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2008 PLANTS OF THE YEAR

Sabal minor

Common Name: Dwarf Palmetto

Zones: North, Central and South

Mature Height and Spread: 4' - 6' tall and 4' - 6' wide

Classification: Shrub, palm

Landscape Use: Mass, specimen, under planting

Characteristics: A durable, cold-tolerant, Southeast native, this palm is small and drought tolerant with fan shaped fronds. The foliage is green to blue-green. Long stalks of fragrant white flowers grow in late spring or early summer, producing small black fruits enjoyed by wildlife. It grows well in a wide range of soil types and light conditions. The dwarf palmetto usually appears trunkless due its subterranean trunk, and adds a great native touch when a small-scale plant is needed.

Propagation: By seed



Quercus geminata

Common Name: Sand Live Oak

Zones: North, Central & Northern areas of the South zone

Mature Height and Spread: Typically 20- - 30' tall and 15' - 20' wide; can reach 50' - 60' inland.

Classification: Tree

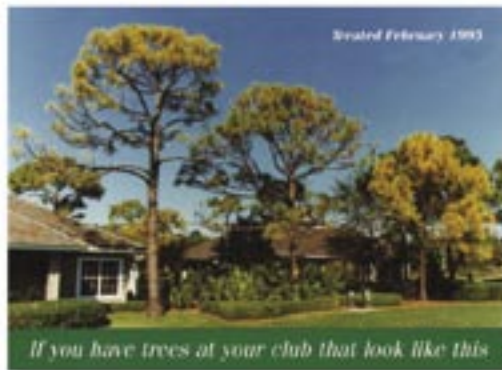
Landscape Use: Street tree, specimen, dune restoration

Characteristics: Similar to southern live oak but smaller in stature, this salt-tolerant and drought-tolerant, Florida native tree has an irregular growth habit and spreading canopy. Some forms are tree-like and some may form a thicket. The dark green cupped leaves are distinctly boat-shaped with a whitish grey underside. The acorns are sought by wildlife. The Sand Live Oak has proven severe storm durability, making it an ideal tree for Florida's sometimes stormy environment.

Propagation: By seed



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The Critics Have Spoken.

*These are actual superintendent quotes from early demos of Jacobsen's new **ECLIPSE™ 122 F** walking greens mower.*

"I like the command center and onboard computer. The clip rate is superior."

– Current Toro/John Deere Customer

*"This unit is superior to other units we've demoed. I like the on-demand reel speed, floating cutting unit. **SOLD!**"*

– Current John Deere Customer

"I like the option of gas or battery. The unit has a more flexible head and more clips per cut than our current walking greens mower. I will probably buy this mower."

– Current Toro Customer

"Much better than our current walking greens mower. I like the simplicity of the reel and traction drives."

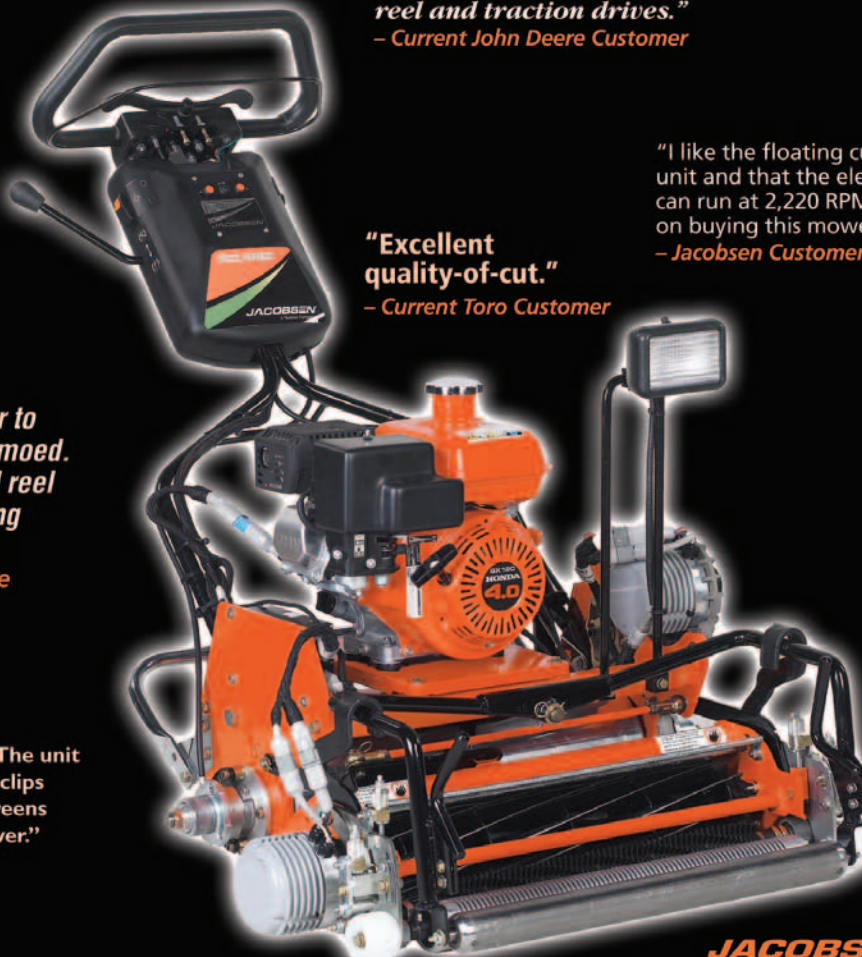
– Current John Deere Customer

"Excellent quality-of-cut."

– Current Toro Customer

"I like the floating cutting unit and that the electric reels can run at 2,220 RPM. I plan on buying this mower."

– Jacobsen Customer



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– Current Toro/John Deere Customer

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GSDC unveils No-Till TifEagle initiative

By Sam Williams

The Georgia Seed Development Commission and TifEagle Growers Association have designated six TifEagle growers as “Authorized No-Till TifEagle Grower/Installers.” They are listed at the end of this article.

According to Dr. Mike Garland, director of GSDC, “These six top-quality growers have been specially trained and authorized to handle all no-till TifEagle sales, on-site inspections and installations. These folks have also agreed to the additional safeguards we felt were essential for our no-till

TifEagle initiative.

“For starters, their no-till TifEagle production fields will be inspected three times each year for varietal purity and problem weeds. As an additional safeguard, all no-till TifEagle production fields will be inspected and tested for sting and lance nematodes. And to ensure freshness and planting uniformity all no-till TifEagle sprigs will first be cleaned and milled to remove thatch, dirt and overly large sprigs and clumps, and then delivered in sealed plastic bags or refrigerated trucks.

“And lastly, these growers have committed to multiple follow-up inspections to ensure customer satisfaction. Our goal is to make sure our customers get a rapid, problem-free grow-in.”

prep can also be done with your own crews and equipment to fit your own schedule. Bottom line, you get a speedy conversion from poor quality greens to TifEagle, the ultimate ultradwarf putting surface.

UNIQUE ADVANTAGES OF TIFEAGLE

TifEagle is grown, inspected and sold under a rigorous set of rules and guidelines set up by the Georgia Seed Development Commission to promote on-going purity and uniformity. In fact, TifEagle is the only ultradwarf variety that has this kind of unbiased third-party oversight. This ensures that the TifEagle sprigs you receive are not contaminated with offtypes, which may occur in the Tifgreen/Tifdwarf family of cultivars.

TifEagle has a number of other unique advantages over traditional bermudagrass greens varieties, as well as many of the new ultradwarf varieties. When maintained at a cutting height of 0.125 inch (3.2mm), TifEagle produces a quality putting surface second to none. It exhibits very aggressive rhizomatous and stoloniferous growth habits, maintains superior color under cool conditions and provides an excellent putting surface during the winter season, with or without overseeding. In fact, many superintendents are reporting excellent results with painted TifEagle greens.

EDITOR’S NOTE: *We don’t normally run news releases because we simply don’t have enough space to accommodate every request. We make exceptions from time to time for new technology which may have a measurable impact on turf management. Such is the case here, where the cost and water savings can be significant in these times of a flat economy and water conservation mandates. Sam Williams is a communication professional who represents the TifEagle Growers. Also please note that several Florida courses have used the No Till process with Champion Ultradwarf.*

Authorized No-Till TifEagle Grower/Installers

NewLife Turf, Norway SC, 803-263-4231, 803 263-4886 (Fax); John Brown (newlifeturf@tds.net); Bragg Williams (newlifeturf@tds.net)

Pike Creek Turf, Inc., Adel GA, 800-232-7453, 229 896-7581, 229 896-7584 (Fax) www.pikecreekturf.com; Harold Pirkle (hpirkle@pikecreekturf.com); Bruce Allison (bvallison@att.net)

South Florida Grassing, Inc. - Hobe Sound FL, 800-483-4279 (Florida), 772-546-4191, 772 546-3482 (Fax); Homer Greene (hgreene7@comcast.net)

Southern Turf Nurseries, Inc. - Alapaha GA, 800-841-6413, 229-686-2020, 229-686-6552 (Fax); www.southernturf.com; Anna Tillman (annatillman@hughes.net)

Tifton Turf Farms - Tifton GA, 800-841-6645, 229-386-8061, 229-386-1207 (Fax); www.tiftonturf.com; Paul Massey (pcmassey56@bellsouth.net)

Tri-Tex Grass - Tioga TX, 866-573-6676, 817-573-6676, 817 573-4958 (Fax); www.tritexgrass.com; Randy Price (randy@tritexgrass.com)

THE NO-TILL PROCESS

No-till or minimum-till is not a new concept. The practice has been around for a number of years and has proven to be an excellent method for reducing production costs, preserving soil moisture, and reducing soil and nutrient loss for many crops. In recent years, a specialized “no-till process” has been successfully used on golf courses to hold down the costs associated with greens renovations. It basically involves applying Roundup or methyl bromide to kill the existing grass and verticutting down to the stolon/rhizome/top-dressing interface to create a healthy seedbed, followed by a thorough clean-up of all debris. The final steps include aeration, topdressing and, of course, distribution of fresh new TifEagle sprigs.

NO-TILL RENOVATION

No-till TifEagle can save you up to 75% of the cost of conventional greens reconstruction. Complete rebuild-costs range from \$1.50 to \$4.00 per sq. ft. versus 45 cents to 80 cents per sq. ft. for no-till. Time saved is another big factor. Six to eight weeks is normal turnaround for no-till versus 10 to 18 weeks for a complete rebuild. Reduced downtime greatly reduces lost revenue. Site

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Terry Brawley
(727) 638-3481
West



Seaside Elementary School students tour the Camp Creek G.C. in a more ambitious outreach program . Photo courtesy of the USGA.

Never Underestimate the Importance of Positive Messages About Golf and the Environment

by: Shelly Foy

What a terrible story emerged recently about a PGA Tour player who hit golf balls at a red-shouldered hawk whose screeching was disrupting a video taping session back in December of 2007. He ended up killing the federally protected bird whether by accident or on purpose; we'll never really know. What I do know is that this kind of stupid incident will have a negative impact for golf.

This is just one more reason, in the many that we have given over the years, why it is important to let people know that the golf industry as a whole cares about environmental stewardship. Superintendents and golfers in general enjoy and appreciate the wildlife they see on the golf course. We need to keep demonstrating and documenting golf's overwhelming positive impact on the environment.

The photo essay in this issue shows examples of outreach and education projects happening on golf courses around the country. A lot of you stumble over this particular section of the ACSP for Golf Courses and I receive a lot of calls asking, "What can we do"? In upcoming issues of this magazine, I will continue to highlight simple, yet effective ways of reaching out to others about golf's positive influence on the environment.

A simple poster attached to a water cooler at the Eglin AFB Golf Course, right, tells the story. Photo courtesy USGA.



A photo album in the TPC Tampa Bay clubhouse reaches not only golfers but diners and other visitors. Photo by Joel Jackson.



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Certified Florida Members of the Audubon Sanctuary Programs

We'd like to recognize the following Florida golf courses that have taken the proactive initiative to enroll and become certified in one of the several Audubon International Sanctuary Programs. New developments and courses that plan and design their projects with the assistance of AI can belong to the Signature Series.

Existing golf courses can join the Cooperative Sanctuary Program. Beyond this impressive list are a number of courses who have joined the program but have not yet reached full certification. Members of the AI staff also helped to write our Golf Course BMP Manual which was also drafted and published with the help

of the Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection and other agencies and the University of Florida IFAS faculty.

There is a list of official Audubon Stewards also in this section. They can be a resource to help you join and get certified in this worthwhile program which will help preserve our environment and save money for your operation. And I would venture a guess that if you know the superintendent at one of these courses, they would also be willing to help you with the program.

GOLD SIGNATURE SANCTUARIES

The Old Collier Club, Naples

WCI Golf Courses:

- Evergrene, Palm Beach Gardens
- Hammock Bay G&CC, Marco
- Old Palm, Palm Beach Gardens
- Pelican Preserve, Ft. Myers
- Raptor Bay, Bonita Springs
- Tuscany Reserve, Naples
- Venetian G&RC, Venice

SILVER SIGNATURE SANCTUARIES

- The Club at Mediterra, Naples
- Eagle Ridge, Summerfield
- Masters and Memorial
- Old Corkscrew, Estero
- St. James Bay, Carrabelle
- Shark's Tooth, Panama City
- The Aerie, Naples
- Villages of Marion (*The Villages*)
- Nancy Lopez Legacy CC
- Amberwood Nine
- Briarwood Nine
- Oakleigh Nine
- Walnut Grove Nine
- Villages of Sumter Phase I (*The Villages*)
- Belevedere Course (Churchill Downs & Pimlico)
- Sunset Pointe (Heron & Pelican)
- Palmer Legends GC (Cherry Hill, Laurel Valley & Riley Grove)
- Villages of Sumter Phase II (*The Villages*)
- Cane Garden & Sunset Point
- Villages of Sumter Phase III (*The Villages*)
- Key Largo (Bogart & Bacall)
- WCI – Lost Key GC, Perdido Key

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COOPERATIVE SANCTUARY PROGRAMS

Amelia Island Plantation, Amelia Island
 Arlington Ridge Golf Club, Leesburg
 Bent Creek Golf Course, Jacksonville (fka
 Golf Club of Jacksonville)
 Bonita Bay Club, Bonita Springs
 Bay Island Course
 Creekside Course
 Marsh Course
 Bonita Bay Community Association,
 Bonita Springs
 The Brooks, Bonita Springs
 Camp Creek Golf Club, Palm City Beach
 Card Sound Golf Club, Key Largo
 Chi Chi Rodriguez Golf Club, Clearwater
 Copperleaf Golf Club, Bonita Spring
 Country Club of Florida, Village of Golf
 Country Club of Naples, Naples
 Crandon Golf at Key Biscayne, Key

Biscayne
 Crown Colony Golf & Country Club, Fort
 Myers
 Eglin Golf Club, Niceville
 Floridian, Stuart
 FoxFire Golf and Country Club, Naples
 Frenchman's Reserve, Palm Beach
 Gardens
 Gainesville Country Club, Gainesville
 Golf Club of Jacksonville, Jacksonville
 Grand Harbor Club, Vero Beach
 Grande Pines Golf Club, Orlando
 Griffin Industries, Inc. – Hampton Plant,
 Hampton
 Griffin Industries, Inc. – Orlando Plant,
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 Griffin Industries, Inc. – Tampa Plant,
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 Hammock Dunes Club, Palm Coast
 Creek Course
 Links Course
 Harbour Ridge Yacht & Country Club, Palm
 City
 Hawk's Nest Golf Club, Vero Beach
 Heron Bay Golf Club, Coral Springs

High Ridge Golf Course, Lantana
 Hobe Sound Elementary School, Hobe
 Sound
 Hole-in-the-Wall Golf Club, Naples
 IGM Courses
 Aquarina Country Club, Melbourne
 Beach
 Arrowhead Golf Course, Naples
 Brooksville Golf & Country Club,
 Brooksville
 The Habitat Golf Course, Malabar
 Maple Leaf Golf and Country Club,
 Port Charlotte
 Sandridge Golf Club, Vero Beach
 Spessard Holland Golf Club, Melbourne
 Beach
 The Savannahs, Merritt Island
 Interlachen Country Club, Winter Park
 Ironwood Municipal Golf Course,
 Gainesville
 John's Island Club – West Course, Vero
 Beach
 Lake Buena Vista Club, Lake Buena Vista
 Lakewood Ranch Golf and Country Club,
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 Lemon Bay Golf Club, Englewood
 The Links at Boynton Beach, Boynton Beach

Loblolly Pines Golf Club, Hobe Sound
 Long Marsh Golf Course, Englewood
 Magnolia Golf Course, Lake Buena Vista
 Mariposa Elementary School, Port St. Lucie

Mizner Country Club, Delray Beach
 The Moorings Country Club, Naples
 Naples Lakes Country Club, Naples
 Old Marsh Golf Club, Palm Beach Gardens
 Olde Florida Golf Club, Naples
 Orchid Island Golf & Beach Club, Orchid
 Osprey Ridge Golf Course, Lake Buena Vista

Out Door Resort Orlando, Orlando
 Palencia Golf Club, St. Augustine
 Palm Golf Course, Lake Buena Vista
 Pelican Marsh Golf Club, Naples
 Pelican's Nest Golf Club, Bonita Springs



Pelican Sound Golf & River Club, Estero
 Plantation Preserve Golf Course & Club, Plantation

Quail Ridge Country Club, Boynton Beach
 Regatta Bay Golf and Country Club, Destin

Royal Poinciana Golf Club, Naples
 The Sanctuary Golf Club, Sanibel Island
 Shadow Wood Country Club, Bonita Springs

Shadow Wood Preserve Country Club, Fort Myers

Sterling Oaks, Naples

Stonebridge Country Club, Naples

Tampa Palms Golf & Country Club, Tampa

The Ritz-Carlton Golf Club & Spa - Jupiter,
 Tiburón Golf Club, Naples
 TPC Courses

Eagle Trace, Coral Springs
 Prestancia, Sarasota
 Sawgrass, Ponte Verde Beach
 Tampa Bay, Lutz

The Townsend Property, Jacksonville
 University of Florida, Gainesville
 Venice Golf and Country Club, Venice

WCI Communities – Corporate Offices, Bonita Springs

Wilderness Country Club, Naples

Windstar Country Club, Naples

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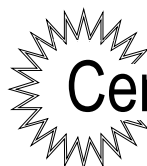
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