

Builders

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standing job of building stadium courses throughout the country," said builders association Executive Director Donald Rossi.

Opened 10 years ago, the TPC at Sawgrass, located just outside Jacksonville,

Fertilizers

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and clay," Gray said. "The rest is sand. Our CEC is one or less, which is extremely low. Basically, what that means is that anything the plant gets, we have to give it. Consequently, the fertility requirements of this course are much greater than a course with a higher CEC."

The fairways at Loblolly Pines are 419 bermudagrass, while the tees, aprons and collars are 328. Gray applies approximately 10 pounds of nitrogen and 10 to 12 pounds of potash per 1,000 square feet per year to these areas. He puts down phosphorus at a four- to five-pound rate.

On greens, the amount of nitrogen Gray applies in a year's time is less because the dwarf bermuda is overseeded to Penncross in November.

"We use close to eight pounds of nitrogen per year on our greens," Gray said. "The bentgrass requires less and since we are only growing bermuda six months out of the year we don't fertilize the two months prior to overseeding because we don't want the competition."

To meet the nutrient demands at Loblolly Pines, Gray depends on a fertilizer with a urea formaldehyde nitrogen source and supplements with a natural organic sludge material. Although his applications are primarily granular, Gray fertigates with a custom-formulated 8-2-8 liquid.

Gray also is a strong proponent of soil testing and agrees with the idea of keeping a fertility program as lean as the soil and the turf will allow.

Perhaps he spoke for the others and summed it up best when he said, "The beauty of a low fertility program is that adding is easy ... taking away is tough."

Sally M. Lee is a freelance writer based in North Ridgeville, Ohio.

Fla., was the first of the stadium courses. There are now 14 in the United States with another six in varying stages of planning and construction, according to PGA Tour Director of Public Relations Sid Wilson.

There is another in Bato, Japan, the site of a recent United States-Japan Seniors championship. Another 10 Japanese TPC courses are on the drawing board, Wilson added.

"We're obviously delighted that the TPC network is being honored by its peers," said the PGA Tour official. "The Tour has always taken great pride in its TPC courses. Our players become involved as consultants and work very closely with the architects. Yet while the pros play on the course one week a year, he is still very playable for the members the rest of the year."

GCBA President Perry Dye of Dye Designs will make the presentation, which has become one of the highlights of the association's annual meetings.

"We're very proud of how this award has grown since it was first presented in 1984," said Rossi. "There were just 40 people at the first awards dinner. Last year there were 225."

The National Golf Foundation was the inaugural award-winner. Following the NGF to the podium over the last seven years were the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Golf Course Architects of America, Professional Golfers Association of America, Club Managers Association of America and last year's winner, the U.S. Golf Association Green Section.

Domino's founder opens The Rock

Domino's Pizza Inc. founder and chairman Tom Monaghan has opened The Rock, a new golf course on Drummond Island in Michigan.

Designed by Harry Bowers, a former understudy of Robert Trent Jones Sr., the 257-acre course was built to encourage walking. It is a six-mile walk compared to the average 4.5-mile walk around an 18-hole layout.

Monaghan has named each hole after a Domino's executive or a celebrity he admires—like former President Gerald Ford, University of Michigan football coach Bo Schembechler and Detroit Tigers manager Sparky Anderson.

The \$5-million course adds to a hotel and conference center development.

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