond Ranch, Lecanto
2. Innisbrook (Copperhead), Tarpon Springs
3. TPC at Sawgrass (Stadium), Ponte Vedra
4. Bay Hill Club, Orlando
5. Doral CC (Blue), Miami
6. Grand Cypress (North/South), Orlando
7. Bonita Bay Club (Marsh), Naples
8. Hammock Dunes Links, Palm Coast
9. Seminole, North Palm Beach
10. Bloomingdale Golfers Club, Valrico
11. Jupiter Hills (Hills), Jupiter; 12. Ravines, Middleburg; 13. Golden Ocala, Ocala; 14. Fiddlesticks CC (Long Mean), Fort Myers; 15. Grenelefe G&RC (West), Haines City; 16. Walt Disney World (Magnolia), Lake Buena Vista; 17. Old Marsh GC, Palm Beach Gardens; 18. Mission Inn, Howey-in-the-Hills; 19. Indigo Lakes, Daytona Beach; 20. Grand Cypress (New), Orlando.
21. Walt Disney World (Palm), Lake Buena Vista; 22. Pine Tree GC, Boynton Beach; 23. Lake Nona CC, Orlando; 24. TPC at Eagle Trace, Coral Springs; 25. TPC of Tampa Bay, Tampa; 26. Emerald Dunes, Palm Beach; 27. Innisbrook (Island), Tarpon Springs; 28. Sawgrass CC (Oceanside), Ponte Vedra Beach; 29. The Loxahatchee Club, Jupiter; 30. Bluewater Bay CC, Niceville.
31. Avila CC, Tampa; 32. PGA National (Champion), Palm Beach Gardens; 33. Key Biscayne, Miami; 34. The Reserve, Port St. Lucie; 35. Amelia Island Plantation (Long Point), Amelia Island; 36. Hawk's Nest, Vero Beach; 37. JDM CC (East), Palm Beach Gardens; 38. Mayacoo Lakes CC, Palm Beach; 39. Eagle Creek CC, Naples; 40. Palm Beach Polo (Cypress), West Palm Beach.
41. Hunter's Green, Tampa; 42. River Wilderness, Parrish; 43. Wildcat Run, Estero; 44. Errol CC, Apopka; 45. Club at Pelican Bay, Naples; 46. Adios CC, Coconut Creek; 47. Kissimmee Bay CC, Kissimmee; 48. Pelican's Nest, Bonita Springs; 49. Harbor Hills G&CC, Lady Lake; 50. DeBary Plantation, DeBary.

Two weeks earlier, the publication named 17 Florida courses in its annual list of the "50 most distinctive development courses in the Southeastern United States."

No selection criteria were listed but Black Diamond made that list as well.

The honorees, in alphabetical order:

Alaqua CC, Longwood; Black Diamond