

# Take the Sting Out of Fire Ant Control. All Summer Long.



Featuring the latest formulation technology, Fipronil Broadcast is powered by the active ingredient found in TopChoice® insecticide. Get the same surefire, long-lasting control plus the value you've come to expect from Quali-Pro. To learn more about Fipronil 0.0143G contact Vera Gasparini  
Ph: (407) 920-2463 • Email: [vgasparini@quali-pro.com](mailto:vgasparini@quali-pro.com)  
or you may visit us online at [www.quali-pro.com](http://www.quali-pro.com).

***Ask about our Pallet Discount Program & Federal & State Funded Sites Program Running Now Through September 1st!***

**QUALI-PRO**  
Quality Turf & Ornamental Products

## Regulator Reality Check

Twelve years ago, the Florida GCSA joined the allied group of agriculture and green industries in sponsoring a Spring Regulator Tour that brought EPA regulators from Washington and Atlanta, and Florida regulators from the Florida Depts. of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Water Management Districts, Mosquito Control Districts and some local county officials.

The annual event takes place each March as the Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association coordinates the tour which includes golf, nursery, sod, citrus, row crop, sugar cane, dairy and beef cattle operations. The regulators meet in Ft. Myers and, after an afternoon tour of the Old Collier Golf Club in Naples, they head east on SR 80 for a weeklong visit to facilities related to all those commodities mentioned above.

The FGCSA rents multi-passenger, golf-cart-powered trams for the golf course tour and host Tim Hiers CGCS takes advantage of that rental to also conduct an eco-tour for 5th graders from a nearby elementary school.

This is classic outreach and education. It is something we need to do more of on some scale at more golf courses throughout the state. Building working relationships and sharing information with regulators at all levels local, state and federal will reap benefits when it comes to discussing issues that crop up. We can also help our cause by educating the public and we can easily start with maintenance and eco-tours with our golfing customers, members, neighborhood school kids and bird watching groups.

Over the years I have watched the reaction of these regulators on the tour of Old Collier. When the facts of actual acreage under maintenance and the amounts of pesticides applied, the light begins to come on. And there is nothing better than the wildlife sightings as we ride the course. Given that mid-afternoon is not the best time for sightings, we still manage to find gopher tortoises, gators,



*The tour group stops to watch a family of bald eagles soaring over the Old Collier course. Photo by Joel Jackson. Eagle photo by Kyle Sweet.*





# YOUR BEST CHOICE FOR GOLF

- #1 For Shade Tolerance\***
- #1 For Divot Recovery\***
- #1 For Wear Tolerance\***
- #1 For Drought Resistance  
and Tolerance\***



[sodsolutions.com/FloridaGreen](http://sodsolutions.com/FloridaGreen)

*\* for complete research results, visit our website*



songbirds, wading birds and best of all ospreys and bald eagles in mid-air battles over a fish the osprey has captured.

Course design, irrigation management and the use of brackish water with seashore paspalum are also discussed. Finally, a putting contest and a tour of the maintenance facility followed by a barbecue dinner and Q&A session in the break room wrap up the day.

There are always other superintendents and speakers to share information and answer questions one on one. This year thanks to tight travel budgets there were only 20 regulators. My estimate is that 19 of them learned something new, while one remained adamant that water quality had to be compromised during the summer rainy season.

Helping Tim this year with tour hosting duties were Old Collier Superintendent Ricardo Uriarte, Sanctuary GC superintendent Kyle Sweet and his IPM Manager Jason Craft, local ornithologist George McBride and myself. Thanks also to Dan



*Regulators get a little “hands on” time by participating in a putting contest on the practice green. Earlier they witnessed hand mowing, aerifying and spray hawk demonstrations on the green. Photo by Joel Jackson.*

Botts and Mike Aerts of the FFVA for organizing these tours.

The FFVA has been doing a version of regulator tours for a long time. Every local superintendent chapter and/or course needs to do the same thing as regulators and politicians change all the time. The

late Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-NY) summed it all up when he said, “You are entitled to your own opinion, but you are not entitled to your own facts!”

If we openly share the facts with the public, maybe they will view those negative media stories with more skepticism. ■

## CLASSIC GREENS, INC.



Over 20 years supplying and installing quality Bermudagrass. Our new farm, located in Chiefland, FL is producing quality:

**Certified Tifdwarf  
Certified Tifway (T-419)  
Classic Dwarf  
Floratex**

Phil Horn, President  
11151 NW 70th Ave  
Chiefland, FL 32626  
(352) 258-2695  
philhorn@bellsouth.net

**Golf Course  
Athletic Field  
Renovations and  
Grassing**

## No second chance No second call

Fire ant colonies are gone in 24 to 72 hours with DuPont™ Advion® fire ant bait. Gone, period. Only Advion® hits them with the MetaActive™ compound providing the power that spreads to help control entire colonies.

When the colony is quickly and completely controlled, customer callbacks also go away. Advion® powered with MetaActive™ sets new standards for fire ant control to help you set new standards for customer satisfaction. **Advion®. Unbeatable Results.**

Learn more at [proproducts.dupont.com](http://proproducts.dupont.com) or call 1-888-6DuPont (1-888-638-7668).

Always read and follow all label directions and precautions for use. DuPont™ Advion® is not available in IL states. See your local DuPont representative for details and availability in your state. The DuPont Oval Logo, DuPont™, The miracles of science®, Advion® and MetaActive™ are trademarks or registered trademarks of DuPont or its affiliates. Copyright © 2008 E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company. All Rights Reserved. 06ADV0003115\_25VB

**DuPont™  
Advion®**  
FIRE ANT BAIT

Professional Products



The miracles of science™



# Let the heavy hauling begin.



The new ProGator™ 2020A.  
Engineered for the long haul.

Put it to the test and experience:

- Up to 4,251 lbs\* of payload capacity\*
- The industry's only 4-cylinder gas EFI engine
- 34 hp\*\* (970cc) of power and torque
- Pick-up style suspension
- New, heavy-duty, hydraulic disc brakes
- A durable 7-gauge steel frame

To learn more, go to [JohnDeere.com/Golf](http://JohnDeere.com/Golf).

\*Payload includes 200lb (90.7kg) operator, 200lb (90.7) passenger and loaded attachment, 2WD with Heavy Duty Suspension, Wide Rear Tire & 4-Post ROPS. Payload tested in accordance with ANSI / ITSDF B56.8 – 2006 standard. ROPS tested in accordance with ISO 21299-2009.  
\*\*@ 3600 rpm. Engine Manufacturer Gross Power. Tested in accordance with SAE J1349. Engine horsepower and torque information are provided by engine manufacturer for comparison purposes only. Actual operating horsepower and torque will be less. Refer to engine manufacturer's website for additional information.  
49646



B0R010DCU1C49646-00296817

**SHOWTURF, LLC**  
1365 NEPTUNE DRIVE  
BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33426  
Phone (888) 746-8873  
Fax (877) 811-9949

**BEARD EQUIPMENT COMPANY**  
3310 SW 7TH STREET SUITE 2  
OCALA, FL 34474  
(352) 368-2951  
[beardequipment.com](http://beardequipment.com)





# FGCSA Best Management Practices for Golf

By Kevin Sunderman,  
Secretary/Treasurer Florida GCSA

After a lot of hard work, the Florida GCSA is prepared to roll out its Certification Program for the Best Management Practices for Golf. This program, designed to build upon the BMP manual published in 2007, is intended to educate superintendents, golf course employees and vendors on the best ways to manage golf course agronomics while minimizing any negative environmental impacts.

University professors and industry professionals will teach the program. The program will be delivered as a six-hour seminar immediately followed by an exam. Passing the exam will certify an individual for four years with recertification simply requiring attendance of another FGCSA BMP Seminar to learn the latest changes and updates to the BMPs. In addition to certification, the program will count toward CEUs for your state pesticide

license and GCSAA PDI/CGCS points. This program does not currently replace any local Green Industry BMP (GIBMP) class requirements.

While current law does not require this program, it is a valuable tool for education and awareness of superintendents and affiliated golf industry personnel on the most current BMPs for golf course maintenance.

It is important that Florida superintendents demonstrate their dedication toward understanding and following the Golf BMPs. By developing a successful and well-participated program, the superintendents around the state can strengthen their credibility and science-based position when faced with fertilizer, chemical and water restrictions.

The program will send a strong message to lawmakers and the public showing that the state's golf courses

are committed to doing what is in the best interest of the environment while maintaining their facilities, which are small businesses, using the best resources available.

Without your participation, the program falls short in its intent to better educate turf professionals and show lawmakers and regulators the industry's dedication to preserving the environment. Please be on the lookout for more information to come on the regional scheduling of the BMP Programs.

*Editor's Note: The FGCSA Board and the BMP Committee are finalizing dates and locations to hold a series of statewide regional BMP programs. Speakers and venues have to be arranged. More information on registration and testing and any required re-testing procedures will be announced when the schedule is set.* ■

# AERIFICATION PLUS, INC.

TURFGRASS AERIFICATION AND ROOT ZONE MANAGEMENT

## SMOOTH-POWER<sup>SM</sup> DEEP CORE AERIFICATION

MAXIMUM MATERIAL EXCHANGE—MINIMAL DISRUPTION

(800) 340-3888

AerificationPlus.com

## SMR Farms

Cattle • Turf • Trees • Landscape • Citrus

Your Proven

### Florida Turfgrass Connection

Year-Round Producers and Installers of  
High-Performance Certified and Fumigated Turfgrasses



SEA ISLE  
SUPREME  
P A S P A L U M

Tifway 419 ...and more.

- Slabs, Rolls & Sprigs (traditional and washed)
- No-Till and Machine Planting
- Serving all of Florida and the International Market
- Over 20 Varieties of Containerized and Field-Grown Trees in Many Sizes



4715 Lorraine Road  
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211  
877-708-3322 Toll Free  
[www.smrfarms.com](http://www.smrfarms.com)

FIND US ON  
facebook  
YouTube



Dry Fertilizer  
Bulk Liquid Fertilizer

Office: 954-741-4041  
Fax: 954-741-4082



## GREEN-WAY

Quality Turf Products  
We Specialize in Keeping you GREEN

MANGA PLEX PLUS • ULTRA - GREEN • BIO-PLEX

10008 N.W. 53rd Street • Sunrise, Florida 33351



## FIELD OBSERVATIONS



By *Ralph K. Dain Jr.*,  
GCSAA Regional Representative Florida

How many of you know which organization fosters sustainability through research, awareness, education, programs and scholarships for the benefit of golf course management professionals, golf facilities and the game? If you thought to yourself, "Self, I believe that is the EIFG!" Treat yourself to a hot fudge sundae or banana split after work. If you can identify what the acronym EIFG stands for, go ahead and take the rest of the day off and enjoy that ice cream treat now!!

EIFG is the Environmental Institute for Golf, the philanthropic organization of GCSAA. A number of programs which ultimately come back as benefits to you, our members, as well as golfers in general, are funded by money raised by the EIFG. When you donate to the EIFG, your tax-deductible donation joins others in:

- Fueling innovation through research
- Expanding knowledge of golf course management professionals through education
- Telling golf's story through advocacy and outreach
- Helping bright minds pursue their dreams through scholarships

In recent years, we have seen GCSAA member support of EIFG slip to only 10-12 percent of our total membership. EIFG is undergoing a re-branding effort

that was initially unveiled at this past year's GCSAA Conference and Show in Las Vegas.

We were also thrilled to receive a donation of \$1 million from The Kendrick B. Melrose Family Foundation which is supported by Ken Melrose, former CEO and chairman of the Toro Co.

With this donation, the Melrose Leadership Academy will be developed. Through an application and selection process, 20 individuals will be selected to participate, beginning in 2013. The program will take into account financial need, geography, facility size, requirements necessary to achieve GCSAA Class A status and other factors. While attending the GCSAA Conference and Golf Industry Show, participants will also be provided opportunities to network with GCSAA and other industry leaders.

The academy will offer education specific to risk management (health, safety, environmental compliance, operational efficiency, business and environmental stewardship.

While a donation of this magnitude infuses EIFG with, specific for education, it is imperative that these types of donors see that we have support from our members greater than 10 percent. Many of the chapters with whom I and other Field Staff have visited are hearing about our significant drive to reach a level of 51% member support by 2014. I know this sounds lofty, but the importance of the work being continued on your behalf in research, education, and advocacy cannot be stressed enough. We are not asking for \$1 million contributions (unless of course you feel so inclined!). We ask that you show your support at whatever level you feel comfortable, but please support to some extent.

I want to personally thank the Everglades GCSA for its continued annual support as well as acknowledge the Florida GCSA for its recent contribution commitment. In the coming months, I hope to add more

Florida Chapters and individual members to the recognition list.

We have also recently announced that the successful Rounds 4 Research program developed by Tim Kreger and the Carolinas GCSA will now be offered as a national campaign overseen by EIFG. We are excited about continuing the success already achieved at the regional level. We believe this provides us a great opportunity to assist local chapters around the country raise funds that can be utilized as research or advocacy and outreach efforts. For this program to find the same success, it will be important to have the local associations work with GCSAA and EIFG to secure rounds (foursomes) from golf facilities in the region that will ultimately be auctioned off to raise funds.

As it is being presented, 80 percent of the funds raised will be directed back to the local chapters. 20 % of the funds will help defray the cost of overseeing the program. It will also be critical to work with our friends at the CMAA and PGA and get complete industry support. I am confident our members and chapters in Florida will be positively impacted by this effort and look forward to working with all of you on this initiative.

I invite you to attend your upcoming chapter functions where I plan to provide greater details on this exciting development. I encourage you to visit the EIFG website at <http://www.eifg.org/> where you can learn more about all the programs we are working on as well as provide your support.

As I travel the region, I will be asking the questions I started this article with, and if you get the answers right, it will be like playing Little League baseball all over again. Let's all hit a home run and support EIFG and head to the Dairy Queen for an ice cream treat!!

For any questions or information contact me at: Phone 785.424.4306 or Email [rdain@gcsaa.org](mailto:rdain@gcsaa.org)





# DIRECT SOLUTIONS

*Committed to Growth*

**Industry Leading, Direct Sales of Fertilizers, Chemicals, Plant Protection Products, and Grass Seed.**

**As your one-stop supplier, Direct Solutions' commitment to you is simple:**

**Our Promise.** Provide a complete range of the most advanced turf-growth solutions on the market.

**Our Partnership.** Develop agronomic and economic solutions tailored to your specific turf conditions, budget and delivery schedules.

**Our Performance.** Deliver proven turf management programs with environmentally-responsible fertilizer technologies, micronutrients, seed and chemical products.

**Our Products.** We proudly offer all leading turf & ornamental products to meet your needs, and feature these fine fertilizer technologies along with the exciting new nematode product, MultiGuard Protect.



**Proud to be a new Platinum Level sponsor of the FGCSA.  
We are Direct Solutions, and we are committed to growth.**

[www.aatdirectsolutions.com](http://www.aatdirectsolutions.com)

Port Orange, FL  
Gary Morgan  
All  
(386) 527-0682  
gmorgan@agriumat.com

Naples, FL  
Jason Sherwood  
Golf/Lawn Care/Nursery  
(239) 253-6346  
jsherwood@agriumat.com

Clermont, FL  
Chris Collins  
Golf/Lawn Care  
(407) 448-3703  
ccollins@agriumat.com

Sarasota, FL  
Fred Hemming  
Golf/Lawn Care/Nursery  
(813) 625-3431  
fhemming@agriumat.com

Panhandle, FL  
Ed Slatton  
Golf  
850-375-3566  
eslatton@agriumat.com

Spring Lake, FL  
Jason Chambrot  
Golf  
561-531-3791  
jchambrot@agriumat.com

Lutz, FL  
Richard Newman  
Golf/Lawn Care  
904-404-6175  
rnewman@agriumat.com

Jacksonville Beach, FL  
Chad Martin  
Golf/LCO  
904-524-2650  
cmartin@agriumat.com

Southeast Sales Manager  
Kit Rowe  
All  
704-770-1805  
krowe@agriumat.com

(c) 2012 Agrium Advanced Technologies (U.S.) Inc. DIRECT SOLUTIONS, DURATION CR, XCU, SPREAD IT & FORGET IT and designs are trademarks owned by Agrium Inc. LOVELAND PRODUCTS and BCMU and designs are trademarks owned by Loveland Products Inc. MULTIGUARD PROTECT and designs are trademarks owned by Agriguard Company LLC.

**BITS AND  
PIECES**



**GREEN SIDE UP  
BY JOEL JACKSON**

As the editor and principal cover-story writer of the *Florida Green*, I have been privileged to travel the state from Pensacola to Key Largo over the years, telling the story of our members, their golf courses and their programs and representing our association. We shared those challenges and successes in managing the golf courses in one of the most ecologically diverse states in the country thanks to the many articles and photos contributed by your fellow members.

In the past, the state was divided into similar, compact, geographical regions to facilitate photographer Daniel Zelazek's travel to minimize expenses as he shot at least two courses per trip. That resulted in chapters in only one region being highlighted each year. Since I am centrally located in Orlando, my suggestion to the Publications Committee going forward will be to cover the North, Central, Southeast and Southwest regions each year and rotate the chapters so that they are covered in Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall in different years.

As more of us rely on the web, smart phones and social media to search of information and keep in touch, the FGCSA will be striving to keep improving our Web site to make it a hub-and-spoke operation and one-stop place to go to for getting all FGCSA and Chapter information, paying dues, and keeping up with events so you can plan your busy schedules to balance family life and professional participation. Networking is so vital in today's rapidly

changing world.

Speaking of networking, congratulations to my longtime Ridge Runner friend and former superintendent, Bobby Ellis, who is the newest member of the Golf Agronomics team. Bobby will be serving GASH customers in the Central Florida area. GASH and other legendary suppliers have played a major role in supporting FGCSA and Chapter events and publications. In 2013, as we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the *Florida Green*, we will begin profiling the companies that have been with the magazine since it began in 1973 as the *South Florida Green*.

Speaking of being with the magazine for a long time, I began my editorship back in 1990. It has been a labor of love and I can't tell you how much I enjoy serving all of you in that capacity. I also want to thank the FGCSA Board for awarding me the Marie Roberts Lifetime Service Award in May. It means a lot to me to be honored in the name of the first FGCSA staffer who gave so much of

herself to all of us. We didn't lose a beat when Jennifer Bryan came on board as the Association Manager. Her ideas and energy give us the boost to keep getting better.

Coming off two recent business trips this spring, the educational and networking sessions again drove home the lesson that we need to keep reaching out to our peers to join our local chapters and the FGCSA. I made new contacts that hopefully will help our association by improving my knowledge and making me aware of new possibilities for improving our services. The same is true for local chapter members.

Our world today doesn't reward people for staying in a rut which, like sitting in the middle of the room, might seem safe and uncomplicated. The only way to grow and thrive is to move toward the edge to see what's out there. There are brother and sister superintendents out there to catch you if you will just take a leap of faith and try something new like getting more involved with your chapter.



**ADVERTISER INDEX**

Aerification Plus ..... 37  
 Agrium Advanced Technologies..... 39  
 Agronomy Management Solutions..... 20  
 Bayer Environmental .. Inside Back Cover  
 Beard Equipment..... 35  
 Brandt..... 17  
 Classic Greens..... 34  
 Country Club Services..... 25  
 Dow Agrosciences ..... 29  
 DuPont ..... 34  
 Everglades GCSA..... 5  
 Golf Agronomics Supply..... 27

Golf Ventures ..... Back Cover  
 Green-Way..... 37  
 Harrell's Fertilizer..... 21  
 Horizon..... Inside Front Cover  
 Howard Fertilizer ..... 19  
 Independent Turf Partners..... 18  
 Milorganite ..... 13  
 Pike Creek Turf Farms ..... 18  
 Qualipro..... 31  
 Seven Rivers GCSA..... 7  
 ShowTurf..... 35  
 SMR Farms..... 37  
 Sod Solutions ..... 33

South Florida GCSA..... 3  
 South Florida Grassing..... 25  
 Southeastern Turf Grass..... 25  
 Suncoast FGCSA ..... 11  
 Syngenta..... 12  
 Tampa Bay Turf ..... 10  
 Team UGA ..... Insert  
 Tifton Physical Lab..... 6  
 Tom Burrows Turfgrass ..... 25  
 Toro Distributors of Florida ..... 22  
 Wesco Turf ..... 30  
 Westscapes Golf Construction ..... 17  
 Winfield Solutions ..... 17