

SB
433
-G4
v. 2
No. 4

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
Paid
Crystal Lake,
IL 60014
Permit No. 82

GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

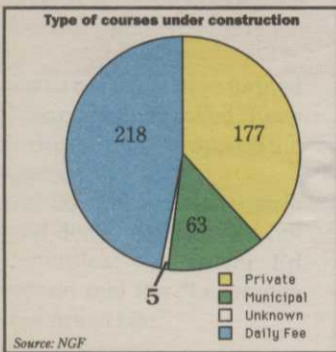
VOLUME 2 NUMBER 4
APRIL 1990
A United publication

INSIDE

- 24 FAMILY TIES**
make architecture interesting
- 28 FAIRWAYS** getting
greens-type care
- 34 BENGEEFIELD**
looks back on his career

34 BENGEEFIELD

looks back on his career



Departments

Comment

Don Rossi irreplaceable in golf industry... 8

Super Focus

Trumbull CC's Bruce Denning still making a difference..... 11

New Courses

Construction busting out on the Big Island 14-15

Government Update

EPA officials say cooperation possible 16

Association News

GCSAA installs new officers for 1990 17-18

On the Move

USGA makes operational changes 20-23

On the Green

Mike Wilson keeps golf cars on course 54

For coverage of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's 61st International Golf Conference and Show, see pages 36-47.

Toro aerator a breakthrough

BY MARK LESLIE

The Toro Company has unveiled a revolutionary machine that aerates greens without disturbing the surface and interrupting play.

The HydroJect 3000, which uses high-velocity spurts of water to aerate greens while leaving no telltale cores behind, was introduced in a dramatic exhibition at the 61st International Golf Course Conference

and Show in Orlando, Fla., in February.

Dana Lann, Toro's head of research, projected late-fall production of the HydroJect 3000 and full availability to golf course superintendents by the summer of 1991.

Dr. Paul Rieke of Michigan State University, who with a graduate student worked on the project with Lann's researchers for three years, said: "The beauty of this (equipment) is that we're able to use it frequently on the

putting surface and thus keep soil in good physical condition.

"We think this is a versatile tool that the golf course superintendent will be able to use in his program to provide better quality turf and to improve the stress tolerance of that turf."

Toro officials hailed the work of the researchers and the impact the machine is

Continued on page 47



When Golfplan Design Group and PGA Tour pro Mark O'Meara got together to collaborate on Redhawk Golf Course at Temecula, Calif., three years ago they were confronted by a 150-acre site with perhaps a half-dozen trees. One of their first steps was to start a 25-acre nursery, above, to grow trees enough to beautify the overgrazed pastureland. The result, Ron Fream says, is "our best course in the United States," boasting hundreds of trees that are now 12 to 30 feet high. For more on new golf courses, see pages 14-15.)



Hawaii lengthens wait

The Honolulu City Council passed an ordinance in late February requiring courses proposed on farmland to go through the lengthy annual review process.

That means it could take up to two years to get the required zoning change to develop a new course, according to Bob McGraw, an aide to Councilwoman Donna Mercado Kim.

"It would be reasonable to characterize that as lengthy," said McGraw.

Proposed sites designated for resort, preservation or park use don't have to go through the yearly review.

Development has been a major issue on the island of Oahu where residents were concerned about the loss of agricultural land and possible ground water contamination from new courses.

A 10-month moratorium on new construction ended Jan. 1. The council considered a bill that was stricter than the old law, but was vehemently opposed as not stringent enough and allowing development in too many zoning districts by citizen groups, like Hands Around Oahu.

The proposal was sent back to the Zoning Committee, which passed the new bill that the council approved in February.

Ordinance No. 90-15 restricts stand-alone courses to a single zone. Approval requires such measures as the use of non-potable water for irrigation, increasing opportunities for public participation and compatibility with the surrounding area.

The council is also encouraging programs for displaced residents and for monitoring golf course chemicals.

UST coverage said crucial

BY PETER BLAIS

It wasn't so long ago at a course called, well let's make it East Overshoe CC, that an underground storage tank (UST) leaked.

The tank's contents contaminated an underground water supply and required the installation of two purifying wells. It's estimated it will take two to five years to clean the water. The course's cost to rectify the situation — \$200,000.

Richard Shanks, president of Financial Guardian Insurance of Kansas City, Inc., related that sorry tale during February's Golf Course Superinten-

Continued on page 39

International superintendents share views

BY PETER BLAIS

Growing memberships and the need for more educational opportunities are among the common threads binding national superintendents associations, reported representatives of a dozen such organizations during February's Golf Course Superintendents Association of America conference in

Orlando, Fla.

Canada, Australia, Argentina, Italy, England, Sweden, France, Germany, South Africa, Japan and the United States were all represented at an international roundtable moderated by GCSAA Immediate Past President Dennis Lyon and President Gerald Faubel.

All described increasing interest in their organizations as a result of the growth of golf in their home countries.

But in many instances, educational opportunities to increase the professionalism of superintendents are still lagging behind the United States. Many of the foreign rep-

Continued on page 46

Conference Report

International supers

Continued from page 1

representatives appealed to U.S. organizations, like the GCSAA, for guidance.

"Our association is trying to make better superintendents. With your help we should flourish in leaps and bounds," said Doug Robinson of the Australian Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Lyon emphasized the need for international cooperation and offered the GCSAA's help on a worldwide basis.

"We need to work together in promoting our associations and increasing the quality of golf courses throughout the world," said the di-

rector of golf for the city of Aurora, Colo. "We can accomplish more together and I think it's appropriate we (GCSAA) take the lead in this area.

"My eyes were opened when I went to Japan in November. There is a real desire for more knowledge there. Most countries are smaller (than the United States) and they need more opportunities to learn about turf."

Following are the national superintendents organizations that participated in the roundtable and a brief summary of their reports.

• **GCSAA.** The largest superintendents organization in the world has grown to 9,400 members, with

more than 1,100 having passed the certification program, including recent certification candidates in South Africa and France.

• **International Greenkeepers Association.** The German association is 20 years old and two years ago began funding a training program consisting of three, three-week training sessions and an exam. The first German greenkeepers are expected to complete the program in 1991, according to President Claus Detlef Ratjen.

There are 290 courses in Germany and 550 members of the association. Both numbers are expected to increase 15 percent annually through

the 1990s.

• **Canadian Golf Superintendents Association.** Established in 1967, the CGSA has grown to more than 1,200 members. An accreditation program started in 1986 requires 100 points over five years to achieve a Grade A superintendents designation and 250 for a Masters title.

The annual conference Dec. 6-12 is expected to draw participants from throughout the country to the host city of Montreal. Educational seminars have proven very popular and "have been a great asset, especially in the more remote areas," said President Blake Palmer.

• **Australian Golf Course Su-**

perintendents Association. Many of the national association's 500 members also belong to one of the seven state associations. Many newcomers serve a four-year apprenticeship, then attend a three-year technical education program from which they emerge with a certificate in greenkeeping. The designation allows them to work at facilities for lawn ball, golf, tennis or cricket.

President Doug Robinson said the association has floundered without direction the past 25 years and suffered from membership apathy. He hopes young superintendents, many of whom are graduating from government-run programs, will help change that.

The association's biennial conference is scheduled for June in Sydney. It draws participants from Japan, Indonesia, Southeast Asia and the rest of the Pacific Basin, as well as Australia.

"It's meager by your standards. But it fits our needs," said Robinson.

• **Association Argentina de Golf.** Founded the same year as the GCSAA (1926), the Argentinian association represents the South American country's 150 golf courses and 35,000 golfers.

"We're a large country with all types of grasses," said Director of Canchas Richard De Udaeta. "Our problem is there are no turf education courses in our universities. We've been mainly a crop country, not a turf country. So the golf association has taken the lead in turf education. We've gotten much cooperation from the United States Golf Association and researchers at Texas A&M.

"Many of our superintendents are old (former) pros. So education is a must. We're very willing to learn."

• **Italian Golf Federation.** The Italian association was the youngest (3 years old) and smallest (representing 100 courses) at the roundtable.

There are no specific turfgrass programs within the Italian educational system. So the Italian Golf Federation began sponsoring a superintendents program three years ago with the help of Dr. James Beard of Texas A&M.

• **British and International Golf Greenkeepers Assn.** Tracing its roots back 80 years to the founding of the British Golf Greenkeepers Association, BIGGA simply plodded along for decades in search of professional recognition, according to Chairman Paddy McCarron.

That recognition finally started to come several years ago with the development of what McCarron called "the three pillars of strength" — a strong administration headed up by Executive Director Neil Thomas; an extensive educational component under Education Officer David Golding; and a well-written, association-sponsored magazine called "Greenkeeping Management."

BIGGA is now growing at the rate of eight new members a day, according to the magazine. A certification program is gaining popularity, a referral system has been started and a new headquarters opened.

• **Japan Superintendents As-**

Continued on page 47



FLEXBRUSH

There's never been a faster, better, easier way to top dress greens!

Now you can turn your Toro or Jacobsen greens mower into the finest top dress brushing system ever invented, with FLEXBRUSH from Standard Golf.

FLEXBRUSH enables you to save time, while avoiding unnecessary damage to your greens. It's actually a set of three brushes that follow contours and undulations like no dragging method can, and it's excellent for brushing after deep tine aeration. Plus, it installs quickly and easily.

For more information, contact your nearby authorized Standard Golf distributor.

STANDARD GOLF Pro Line

Standard Golf Company
P.O. Box 68
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
319-266-2638
FAX 319-266-9627

Conference Report

Toro

Continued from page 1

expected to have on both manufacturers and groundskeepers.

Mike Hoffman, director of commercial marketing, said: "We consider the HydroJect 3000 to be truly a breakthrough-type product in that it has the potential to cause a significant change in the way aeration practices are performed by superintendents today. And 'breakthrough,' used literally, in the way this product can penetrate through the turf, and any hardpan area that has developed. The Hydroject 3000 is a tool designed to take the stress not only out of the turf but out of the superintendent."

The normal greens aeration cycle involves coring, cleanup and, in some cases, verticutting and top-dressing. Greens can take seven to 10 days to heal from this process.

"That's not something the greens superintendent can do every month and keep his job," Hoffman said. "It's also not something the turf can take in the high-stress period of the dog days of summer."

"In addition, shutting down the golf course can cost from \$2,000 to \$25,000 per day depending on what course it is."

"The most important feature is that the turf can be treated without disturbing the surface," he said. "In the past, aeration was generally known as just a spring and fall application. This is when the roots are developing faster and can recuperate from the stress associated with mechanical aeration. This timing also coincides with reduced golf course play, especially in the cool-season market."

"Aeration and golfers don't mix. Golfers want lush, healthy, smooth putting surfaces. They are not willing to put up with the surface that conventional aeration and top-dressing causes."

"Now there is an answer. A superintendent can treat greens when necessary without con-



Toro's HydroJect 3000

cerns of this conflict. Now aerations and heavy play can both occur on the same day."

Citing a trend toward more frequent aerification, Hoffman said the HydroJect 3000 can be used more often "to keep the soil loose and productive for healthy new soil throughout the growing season and during high-stress periods."

"Turf can be treated when necessary and not just when golfers and timing permit."

Most conventional solid and hollow tine core aerators penetrate no more than three or four inches. The HydroJect 3000 reaches depths of four to eight inches with a single shot of water. To reach greater depths, the operator can either install larger nozzles, or stop the machine in one spot and let several spurts penetrate.

Depths of 30 inches have been reached, Lann said. "It will make a hole in asphalt," he added, answering any question that high-velocity water might have problems penetrating heavy thatch.

Michigan State's Rieke said the more the machine is used, the deeper the holes in the greens will get.

After the jets of water aerate the turf, rollers uniformly smooth out the green. The machine has a quick coupler to the course's water supply and uses four gallons per minute across the typical green.

List price of the HydroJect 3000 is \$18,000 to \$20,000. Its hydrostatic drive means no gears to shift, and it has very few parts to replace. Powered by a 24 HP Onon engine, it travels at 4mph.

Toro Commercial Division General Manager John Szafranski said the company spent several million dollars to design and engineer

the technology into a practical working machine.

Confronted with the initial challenge of finding a better way to pick up the cores, Lann said the Toro research team presented this answer: "The easiest way to pick up the cores is to eliminate them."

Lann and a crew of 10 people worked full-time on the project since 1985. "The technology is simple but the engineering isn't simple," he explained. "Now we have the technical things done and it's just the matter of getting everything into production."

A major problem, he said, was dealing with water. "It's a universal solvent, so it's hard to keep lubrication. And it's corrosive. We solved that by using corrosion-resistant materials used in other industries, but not the turf industry."

Rieke put off a question about the possibility of using the HydroJect 3000 to inject chemicals into the turf, saying he has "concerns" about using chemicals in the machine.

Using a three- by three-inch pattern, the HydroJect 3000 will aerate 13,200 square feet per hour — a somewhat higher productivity rate than Toro's other models.

Changing travel speed alters the amount of aeration. "You can go anywhere from zero to six-inch spacing," Lann said. "There is a nozzle every three inches. But you can plug nozzles if you want."

Toro President and Chief Operating Officer David Morris said the company has formed a business entity called Toro Ventures to focus initially on water aeration, lawn and turf equipment and utility vehicles.

Int'l supers

Continued from page 46

sociation. JSA's membership has increased eight-fold to 800 from its original 100 of 30 years ago, explained Vice Chairman Katsuhiro Owada. Most hail from eastern Japan.

There is no licensing or certification program, although one is in the works. The group meets six times a year and some educational opportunity is available.

Golf is very popular in Japan where 60 courses are being built annually in a nation smaller than the state of California. Superintendents are in short supply, said Owada.

• **Swedish Greenkeepers Association.** The Swedish association's membership has grown to 550 superintendents and course workers since its inception in 1978. Included are 75 trade members (corporations).

There are 220 courses in the Scandinavian country with another 50 under construction. There are 50,000 golfers, a number that has increased significantly in the past 10 years, according to President Stig Persson.

The superintendents association is closely affiliated with the Swedish Golf Association. Together they sponsor a yearly trade show; educational seminars; college programs that allow students to specialize in golf courses their second and third year and will produce their first graduates in 1991; foreign speakers; and a 2,500-circulation magazine.

• **South Africa Golf Course Superintendents Association.** Founded in the 1950s primarily for Johannesburg-area superintendents, the association has expanded into a truly national organization.

Superintendents have traditionally been retired tradesmen from the mining companies that frequently own the country's golf courses. So education, or the lack of it, has been very important.

The South Africans have leaned heavily for their expertise on visits by Americans professors who have conducted South Africa Golf Association-sponsored seminars. The GCSAA recently certified the first South African superintendent.

College programs are geared to agriculture,
Continued on page 49

MOTOROLA
Radius

**Free
Trial Offer**



- Two-Way Radios
- Mobiles/Portables
- UHF/VHF/800 MHz
- Repeaters
- 2 Year Limited Warranty

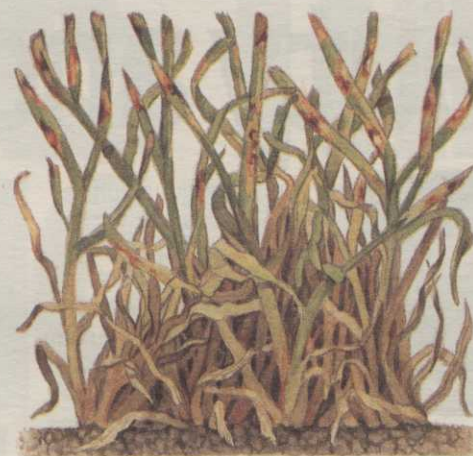
1-800-999-6929

USA-2WAY, INC.
AMERICA'S FACTORY DIRECT 2-WAY RADIO WAREHOUSE

For free information circle #143

#2 In A Series

Preventing Turf Diseases



SUMMER PATCH

Appears as small patches of light green turf, but may fade within hours to straw color. Prevent disease with Banner® fungicide at 4 oz./1000 sq. ft. before fungus becomes active, usually before soil temperature reaches 70°.

© 1990 CIBA-GEIGY Corporation, Turf and Ornamental Products.
Always read and follow label directions.



For free information circle #139

Standard Golf catalog goes tee to green

Standard Golf Co. is celebrating 70 years of producing a complete line of golf course accessories with a new 40-page catalog.

Standard Golf's 1990 Catalog is a comprehensive resource of product information — from tee to green, clubhouse, practice range and maintenance shed. It includes a variety of new and improved products.

Among the new products featured are the precision-crafted Yankee line of rakes, squeegees and lutes. Standard Golf has been appointed the exclusive supplier of these tools to the U.S. golf course industry.

Also featured in the catalog are EZ-Reacher, an expanded and improved selection of practice green

Comprehensive turf-care guide prepared

Proven techniques and products for growing and maintaining healthier, more beautiful turf and ornamental plants are detailed in a new, full-color publication available free from Fermenta ASC Corp., the maker of Daconil 2787 fungicide and other turf-care products.

Each of the first three sections in the 32-page Weed and Disease Control Guide for Turf and Ornamentals provides a chart of strategies for preventing or controlling the principal diseases of turf, ornamental plants and conifers in regions across the United States.

The fourth section describes the use of pre-emergence and post-emergence herbicides to control weeds in newly seeded or established turf areas.

For more information contact Fermenta ASC Corp., 5966 Heisley Road, P.O. Box 8000, Mentor, Ohio 44061-8000. **Circle No 251**

1990 Masters Journal ready

The 1990 Masters Journal, a commemorative magazine to be sold at the Masters Tournament in April, will be produced by Golf Digest.

Cadillac Motor Division, The Travelers Companies and IBM are sponsoring the annual magazine and will distribute it privately as well as in national newsstand distribution.

The magazine will serve as an in-depth guide for spectators and viewers of the April 5-8 telecasts.

Int'l supers

Continued from page 47
although a three-week crash course in turf management is available through a technical school.

The organization's president resigned just before the Orlando conference, so the association's future is somewhat in limbo.

• **France.** The concept of a superintendent is relatively new in France, where the job has traditionally been shared by a greenkeeper and course director.

But golf in France, as everywhere, is growing.

The country recently saw GCSAA certification bestowed upon one of its few titled superintendents.



Spoon-feeding explained

Effectively "spoon-feeding" high-traffic or problem areas on golf courses is the subject of a new, four-color brochure from Plant Marvel Laboratories, Inc.

The term "spoon-feeding" refers to the concept of applying small amounts of water-soluble fertilizer to selected areas to help turf achieve total nutrient use with even, predictable growth.

A graph shows how better levels of nutritional control are achieved with spoon-feeding.

For a free copy, write to Plant Marvel Laboratories, Inc., 371 E. 16th St., Chicago Heights, Ill. 60411 or call 312-757-7500. **Circle No 257**

flags and markers, and hassle-free PVC hazard markers.

For more information and the names of nearby authorized distributors, write Standard Golf Co., P.O. Box 68, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613; 319-266-2638. **Circle No 252**

NEW LITERATURE

Official Tour guides available

The 1990 PGA Tour and Senior PGA Tour Official Media Guides are now available to the public.

The books contain answers about such professionals as Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman, Curtis Strange and Chi Chi Rodriguez.

Guides can be obtained for the Regular and Senior PGA Tour for a combined price of \$16.70 (shipping and handling included, Florida residents need to add 6 percent sales tax). Guides for either the

Senior or Regular Tour can be bought separately for \$9.45 each (shipping and handling included, Florida residents add 6 percent sales tax). All overseas orders should add \$9.70 to each book for postage and handling (Canadian orders add \$3.50). Since supplies are limited, the offer expires Sept. 30.

Checks or money orders should be sent to PGA Tour Marketing Dept., 112 TPC Boulevard, Ponte Vedra, Fla. 32082. **Circle No. 253**



NO OTHER ENGINE DELIVERS THIS MANY HORSES OVERHEAD.



The 18 hp Sovereign OHV engine. New from Wisconsin Robin.

It's a stampede of power no one else can match.

We're the first to offer OHVs in the 16-18 hp range, where you benefit most through fuel savings. So now choose from the most complete line of OHV engines in the 3-18 hp category. All designed

for a minimum life of 3000 hours with proper maintenance.

Every Sovereign reflects the uncompromising design of Wisconsin Robin engines: fewer moving parts, greater size per part and top-grade materials.

So you get a durable, forceful engine that powers ahead long after others give out.

Need an overhead with more horses? Hitch a Sovereign to your power equipment.

And then see how much power we've harnessed.



Wisconsin Robin
More power to you.

©1988, Teledyne Total Power

For free information circle #141