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The New Jacobsen Eclipse 322 Battery Riding Greens Mower

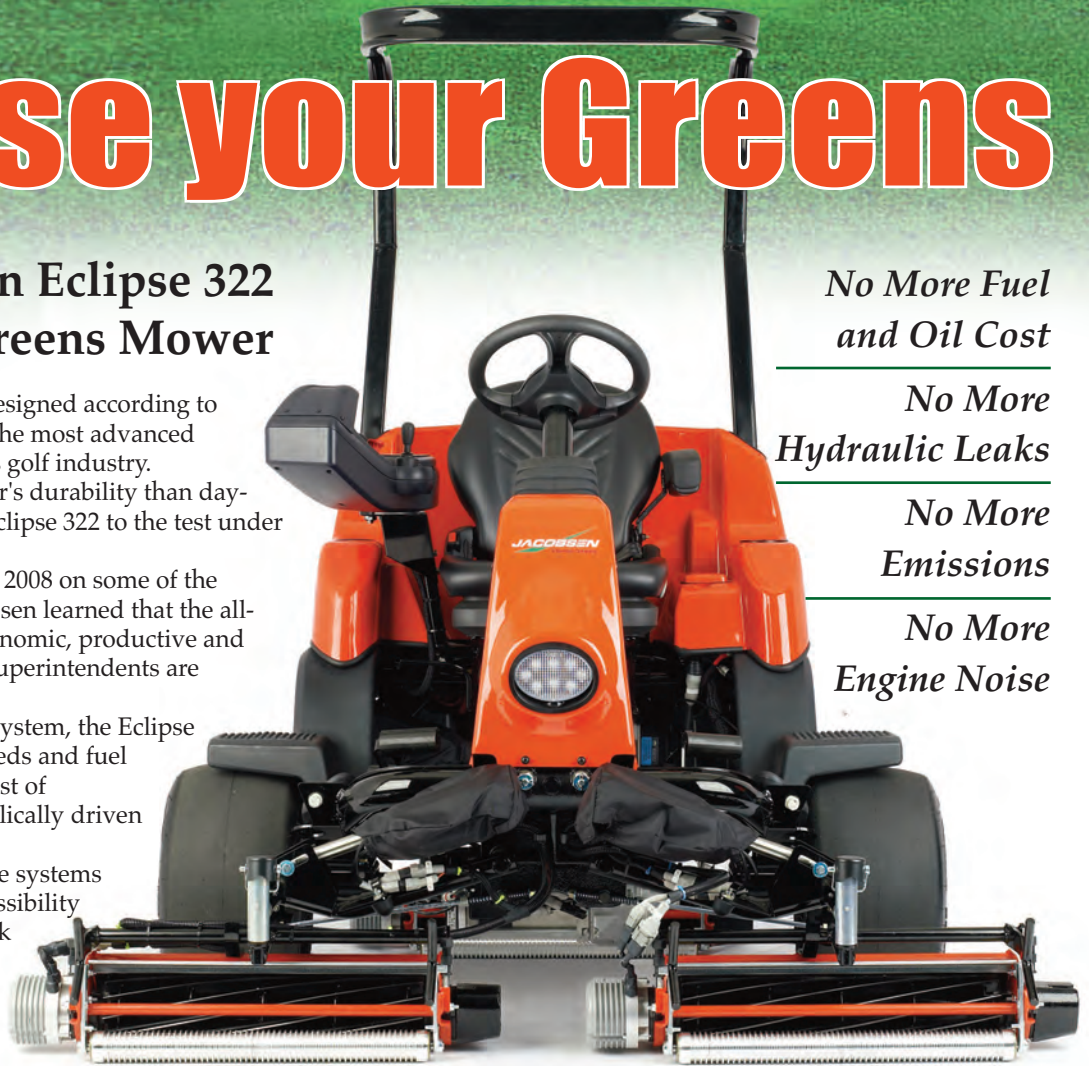
The new Eclipse 322 has been designed according to specific customer feedback and is the most advanced greens mower available for today's golf industry.

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CONTENTS

- 2 SPOTLIGHT**
- 8 COVER STORY**
- 20 HANDS ON**
- 26 INDUSTRY NEWS**
- 32 STEWARDSHIP**
- 36 AFTERWORDS**
- President's Message..... 1
- FGCSA Officers & Directors 2
- Calendar 4
- Course Facts 12
- Super Tip 24
- Green Section Update..... 27
- Green Side Up 36
- Advertiser Index..... 36

ON THE COVER: *Number 17, Tampa Palms G&CC, Tampa. Photo by Daniel Zelazek.*

Spring is Regeneration Time

It was great to see many of you at the GIS in San Diego. Congratulations to Bob Randquist, CGCS of the Boca Rio Golf Club, our newly elected vice president of the GCSAA. Our Florida reception was once again a big hit. Thanks to Jennifer for finding another unique location for our annual gathering. Thanks to all who attended, and thank you to all of our sponsors. Without your help and support the reception would not be possible.



Bill Kistler
President

What a winter! I hope everyone survived the unusually cold weather we've had this year. By now, if you overseeded your course, hopefully transition is under way. If you did not overseed, your bermudagrass has no competition and should be coming back and starting to look good.

This spring looks to be different from most. Not only will we be getting our courses ready for the annual member/guest events but many of us also will be replacing cold-damaged land-

scape plants around our clubhouses.

As I ride the course each morning observing the many white-tailed deer with their fawns, I am reminded that spring is a time of regeneration.

After this long winter season with its extreme cold weather, this could also be a time for us as superintendents to regenerate ourselves. Take moment and look back. Focus on the positive things that were accomplished. Thank your staff and crew for their hard work during those frosty mornings and disrupted schedules.

Now focus on what lies ahead. Let your staff and crew know what the next several months will bring, like course-wide fertilization, aerification, mole cricket control, and member and/or outside events to prepare for. Just like spring training, we need to get our teams excited and ready to go for summer season projects.

Don't forget to keep a watchful eye on any local city and county meetings concerning fertilizer and other environmental issues like water quality and use. Make sure your members are informed about these meetings as well and how they could affect their lawns and lawn care companies' ability to maintain their private property.

As always, good luck and success with your chapter's spring events and activities so we can continue to pursue education, networking with peers and helping fund turf research to make our courses environmentally and economically sustainable in these challenging times.



Improve Your Water-Use Efficiency

Regularly checking irrigation head nozzles and operation for efficiency and conservation is just one of seven tips on improving water-use efficiency in Stewardship, Page 34.



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Host and speakers at the 2020 CFGCSA/FTGA Research Tournament, from left: Stuart Leventhal, CGCS; CFGCSA Vice President Bill Beasley; FTGA Sec/Treas Armando Campos; and Dr. Kevin Kenworthy UF/IFAS. Photo by Joel Jackson.

Warm Spots in a Chilly New Year

The Central Florida GCSA kicked off its New Year by holding the FTGA Turf Research Tournament at the Interlachen CC in Winter Park. Stuart Leventhal, CGCS and the Interlachen CC have been hosting the event for 22 years. Speakers at the event included Bill Beasley, external vice president of the CFGCSA, Armando Campos, secretary/treasurer of the FTGA, Joel Jackson executive director of the FGCSA.

The principal speaker, Dr. Kevin

Kenworthy from UF/IFASA, gave an update on the turfgrass breeding projects funded by the FTGA in cooperation with the FGCSA. The chapter picks up the cost of the lunch and Interlachen donates the golf, so all entry fees went directly to the FTGA Research Foundation to the tune of \$2,500.

Three-time winner of the event John Lammrith teamed up with golf pro Dave Ragan III to represent the LPGA International GC and capture Low Gross honors.

The FGCSA Winter Board Meeting was held at the Disney's Grand



Treasure Coast GCSAA's scholarship awards winners, from left: Tim Cann, TCGCSA president; Justin Allison, Victor Faconti, Jake Connolly, and Chris Gast, scholarship chairman. Photo courtesy of TGCSA.



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San Diego skyline view from the rooftop reception at the Solamar Hotel in the Gas Lamp Quarter.

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Superintendent John Lammrigh, CGCS, left, and Golf Pro Dave Ragan III from the LPGA International GC teamed up to win the CFGCSA/FTGA Tournament. Photo by Joel Jackson.



found a very competitively priced and unique venue in the rooftop Lounge Six of the Solamar Hotel in the Gas Lamp Quarter just a couple of blocks up from the convention center.

Thanks to the generosity of those attending the reception, we raised \$1,060 for the FGCSA Benevolent Fund. Jim Montgomery of Greensmiths,

Floridian Hotel Conference Center Jan. 22. During the meeting, the board voted to authorize the dual use of the FGCSA and GCSAA logos on official correspondence and e-mails. In 2007 the board authorized the dual logo use on the Florida Green magazine covers. During the research committee report, Kevin Sunderman from the West Coast GCSA presented a \$1,500 check for the FGCSA Research Account to

kick off the 2010 fundraising year.

In February, around 200 members, suppliers and guests attended the FGCSA Reception at the GIS in San Diego. As expected, overall attendance numbers were down about 7 percent, a definite sign of the times. Normally the FGCSA has around 300 to 350 attendees at our West Coast receptions. Association Manager Jennifer Innes did her homework and



Kevin Sunderman, left, presented a \$1,500 check to FGCSA President Bill Kistler for the FGCSA Research Account during the 2010 Winter Board Meeting at Disney. Photo by Joel Jackson.

2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

- 6 – FGCSA Spring Board Meeting & Awards Dinner, Naples
- 6 – Palm Beach Chapter Meeting, Broken Sound CC
- 7 – FGCSA/USGA Seminar and Poa Annuu G.C.Horn Memorial Tournament, Naples
- 8 – EGCSA Poa Annuu Classic and Luau, Naples Beach Hotel
- 17 – TCGCSA Blue Pearl Tournament, The Medalist GC, Hobe Sound
- 19 – UF/IFAS Field Day, G.C. Horn Turf Plots, Citra
- 19 – West Coast Chapter meeting, Lake Jovita GC
- TBA – Suncoast GCSAA Annual Meeting

JUNE

- 5 – Palm Beach GCSA Future of Golf Tournament, The Falls CC
- 17 – Seven Rivers Annual Meeting & Vendor Appreciation Day
- TBA – West Coast Chapter Championship, Old Memorial GC

JULY

- 29 – Palm Beach GCSA Annual Meeting, Polo Club of Boca Raton
- 30 – 8:00 AM Half Day Crowfoot Seminar
- 31 – Annual Larry Kamphaus Crowfoot Open
- TBA – North Florida Chapter Annual Meeting
- TBA – South Florida Chapter Annual Meeting

AUGUST

- 2 – West Coast Pro/Superintendent Tournament

SEPTEMBER

- 15-17 – FTGA Conference and Show, Caribe Royale Hotel, Lake Buena Vista
- TBA – Central Florida Memorial Scholarship Tournament, Lake Nona Club
- TBA – Joint Meeting Palm Beach GCSA and South Florida GCSA

OCTOBER

- TBA – Joint Meeting Palm Beach GCSA and Treasure Coast GCSA, Jupiter Island Club
- TBA – South Florida M&E Charity Tournament
- TBA – West Coast Bud Quandt Tournament, Tampa Palm G&CC

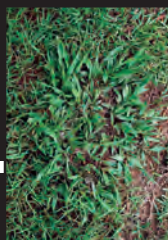


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Paspalum setaceum (Thin Paspalum), also called Bull Paspalum, is a warm-season perennial in the family Poaceae, found throughout much of the United States but primarily along the eastern corridor. Thin Paspalum can be identified by its flat, hairy to almost smooth, leaf blades. This weed produces short rhizomes and can form a clump.



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Thanks to Jim Montgomery, center, for donating his Benevolent Raffle winnings back to the Benevolent Fund at the FGCSA Reception in San Diego. Pictured with Jim are Mark Henderson, Gulfstream GC, left, and Mike Bonetti, Fertigation Specialists, Inc. Photo by Joel Jackson.



Inc. won the Benevolent Raffle and donated his winnings back to the Fund. We hope to see many more of you at the reception in Orlando next year. Jennifer is already searching for another interesting and convenient location.

Also at this year's GIS, a couple of our members were recognized with Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards. This program recognizes golf course superintendents and their courses for overall course management excellence in the areas of resource conservation, water quality management, integrated pest management, wildlife/habitat management and education/outreach. In

addition, these categories are judged on sustainability, criticality, originality and technology implementation/use.

An independent panel of judges representing national environmental groups, turfgrass experts, university research departments, and members of the golf community selected the 2009 ELGA Florida winners: Chapter Winner - Todd Draffen, TPC Treviso Bay, Naples, Everglades GCSA; and Merit Winner - R. Shane Wright, CGCS; Vero Beach CC, Treasure Coast GCSA.

Jeff Strother, president of the Suncoast Chapter told John Peirsol, head of the Lake City Golf & Landscape

Operations Program that after the chapter's Suncoast Scramble tournament March 25, they will be donating \$1,000 towards the new LCCC environmental project and a new \$1,000 scholarship for a second-year GCO student to be \$500 per semester.

The Treasure Coast Chapter recently awarded three scholarships to local students who have excelled within the industry and in the classroom. Each received a check for \$1000 to assist in their education. Each student's application included scholastic achievements and awards, interests, industry work history and an essay stating the student's career

goals. The winners:

• **Justin Allison**, a student at Indian River State College studying golf course management and an employee at Grand Harbor Country Club in Vero Beach.

• **Victor Faconti** is a student at Penn State University studying golf course management and has worked at Harbour Ridge Yacht and Country Club in Palm City.

• **Jake Connoly** is a student at Lake City Community College studying golf course management and has worked at Monarch Country Club in Stuart as well as Harbour Ridge Yacht and Country Club in Palm City. ■

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Paul Raymer
Paspalum Breeder

Dr. Raymer continues to work on developing enhanced paspalum cultivars for a range of fine-turf applications. His primary emphasis is on improving salt tolerance and disease resistance as well as turf quality traits. Currently our Sealsle 1 is in wide use on fairways and roughs, while Sealsle 2000 and Sealsle Supreme have proven themselves as excellent wall-to-wall cultivars. All three have exceptional turf quality and salt tolerance and are among the best paspalum varieties on the market.



Brian Schwartz
Bermudagrass Breeder

Dr. Schwartz is the newest member of TeamUGA. He's now responsible for our warm season breeding program in Tifton GA. Since January of 2009, Brian has worked side by side with Dr. Hanna and has been zeroing in on a bermudagrass with enhanced drought stress resistance. So far it has demonstrated the ability to maintain turf quality without



water 12 to 14 days longer than present cultivars. Another of Brian's goals is to improve plant parasitic nematode tolerance, with a special focus on sting nematodes. He will also be initiating a zoysia-grass breeding program in 2010 to develop cultivars that are more widely adapted, faster growing and more disease resistant.

Wayne Hanna
Bermudagrass Breeder

Dr. Hanna's TifSport and TifEagle bermudagrasses are still two of the most popular cultivars available for golf course fairways, roughs, tees and high-end greens. In 2008, Dr. Hanna and a select group of TifEagle growers introduced a new "No-Till TifEagle" program, which can save clubs up to 75% of the cost of conventional greens reconstruction. TifGrand, Dr. Hanna's new shade-tolerant bermuda, has shown great promise in multiple golf course test locations and will be available in the spring of 2010.



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Hole 16 is the number-one handicap hole on the course. A 549-yard, par five that challenges you from every tee. Photo by Daniel Zelazek

Bring Your 'A' Game and Your Camera to Tampa Palms G&CC

Twenty-three years ago, noted architect Arthur Hills carved out a challenging 7,004-yard course in the wooded wetland wilderness just north of Tampa.

The multi-faceted property, now owned and operated by ClubCorp, Inc., has 25 guest suites in the clubhouse building, ample meeting space for conferences and events, private amenities for its country club members and a golf course that will require your best effort.

The diversity of the facility itself is matched only by the diversity of the teeming wildlife that can be enjoyed while chasing par down the tree lined fairways. I have been to Tampa Palms on several occasions, mostly to cover the West Coast GCSA's Annual Bud Quandt Tournament. I always come away with photos or sightings of several wildlife species. On my cover story visit in late February I saw critters from a half-dozen 8-to-10-foot alligators to playful otters. Superintendent Bill Kistler said earlier in the day he spied a buck and a doe and a bald eagle. Tampa Palms has been a certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary since 1993

Because the course was built in a lowland setting, 11 lakes covering 68 acres were excavated to provide enough fill to raise the course above the wetlands. Kistler recounted meeting the architect on the 15th anniversary of Tampa Palms. As they played the course, Kistler said Hills winked as he said, "I knew we had to raise up the fairways because of the wetlands, but I can't figure out why I didn't make them wider."

"He used up every golf ball in his bag and mine by the 16th hole," Kistler said. But with four sets of tees on every hole, golfers can easily find a yardage that fits their skill level.

Golfing challenges aside, being in a wetland setting has its pros and cons when it comes to turf management.

On the down side, the extreme heat and humidity in the summer keep Kistler and staff on the look out for possible disease outbreaks. "We have been following a fungus control program by Syngenta," he said. "It is a preventive program for bermuda greens and provides a good guide for understanding conditions and rotating products to provide maximum protection against disease damage."

Kistler says they also have to be mindful of shade issues from the trees as they mature. "We have been able maintain good light conditions with strategic thinning of tree canopies. Back in 2001, the city of Tampa allowed the removal of 50 trees that were critically impacting several greens," he said.



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On the plus side of the location, because of the naturally organic, heavy soils, when irrigation restrictions — such as the current three days per week watering of greens and tees, and twice per week on fairways and roughs — it is easier to maintain the soil moisture in the turf root zone.

“Since we can only automatically irrigate three times

SUPERINTENDENT FACTS



BILL KISTLER

Originally From: Vandalia, Ohio

Family: Wife Sharon and stepsons, Dustin and Shawn Barrett

Education: Turf certificate from U. of Georgia.

Graduated from American Institute of Banking

Employment: 2002-present, Superintendent Tampa Palms G&CC; 2000-2002, Assistant Superintendent (AS), Countryside CC, Clearwater; 1998-2000 AS, IGM Tarpon Springs GC; 1993-1998 (Crew, Spray Tech, Foreman and finally AS), Dunedin CC.

Professional Affiliations & Offices Held: Current FGCSA president; past president Florida West Coast GCSA; GCSAA Member Relations Committee; Received 2004 & 2006 ClubCorp Super Star Award.

Work philosophy and advice: Don't take things so seriously you don't have fun with what you do. Manage your time and balance work and personal life. Don't be afraid to ask for help. Sometimes superintendents wait until it's too late before asking for help.

Goals: Accomplishing one goal of giving back to the industry as I complete volunteer board service to the West Coast and Florida GCSA. It has been an honor and personally rewarding for me to serve.

Hobbies & Interests: Golf and watching THE Ohio State University football and basketball games.