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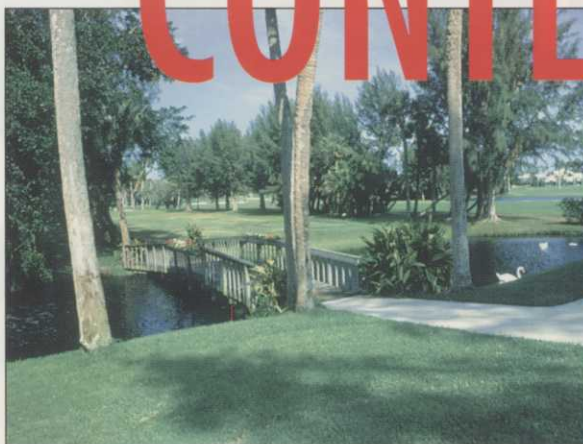
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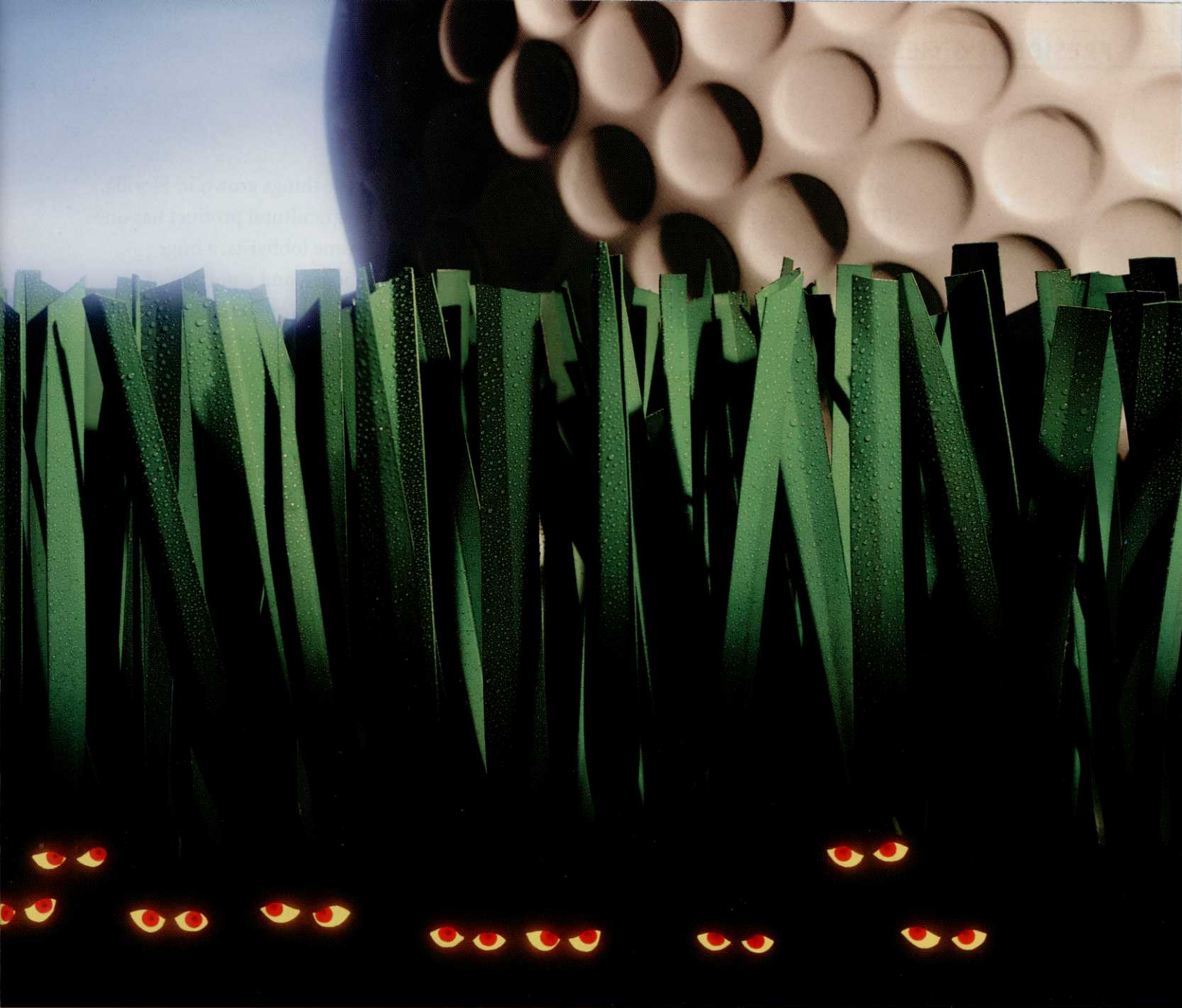
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There's one sure way to turn your tournament-condition tees, greens and fairways into so many acres of rough: ignore Pythium blight. Because, as sure as the sun sets in the west, Pythium will strike. Unless you've protected your turf with the best Pythium prevention on the course

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Have you or your association been asked for a donation lately? Has the FTGA, USGA, FGCSA, GCSAA or some other "A" been ringing your telephone, knocking on your door, showing up in your mailbox or twisting your arm? It seems everyone is out there collecting for his pet fund these days.

And if you think we get hit often, what about the suppliers?

These poor guys see some association board member headed their direction and they bolt the other way. And I'm

not sure I can blame them.

"Paul, you have no idea how many people I gave money to last year. The list seems to get longer and longer every year," said one supplier as I began my pitch.

I proceeded to tell him how important my fund is and how good it is for the whole game of golf and he then agrees to support yet another fund. As he hands me the check, I can see he is getting tired of this routine... and he's not alone.

There has to be a better way.

There is.

A friend in the golf business also owns a small pecan business. He explained that the pecan growers do not have an problem generating money for research and advertising. They have what he called a "check" system in which two or three cents per pound of pecans goes

into a fund.

Look at all the things grown in Florida. Nearly every agricultural product has one or more full-time lobbyists, a huge promotion budget, and a portion of a college campus dedicated to its interests.

What's happened to turf?

A former Commissioner of Agriculture once said that if you cannot eat it, it is not worthy of state agriculture money.

Hold on there! Golf turf is BIG BUSINESS in Florida.

The Turf Survey will prove just how big the business is when it is released in July. And it's time we stand up and get counted. More importantly, it's time for Joe Golfer to start counting.

After all, it's his game that benefits. Not only his game in the abstract, as in "the game of golf," but also the very personal, individual and all-too-tangible round he played this morning.

Could you imagine 50 cents — or even a dollar — a round of golf going to the golf industry for promotion and turf research? We've been imagining it for years but Joe Golfer hasn't been hearing us. It's cheaper to fire the superintendent for poor turf than it is to pay for research that will lead to better turfgrass.

So until Joe gets the message, we'll have to keep on twisting arms.

Hats off to all the affiliated FGCSA chapters for raising more than \$70,000 for turf research through the FTGA and for raising another \$12,000 to pay our share of our part-time lobbyist's fee.

And please don't turn and run when you see me coming. I might just want to say, "Hi!"

*I might
just want
to say Hi!*



Paul Crawford
Paul Crawford
President, FGCSA

“Best overseeded grasses on the putting green were Sabre and Cypress cultivars of Poa trivialis”

1992 University of Florida Dormant Bermudagrass Overseeding Trial - Gainesville, FL.

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Cypress is tolerant to shade and damp soils. This unique prostrate growing variety thrives in cool weather and will survive cold weather that will damage turf-type ryegrasses. But most important, Cypress will maintain its dark green color all winter long.



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Cypress is available alone, or blended with Creeping Bentgrass and Streaker Redtop Bentgrass depending on customer preference.

Table 2. Monthly and seasonal months for turf quality of winter overseeded grasses 'Tildwart' bermudagrass putting green from December 1991 to April 1992 at Gainesville, FL.

Turfgrass	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Mean
Sabre	7.8	8.2	8.4	8.0	5.5	7.8
Cypress	7.2	7.4	8.4	8.0	6.0	7.5
Pinnacle	7.5	7.8	7.3	6.6	5.5	7.0
Premier	7.8	7.7	7.1	6.8	5.5	7.0
Blend #1	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.3	5.0	6.8
Mix #2	7.4	7.7	7.5	6.9	5.5	6.8
GH-89	7.4	7.8	7.9	6.5	5.5	6.8
Southern Select	7.2	7.6	7.0	6.8	5.5	6.8
Mix #1	7.8	7.5	7.9	6.8	5.5	6.8
Leader Board	7.1	7.3	7.0	6.9	5.5	6.8
Medallist	7.5	7.4	7.0	6.5	5.5	6.8
Repall II	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.8	5.5	6.8
Essence	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.8	5.5	6.8
Cowboy II	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.8	5.5	6.8
CBS II	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.8	5.5	6.8
Evering Shade	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.8	5.5	6.8
Penant	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.8	5.5	6.8
Mulligan	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.8	5.5	6.8
PhD	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.8	5.5	6.8
Pebble Beach	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.8	5.5	6.8
Sunrise Primo	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.8	5.5	6.8
Prelude II	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.8	5.5	6.8
Alliance	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.8	5.5	6.8
Patriot II	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.8	5.5	6.8
Turf Seed Blend #1	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.8	5.5	6.8
Competitor	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.8	5.5	6.8
WX-1	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.8	5.5	6.8
WX-115	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.8	5.5	6.8
WXP-83	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.8	5.5	6.8
Turf Seed Blend #2	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.8	5.5	6.8
Palmer II	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.8	5.5	6.8
Essence	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.8	5.5	6.8
Annalee	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.8	5.5	6.8
Blend	7.2	7.6	7.1	6.8	5.5	6.8

All's fair in love and water

Editorial License



Tom Benefield, CGCS
Editor

It is interesting to watch the circus atmosphere around the Everglades Pollution cleanup resolution. All of the concerned parties have been working for several years to come to an agreement on the cost of sharing of cleaning the water from the farming operations in the 'Glades. These parties thought they had a solution in which both the farming and public sectors paid their fair shares.

However, along comes this coalition of quasi-environmentalists who have launched a petition drive to have the farming industry pay all of the cleanup costs. They hope to do this by imposing a penny-per-pound tax on sugar produced in the 'Glades. They feel that the farming industry is the only source of pollution in the glades and thus should be responsible for the cost of the entire cleanup program. They are wrong, of course, but then again truth never has been one of the strong points of the enviro-terrorists.

One of the ringleaders of this coalition is a land developer from Orange County. He is one of those self-righteous environmentalists... you know, the ones who tell you to do as they say, not as they do.

I have to believe that somewhere

along the lines, he has created his share of environmental damage. Taking virgin land and bulldozing all the vegetation, grading, asphaltting and covering it up with concrete is probably not the most environmentally positive use of the land. From a water recharge and water quality viewpoint, his kind of development probably would not win any awards either, not even from his coalition buddies.

But such things matter little to the "environmental coalition." They have their holy war to fight over the glades cleanup and they don't care who joins their side as long as they bring money with them. They certainly don't seem to have a problem bending and twisting their ethics to suit their agendas. They are eager to lash out at agriculture because it is an easy target, not unlike our own industry. Soon they will turn more of their attention to us, as other targets become part of their coalition.

While this coalition is up and running hard with its petition drive "for the good of all" the people in this state, perhaps they should start another petition drive. Maybe the self-righteous citizens of Florida should march under the banner of justice and launch a petition drive to impose a state tax of \$1 per thousand gallons on potable water.

This tax would be placed on every public and private water utility service. The money could be used to clean up the polluted water running out of the concrete jungles in this state. You know, the water which is destroying our lakes,

Continued on page 14 ▶

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