

Isolite

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"It will take a year for meaningful and objective results to report. But at the same time we are getting more and more information from the Japanese studies. The Tokyo Agricultural Experimental Station results will be in hand in August."

Isolite is being used on 15 percent of the 1,500 golf courses in Japan, where it has been developed for nine years. The results there reportedly have been "dramatic," according to New Golf Concepts.

Isolite is incorporated into the ground through aerification, verticutting, and slit-trench machines. But Haines said it is ideally added during construction when it is tilled

into the top six to eight inches of soil.

"There is no such thing as a panacea," Haines said. "As a former superintendent I know that. We've just got a good, practical product that is going to help superintendents solve a lot of problems."

"And you can't go wrong with it. It is basically an inert product. You can't burn with it, or change soil pH with it. There's no chemistry to it. You're just putting a bunch of sponges in the soil."

It's cost?

"It's a little high right now, but I think we will get a price reduction soon," said Hunt. "We will pass any price reduction on to the end user."

GCSAA board to play Canadians

The board of directors of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America will play its Canadian counterpart in the first of what will hopefully be an annual tournament, according to GCSAA President Gerald Faubel.

The Americans will tee off Sept.

27 at Club de Golf Cedarbrook in St. Sophie, Quebec, against the team from the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association/Association Canadien Superintendents de Golf.

Faubel issued the challenge to the Canadians, and the GCSAA is providing the trophy — the Board

of Directors Cup.

Faubel said the winners will hold the cup for one year.

He hopes the Canadians will accept an invitation to play in the United States in 1991.

He was unsure what format the tournament will take.

Oakmont CC lures Latshaw back

Paul Latshaw, the only superintendent to host three of golf's four major professional championships, will be returning to Pittsburgh's Oakmont Country Club in early 1991.

Latshaw was head superintendent from 1975 to 1987 at Oakmont,

site of the 1978 PGA Championship and 1983 U.S. Open. From 1987 to 1989 he was in charge of Augusta National Golf Course, home of the Masters.

Latshaw has been head superintendent at Wilmington (Del.) Country Club since May of last year.

Oakmont will host the women's 1992 U.S. Open and the 1994 men's U.S. Open.

"He missed the challenge of big tournaments. He likes that arena," explained Latshaw's wife, Phyllis, of her husband's decision to leave Wilmington.

Oakmont general manager Pat LaRocca said he expects Latshaw to arrive in Pittsburgh around Jan. 1.

"He's the greatest guy in the world," said LaRocca. "I have a lot of respect for him. When the situation arose, he was our first choice."

Stonecreek clubhouse open this fall

Stonecreek, The Golf Club, broke ground on a new 17,000-square-foot clubhouse in late spring and is scheduled for completion this fall at the Paradise Valley, Ariz., course.

The two-level clubhouse will overlook the first tee and will eventually be surrounded by the Paradise Valley Urban Village. The facility includes such features as a 120-seat restaurant, a golf shop, state-of-the-art golf instruction facilities with classrooms and video screening areas, men's and women's lockers, shower facilities, underground golf car storage and a snack bar.

The clubhouse was designed by Cornoyer-Hedrick Architects & Planners, Inc. and Huntcor is serving as the general contractor on the project.

Florida firm gives away 10,000 trees

AmerAquatic, Inc., of Deerfield Beach, Fla., which is involved in lake and wetland management, has donated more than 10,000 red maple seedlings to a number of south and central Florida environmental and agricultural organizations, according to President Thomas Latta.

AmerAquatic has initiated an extensive research project at its Sarasota, Fla., facility to propagate a selection of indigenous wetland trees from seed and introduce them back into their native environments.

Due to the high yield and abundance of the red maples, AmerAquatic donated the seedlings, on flats, to the Broward County Extension Service, which distributed the plants to organizations in Broward, Palm Beach, Lee, Martin and Sarasota counties. Many of these recipients have either redistributed the trees to private groups or citizens or are nurturing the seedlings in pots until they are ready to be established in-ground in wetland zones.

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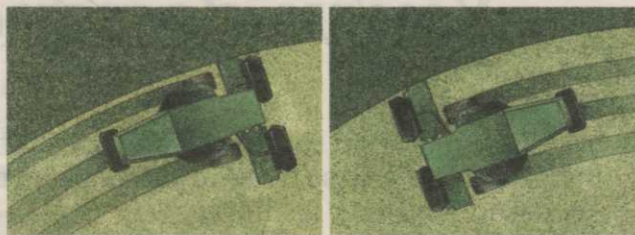
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