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Ornamental Spray. It's easy. It's economical. It controls the broadest spectrum of tough turf pests. And best of all, it's a heck of a lot better than the alternative. For more information, call 1-800-89-VALENT. Professional Products Team



Now in easy-to-use Water Soluble Pouches.



Superintendent Steve La France (left) and his assistant, Daron Mueller. Photo by Joel Jackson

## Steve La France

**Originally from:** DeFuniak Springs, FL

**Family:** Wife, Amy. Two sons, Logan(5 yrs) and Marshall(18 mos.)

**Education:** Golf Course Operations Degree, Lake City Community College

**Employment:** 1989-Present, Superintendent Marsh Landing CC, Ponte Vedra Beach; 1986-89, Superintendent Boca West, Inc. Boca Raton; 1981-86 Assistant then Superintendent Olympic Spa G & CC, Dothan, AL; 1979-80 Student OJT at Palmetto Dunes Resort, Hilton Head, SC.

**How did you get into the business:** I grew up working on a golf course in Port St. Joe, FL from the age of 14. I worked all jobs from life guard to cart attendant to pro shop and eventually golf course maintenance all through junior and senior high school. I received a Golf Scholarship to LCCC after high school.

**People who have influenced your career:** Code House was the golf professional at Port St. Joe. He taught me to play golf and encouraged me to attend the Golf Operations program at Lake City. During my first OJT at Palmetto Dunes, I worked for Billy Fuller. After being exposed to Billy's people skills and professional manner, I felt this was what I wanted to do. He probably had the biggest single impact on my early career. From Ken Dillard in Alabama, I learned the value of networking and being involved in our associations. Under Billy Wright's watchful and trusting eye at Boca West, I was given the opportunity to run my own course in the very competitive Palm Beach area. It was a tremendous learning experience.

**Personal philosophy of work and life:** Keep your priorities in order. Take things one day at a time. Be hands on. My wife is from Georgia and I'm from North Florida so we have really enjoyed moving to this part of the state. The ownership at Marsh Landing is very willing to invest in the quality of the total development, and that makes it fun to work here.

**Advice to prospective superintendents:** Be patient and work hard. Hard work always pays off! Develop your people skills. That is just as important as any technical knowledge of turf management.

**Professional affiliations:** Current board member North Florida GCSA, FTGA, GCSAA. Past board member, Alabama Turfgrass Association.

**Hobbies and interests:** Golf, fishing and spending time with the kids.

# Introducing New Daconil Weather Stik™ Fungicide. It Outsticks The Flowable Competition For Top Disease Control.

High magnification microscopy shows it. And laboratory wash-off studies, too. New Daconil Weather Stik fungicide sticks and stays like the competition can't. So when other fungicides might wash away, you can continue to count on Daconil Weather Stik for control of major turf diseases on both warm and cool season grasses. That includes Brown patch, Leaf spot, Melting out, Dollar spot, Anthracnose, Rust, Red thread, and Snow mold. Plus control of most ornamentals plant diseases and algal scum, too.

In addition, Daconil Weather Stik can be tank-mixed with a wide range of turf and ornamentals fungicides, so you can also count on it for broad-spectrum support of your systemics, as well as disease resistance management. Remember, there's never been a documented case of disease resistance to a Daconil brand fungicide in over 25 years.

And Daconil Weather Stik is more concentrated than prior formulations, so you'll have fewer jugs to get rid of, too. Which simply says from better protection to easier disposal, Daconil Weather Stik is the right flowable choice for you. ISK Biosciences Corporation, Turf & Specialty Products, 1523 Johnson Ferry Road, Suite 250, Marietta, GA 30062.



**ISK BIOSCIENCES™**



The Marsh Landing Golf Maintenance Team. Photo by Joel Jackson.

## Marsh Landing Country Club

**Location:** Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

**Ownership:** M.L. Partnership

**Playing policy:** Private.

**Management Team:** Club Manager, Sally Larkin Hall; Director of Golf, Marc "Dewey" Arnette, Head Golf Professional, Mike Barlow

**Designed by:** Ed Seay. 18 holes.  
Length = 6,841 yards.

**Course/Slope Ratings:** Championship - 72.7/131; Gentlemen - 70.8/128; Seniors - 68.6/123; Ladies - 68.7/121

**Constructed by:** M. L. Partnership.  
**Opened:** May 1986

**Recent projects:** Rerouting paths on some holes. Construction of 3 new lakes for drainage and retention. Renovating and installing bunker drains.

**Acres:** Total turf = 101 acres.  
**Waterways** = 50 acres.

**Greens:** 3 acres. Average size = 6,000 square feet. Turf type = Tifdwarf. HOC = .125(1/8") to .156(5/32"). Overseeding = 3 pounds

Penneagle bent and 9 pounds Laser Poa trivialis per 1,000 square feet.. Green speed goal = 8.5 - 9.0. Special events 10.0+.

**Tees:** 3 acres. Turf type: Tifway 419. HOC = 7/16" - 9/16" . Overseeding = Perennial ryegrass blend at 20 pounds per square feet.

**Fairways:** 25 acres. Turf Type = Tifway 419. HOC = 7/16" - 9/16". Overseeding = Perennial ryegrass blend at 480 pounds per acre.

**Roughs:** 70 acres. Turf Type = Tifway 419. HOC = 1.25" - 1.50". No overseeding.

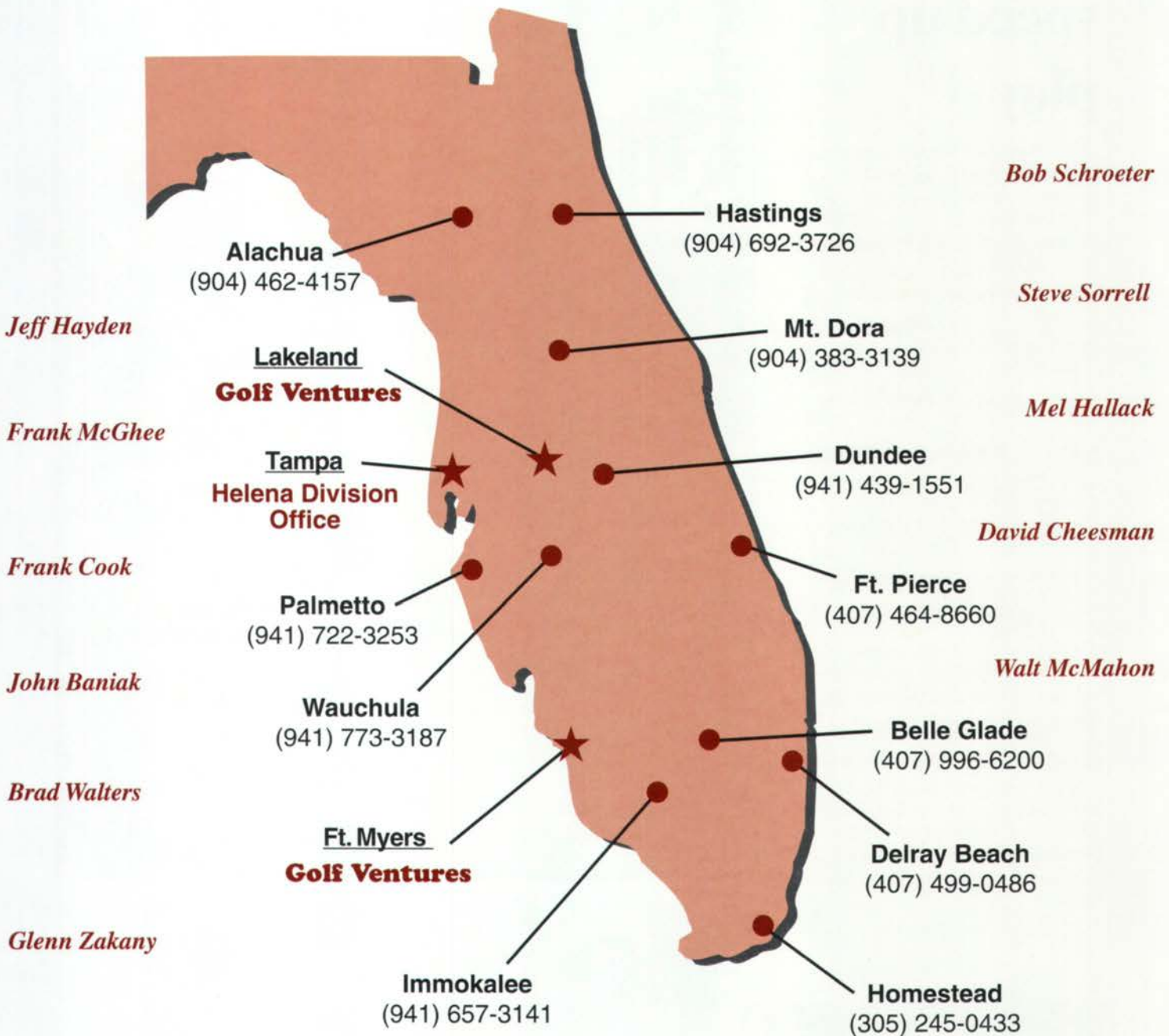
**Irrigation:** Source = Effluent. Equipment = Carol Childers pump station. Toro VTII Central Controls. 730 Toro 670 heads covering 100 acres.

**Staff:** Total of 20 including superintendent. Assistant Superintendent, Daron Murrell. Equipment Techs, David Lindsey and Chris Shackelford. Pest Control Tech, Tony Sanders. Irrigation Tech, Bill Evans.

**Unusual conditions:** Tidal marsh environment and heavy soil profile makes proper irrigation management critical.

**Mowing equipment:** Greens = Jacobsen walk mowers. Tees & collars = Lesco triplexes. Fairways = Jacobsen LF-100's. Roughs = Two Jacobsen pull behind, 5-gang units.

**Cultural and Fertility programs:**  
**Aerification:** Greens = 2 times per year. Core aerified in spring and deep drilled in the fall. Tees & Fairways = Core aerified once per year. **Fertility:** Greens = 12 - 16 pounds of N per year. Combination of weekly liquid spoon feeding a few granular applications. Tees = 6 - 8 pounds of N per year. Fairways & Roughs = 4 - 7 pounds on N per year. Other: The greens are lightly verticut and topdressed every three 3 weeks in summer and as needed the rest of the year.



## Tip to speed up play

Discovering new ideas is one of the fringe benefits of traveling all over the state to write cover stories for *The Florida Green*. Here's one that caught my eye on this assignment.

Pace of play at golf courses is one of the most difficult problems to manage.

Marsh Landing has installed the usual devices:

- vertical 150 yard markers in the roughs.
- yardage labels on the irrigation heads.
- engraved in ground granite markers at 200, 150 and 100 yards.
- markers on the cart paths at 200, 150 and 100 yards.

With all those commonly used distance aids, how many times have you still seen golfers wasting time wandering about looking for one of those painstakingly laser calibrated and labeled irrigation heads? Marsh Landing takes a very proactive step and makes those heads very easy to spot by painting a bright orange circle around the heads marked with yardages. It works for them. Maybe it will work for you!

*Joel D. Jackson, CGCS*



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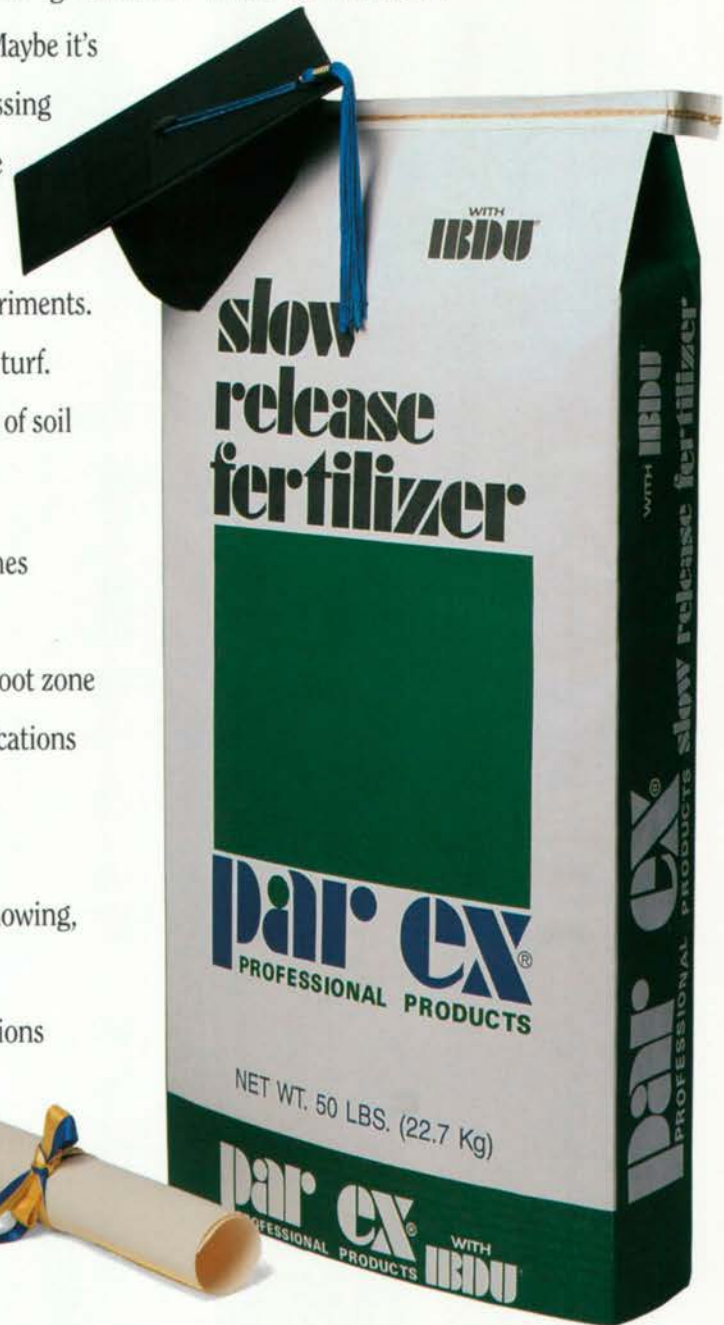
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# Greensmaster<sup>®</sup> 3200

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The most technologically advanced mower in its class  
for tomorrow's requirements.



# The Toro Greensmaster® 3200. Redefining the Cutting Edge.



**THE GREEN.** That turf area most subjected to fame or blame. Where play is most deliberate and accuracy most demanded. The Greensmaster 3200 brings forth new technologies to exceed the high demands of today's greens care for your golfers' ultimate satisfaction.

The 3200 traction unit reveals the latest advancements for operational excellence and unites with an all new, extremely responsive cutting unit system that gives new meaning to a precision cut.

## Comfort Prevails

The Greensmaster 3200 enhances operator performance with natural positioning. Contoured, cushioned, high-back seating firmly supports the operator. Seat and steering arm adjustments are easily made without tools. The horizontal movement of the arm naturally follows the fore and aft positioning of the seat in relationship to the steering wheel. This new design leaves the seat in the correct position to accommodate different sized operators. Precision power steering and hydrostatic drive make for easy going. With excellent speed control and dynamic braking.



## Safety Conscious

People come first. That's why the Greensmaster 3200 will operate only when it senses the safe combination. A seat switch and two proximity switches in the control panel "sense" the operator's presence for safer operations. The 3200 is a remarkably quiet mower and is also the first greens mower offering an optional roll-over protective structure for added protection.

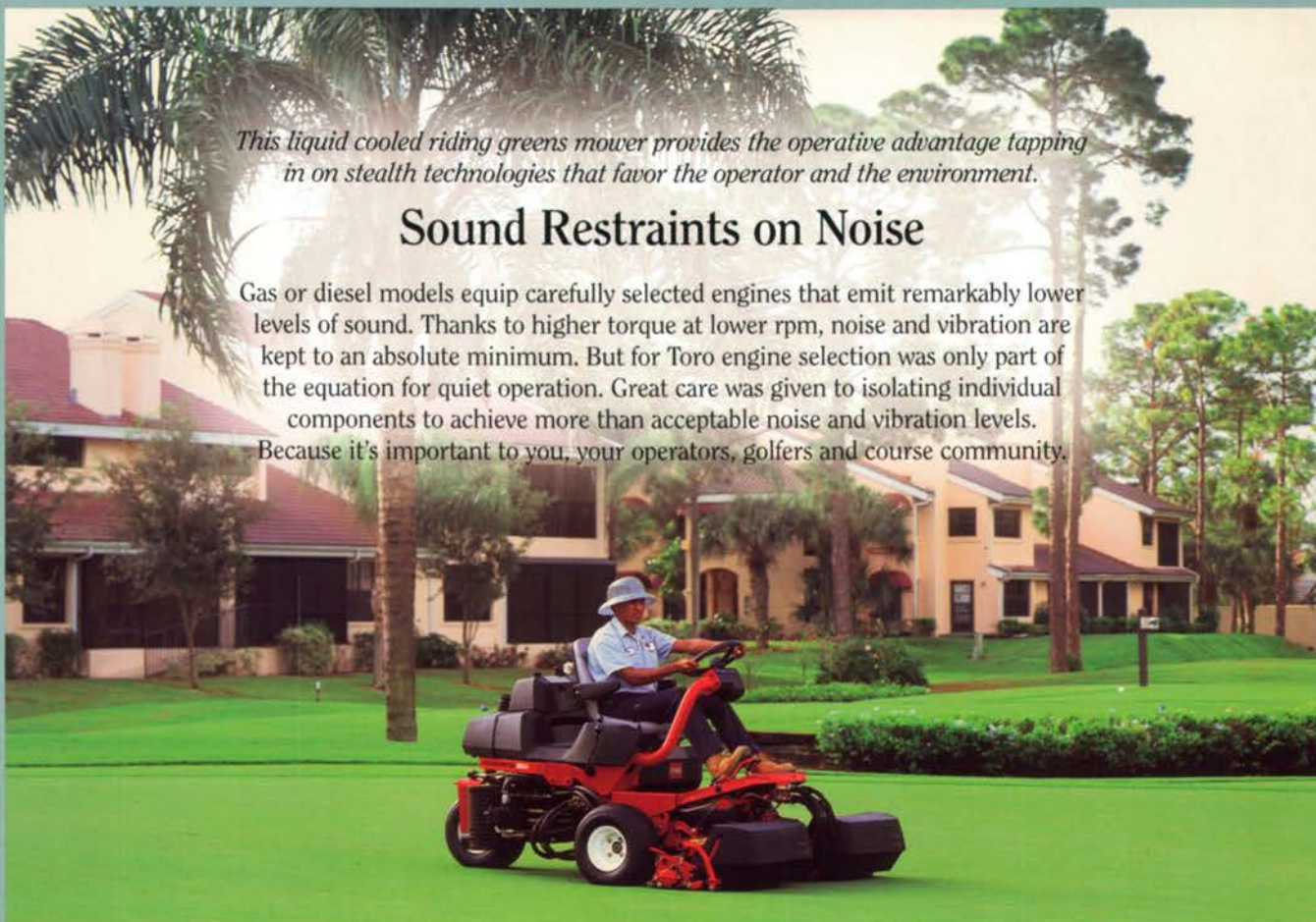


# Greensmaster 3200: It's To Everyone's Advantage

*This liquid cooled riding greens mower provides the operative advantage tapping in on stealth technologies that favor the operator and the environment.*

## Sound Restraints on Noise

Gas or diesel models equip carefully selected engines that emit remarkably lower levels of sound. Thanks to higher torque at lower rpm, noise and vibration are kept to an absolute minimum. But for Toro engine selection was only part of the equation for quiet operation. Great care was given to isolating individual components to achieve more than acceptable noise and vibration levels. Because it's important to you, your operators, golfers and course community,



## Easy Going

The Greensmaster 3200 will readily make even your rookies first-rate operators. Built-in simplicity and comfort enhance the operator's fluent control necessary for greens mowing accuracy. The traditional Mow/Lift pedals have been replaced with a *Joystick Control* for activating all cutting unit functions.

A *Function Control Lever* combines multiple functions into a single lever: *Neutral, Mow* and *Transport*. This provides an added advantage on the gas model in that engine speed is automatically preset for each selection. You get an even better quality of cut with a fixed engine speed and, when in neutral, the engine drops automatically to a quiet idle.

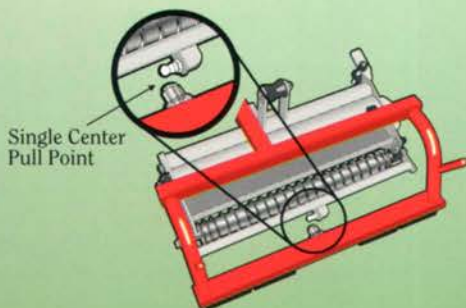
There's also a *High/Low Transport Switch* on the gas unit that allows transport at lower engine rpms yielding a "stealth" transport mode. The lower speed and noise can be an advantage driving through noise-sensitive areas.



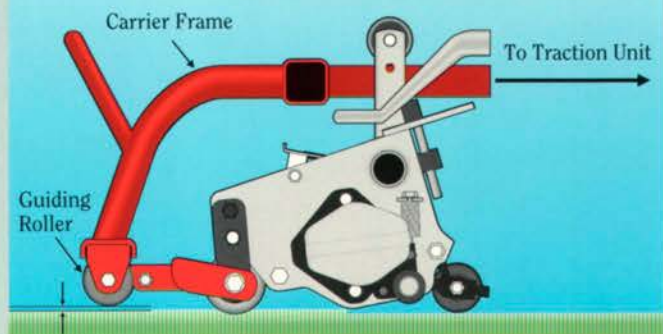
# Advanced Mowing Technology

The Greensmaster 3200's new cutting unit system parades the way in mowing technology.

## Single Center Cutting Unit Pull Point



## Carrier Frame / Cutting Unit-Side



## The Ideal Connection

Toro has innovatively devised a simple but heavy duty single ball type disconnect that attaches each floating cutting unit to its carrier frame. This *single center pull point* allows the cutting units to roll freely to follow all types of terrain. It also adds an additional

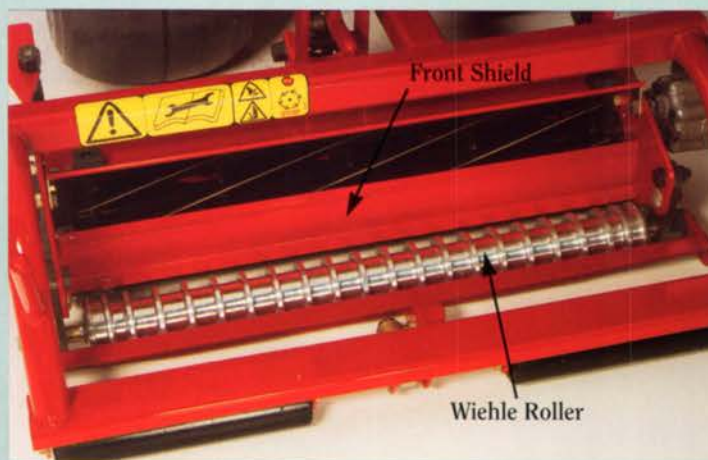
degree of side to side steering motion for precise ground contour following, even on the perimeter cut.

## Weightless Suspension

The 3200 suspends and transfers the entire weight of the basket and carrier frame to the traction unit.

The weight increase of grass clippings does not influence cutting unit penetration resulting in a most uniform, precise height of cut for a truer putting surface.

A new "guiding roller" that rides above the grass replaces the front carrier frame roller that supports the weight of the basket and carrier frame on other Toro Greensmaster models.



## New Rollers, New Shield

*Redesigned Wihle and full front rollers* are now larger in diameter, 2-½ inches. The larger size provides a smoother, less resistant roll. One of two new styled Wihle rollers comes standard; both have wider spaced ribs promoting grass intake. The optional Wihle roller has even more aggressive spacing

and is recommended for firmer greens.

A *new front reel shield* acts as a recycling device. It helps to channel the grass clippings into the basket keeping the green and also the front roller free of clipping debris.



## New Baskets

They are larger, more open, making it easier for grass to enter in and air to escape. A rubber flap on the lower lip also helps prevent grass from dribbling out.

The Greensmaster 3200 has four cutting unit combinations available to meet your specific needs: Single Point Adjustment (SPA) or 4-bolt adjustment of either 8 or 11 blade reels.

## Biodegradable Oil-Ready

Toro's commitment to environmental protection is ever present with the 3200. This one is biodegradable oil-ready. Because using biodegradable hydraulic oil not only limits turf damage should a spill occur but also means easier cleanup and less environmental toxicity.

## Hydraulic Leak Prevention

Of course, Toro provides its patented Turf Guardian® leak detection system. It detects hydraulic oil leaks after a minute loss of oil. In fact, it's standard on the gas model, optional for diesels.



But quite frankly, Toro put more study into the cause of oil leaks, hence the 3200 innovatively uses fewer hydraulic lines, the proper hose bending radii, monoblock connections, protective hose placement and centrally located bulkhead mounting.

## Service Accessibility

Just lift the seat and you have easy access to most of the 3200's engine and hydraulic system service points. Oil dipstick and fill. Battery. Fuel and oil filters. And other points of visual inspection.



The optional cooling system is located in a protective but easily accessible area. The removable air intake screen quickly snaps off for cleaning.



Lift pivots are simplified. The new reel design is rugged, linear and easy to service.

The gas unit offers the added advantage of its Automated Control Electronics or ACE™. A Toro exclusive that aids the mechanic in

determining hydraulic versus electrical problems. All in all, the 3200 is designed to turn downtime into short time.

## On Your Schedule

You're buying the best equipment in the industry, so why not keep it that way. Using Toro original equipment parts is the only way you can be assured that your Greensmaster® 3200 will operate exactly as designed. You say you need your parts right away? Our parts are backed by the 24 Hour Fast Track Delivery guarantee, or your parts are free\*. No one in the industry can match the availability and delivery capabilities better than Toro and your local Toro distributor. Ask your distributor for more details.



\*24 Hour Fast Track delivery is available in the 48 contiguous states and covers only parts supported by The Toro Company, Minneapolis, and does not include irrigation or certain engine parts. Program subject to carrier delivery restrictions.

## Innovation and Quality

The Greensmaster 3200 is a revolutionary product that far exceeds conventional greens mower results providing the highest in quality of cut and enhancing operator capabilities for the best performance. What remains is your testimony. See your local Toro distributor today for the ultimate proof — a demonstration experience you won't regret.

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# A journey through the ACSP certification process

## Part 2



BY GREG PLOTNER  
AND SHELLY FOY

**I**n part two of the series on becoming a fully certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary, the Medalist Golf Club is applying for certification in Water Conservation and Water Quality Management.

But first, let's see how we did with the Resource Inventory and Environmental Planning category.

After completing the Resource Inventory for Medalist Golf Club, it was sent to Audubon International staff for their review. They in turn sent us an Audubon Conservation Report written specifically for Medalist Golf Club. This report contains an overview, as well as specific projects and programs they feel would be beneficial to the golf course.

The four-page Medalist Audubon Conservation Report commended us for the extensive amount of natural habitats that were preserved, including wetlands, pine scrub and sand pine flatwoods, and the careful use of resources to prevent pollution and depletion.

*Recommended Projects within the Conservation Report are as follows:*

### Wildlife & Habitat Management:

- Create wildlife "corridors" between habitat areas
- Plant flowers for hummingbirds, butterflies and songbirds
- Mount and monitor nesting boxes
- Mount a bird feeder
- Begin a wildlife inventory
- Add shoreline vegetation to water features where possible

### Public Involvement & Education:

- Display registration certificate and other ACSP information
- Host wildlife walks or habitat tours
- Mount educational signs in naturalized areas
- Use newsletter to promote conservation efforts and educate golfers
- Create a simple brochure to highlight your ACSP participation
- Encourage homeowners/neighborhood properties to get involved
- Invite local groups or school classes to help with projects such as nest boxes or wildlife inventories

### Integrated Pest Management:

- Expand scouting and monitoring - designate one lead scout
- Reduce turf stress from carts, low cutting heights, and traffic
- Mount bat houses

### Water Conservation and Water Quality Management:

- Mulch landscape plantings and garden areas
- Improve aquatic habitat and reduce nutrient inputs around water features by planting shoreline vegetation
- Discourage golfer activity and avoid heavy maintenance in and around wetlands
- Evaluate maintenance area for actual or potential water quality problems

When applying for certification in any category, Audubon staff will send you a Certification Status Report (which is new). This report lets you know exactly where you stand in the program; Categories Achieved, Categories Pending, and Categories Remaining. There is also a Certification Summary.

The Certification Summary for the Environmental Planning category let us know that additional development in IPM would be needed before certification could be granted, which includes:

- 1) Maintenance of written records including monitoring activities, control measures used, and results
- 2) Reduction of turf stress due to carts, traffic, or low mowing heights
- 3) Use of least toxic pest controls

Additional projects will also need to be developed in the Public/Member Involvement category. Suggestions were offered such as putting up a display in the clubhouse or pro shop using certificates, art prints and photographs of projects we are working on. It was also suggested that we pursue having local community experts on wildlife help with specific projects.

We found both the Audubon Conservation Report and the Certification Status Report to be well written and filled with good information and suggestions for project implementation. Our Resource Advisory Committee will be meeting soon to start working on some of the recommendations.

The following is information submitted for certification in Water Conservation and Water Quality Management. We're making progress here at the Medalist Club toward becoming a fully certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary, and we hope you are too!

## Certification for Water Conservation

Water conservation efforts at Medalist Golf Club have been implemented that demonstrate the Club's commitment to wise water use and environmental stewardship. The Club understands the importance of water conservation and the perils of the overuse of water.



The following is an overview of the Water Conservation Program for Medalist Golf Club:

### **Irrigation System**

Medalist Golf Club has a Rain Bird Maxi - System V Irrigation System in use at the present time. The Maxi System allows us to interact among the various field satellites (Rain Bird MSC 24) in order to maximize the overall efficiency of the entire irrigation system. The irrigation heads are predominately Rain Bird Eagle Rotors.

Connected to the Maxi System V is the Maxi Weather Station. The station monitors daily climatic conditions, such as rain, wind speed and direction, solar radiation, air temperature and humidity. This monitoring allows the weather station to calculate an ET value for the previous 24-hour period. This information is then communicated to the Maxi System.

The Maxi System will then provide for automatic daily adjustments to the irrigation schedules. Due to soil conditions that tend to be very sandy and have high infiltration rates, normal irrigation cycles tend to be set at 100% of the daily ET rate.

Also connected to the Maxi System V is the Freedom System for Maxi. This is a radio operated system that integrates with the Maxi to provide control of the irriga-

tion system from remote locations. The Freedom also provides voice communication to and from the field as well as remote locations.

These hand held units save us a lot of valuable time by being able to access the irrigation system from anywhere on the golf course. The Freedom System also allows for telephone calls to be received in the field, which is sometimes very convenient.

### **Water Source**

Three sources of water are available for irrigation use at Medalist Golf Club. Our primary source is effluent water that is received from Hydrotech Utilities in Hobe Sound. The water is directly piped to our irrigation lake and quantities received are recorded daily.

If sufficient quantities of effluent water are not received for irrigation purposes, there are two 4-inch groundwater wells available for use. It is our intent to limit the withdrawals of groundwater for irrigation purposes to the maximum extent possible.

A third source of water is also available for irrigation purposes. All storm water and irrigation water is retained on the golf course, with excess water being captured and transferred back to the irrigation lake for future reuse.

It was Medalist Golf Club's desire to use this water as our primary source for irrigation purposes, but an upcoming modification in our water-use permit will prevent this water from being used. A more thorough explanation of why the storm water cannot be used for irrigation will be discussed when Medalist Golf Club applies for Certification in Water Quality Management.

### **Watered Areas and Frequency**

Irrigation at Medalist Golf Club is minimized to the maximum extent possible at all times and watering is avoided as much as possible during peak evaporation periods. We recognize that the amount of water a plant requires to stay healthy can vary greatly from day to day.

Our Maxi System V, that is ET sensitized, when used properly, allows us to

save resources such as water, power and turf products while improving the quality of the playing surfaces. Irrigating when needed and in the proper quantities equates to better overall plant health.

Medalist Golf Club is unique in the fact that there is no cut of rough on the golf course. Fairway acreage is approximately 27 acres and is normally watered 2 to 3 times per week. Greens, tees and approaches are closely monitored and watered on an "as needed" basis. Hand syringing in these areas is often done to keep "hot spots" to a minimum.

### **Water Recapture and Reuse**

As mentioned previously, Medalist Golf Club captures all storm water and irrigation water received on the golf course through an extensive collection system and then transfers this captured water back to the irrigation lake with the use of a series of pumps. This water is then available for future reuse purposes. Absolutely no discharge of storm water or irrigation water is to occur at Medalist Golf Club at this time. A modification of our water use permit in the near future will change this.

***Absolutely no discharge  
of storm water or  
irrigation water is to  
occur at Medalist Golf  
Club at this time***

### **Turfgrasses**

Medalist Golf Club has Tifdwarf bermudagrass greens, tees and approaches. Fairways are 419 hybrid bermudagrass with the exception of Fairways #17 and #18 which are GN-1, a new hybrid bermudagrass on the market. There are only 40 acres of turfgrass on the golf course and all is mowed to a height of 1/2" or less. There is no cut of rough on the course.