

Lofts adds pesticide applicators' certification

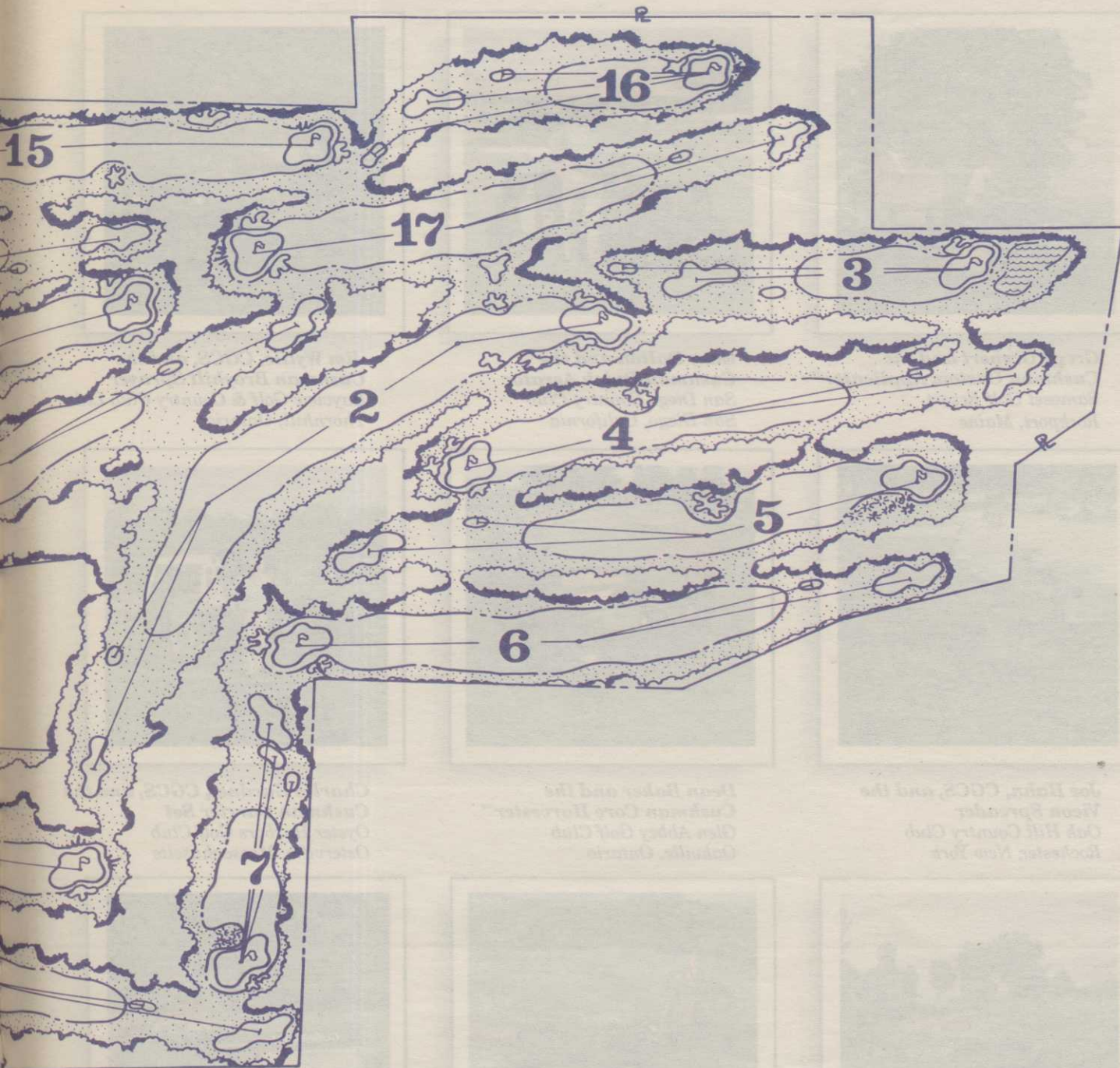
Registrants were able to earn Pesticide Recertification Credits when they attended Lofts Seed Inc.'s 14th annual field day at the company's farm at Martinsville, N.J. Visitors were greeted by Lofts' Chairman and President Jon Loft and Director of Research Dr. Richard Hurley, after which several turf specialists discussed current topics. Dr. Virginia Lehman, director of Lofts' new West Coast Research Center in Oregon, spoke on bentgrass breeding and its adaptability to Southern areas. Karen Plumley of Rutgers University dis-

cussed summer patch research. Cornell University's Dr. Norman Hummel reviewed new advances planned for pest management. Carmine Valente, of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, provided a regulatory update on pesticide controls. And Maria Cinque, of Cornell University's Cooperative Extension Service, presented a diagnostic review of disease problems. A tour of Lofts' turf plots revealed the current results of trials for tall fescues, fine fescues, bentgrasses, bluegrasses, wildflowers and low-



Speaking at Lofts' 14th annual field day, agronomist Marie Pompei reveals results of wildflower test plots affiliated with national trials.

maintenance grasses. Turfgrass shade performance and ornamental grasses were also observed.



Vermeer given Iowa's only 'E' Award

Vermeer Manufacturing of Pella, Iowa, has been honored by the U.S. Department of Commerce as Iowa's sole recipient of the 1990 President's "E" Award. The award recognizes companies that demonstrate excellence in export marketing. Vermeer was identified for its work in expanding into new market territories and dramatically increasing exports in spite of strong foreign competition.

As late as 1986, Vermeer's export sales accounted for less than 8 percent of the company's total sales. Increased emphasis on aggressive international marketing helped it boost this figure to nearly 13 percent. Also during that same time, overall corporate sales volume grew by more than 50 percent.

Vermeer began its international sales in the early 1970s working through an export sales company. After limited success, it opened a one-man sales office in 1972 in the Netherlands for sales throughout Europe, Africa and the Middle East. This sales office now has eight full-time employees.

Another sales office, based in Australia, was opened in the mid-1980s.

Nematode product under study

Ciba-Geigy has reached an agreement with Biosys, a Palo Alto, Calif., biological pest control company, to jointly evaluate a nematode-based product to control insects in turf and ornamental plants.

The product controls cutworms and armyworms on turf, and black vine weevils, fungus gnats and white grubs on ornamental plants.

Under terms of the agreement, Ciba-Geigy will gather field data regarding efficacy of the nematodes, test-market it in selected areas, and conduct market research with turf managers and ornamental growers.

Nematodes are microscopic invertebrates that aggressively seek out, attack and kill a broad spectrum of soil-inhabiting insect pests. The Biosys formulation can be applied with standard spray equipment, as part of growers' existing cultural practices.

The product, which features the nematode *Steinernema carpocapsae*, is exempt from Environmental Protection Agency registration requirements.

Elsewhere...

Ringer Corp.'s natural organic commercial turf and horticultural fertilizers are once again available in Canada, according to Scott Boutilier, head of the Commercial Division. Boutilier said AG-TURF Chemicals of Brampton, Ontario, will be the sole master distributor of the products throughout Canada.

The EPA has approved an expanded federal label for Ciba-Geigy's Pennant herbicide. In addition to nursery and landscape plants, the product now may be used on Southern turf species across the United States.

plan. Don't skimp on the carpeting.

But, of course, no matter what fertilizer you use, you have to start with the best seed. Penncross, Oregon Blue Tag Certified Seed, is the standard of the industry. For thirty-five years it's proven itself through heat, drought, snow and flood as the premium surface for greens, tees and fairways.

Your Scott Tech Rep—a trained agronomist—can help you design a seeding and fertility program to fit your exact floor plan and your budget. Which makes it seem silly to consider

anything else. Because the way we see it, designing a golf course and skimping on the turf is like designing a swimming pool and skimping on the water.



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