

GOLF COURSE NEWS

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Protesters picket a golf course development conference in Hawaii 3

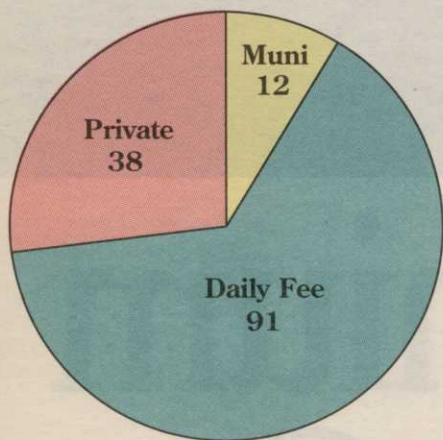
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Lean times for bluegrass sod growers, *GolfCourseNews* survey finds 24-25

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Types of university-affiliated golf courses in the United States. Total = 141 Source: NGF

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USGA promises another \$4.1M

Executive Committee promises continued support through 1997

By Mark Leslie

The U.S. Golf Association Executive Committee has approved another \$4.15 million in funding for research projects.

Revealing the decision made on June 10, USGA Green Section National Di-

rector Jim Snow said he was excited at the committee's high level of support for the research program.

The committee this winter allotted \$3.8 million to 18 research projects through 1992. That will complete the 10-year program that began in 1983.

This new infusion of funds will carry research from 1993 to 1997, Snow said.

Accomplishments so far have consisted mostly of findings that set the foundation for further studies, Snow

said. He cited the Turfgrass Information File at Michigan State University, which "is a tremendous resource for the entire industry and is just now catching on"; development of NuMex Sahara bentgrass and 609 buffalograss; and investigation of breeding improvements such as screening for salt."

"These are things you can't visually see, but that were important research," he said. "We're at the point now where

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The University of Wisconsin has joined the growing ranks of universities with affiliated golf courses. This is a view of its new Robert Trent Jones Jr.-designed course, which officially opens in July. See a story on university courses on page 33.

Winter whacks Washington courses with winter kill

By Bob Spiwak

Yoyo-like winter temperatures caused winter kill that devastated greens on northern Washington State courses, costing tens of thousands of dollars in repair bills and lost revenues.

The Spokane area, which boasts some of the nation's best municipal courses, was hit the hardest. Indian Canyon, perennially listed among the

top U.S. venues, counted at least half its greens this spring as "browns." And it was not alone.

In fact, courses that fared best had newly planted bentgrass, or were blanketed with snow throughout the winter. Most severely damaged were courses with incursions of poa annua (annual bluegrass) and little or no snow

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Mass. enacts new pesticide mandates

By Vern Putney

The Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture will require all private and commercial pesticide applicators to file an annual report listing specific pesticide use information based on previous year records beginning in 1992.

The records will be made available to the 351 cities and towns in the Bay

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Seed scientists making great strides

By Mark Leslie

While plant breeders are making extraordinary advances in turfgrasses, scientists are probing and developing other improvements using nature's endophytes and nematodes and new

See related stories p. 20-26.

techniques like seed priming and coating.

"A lot of very bright and talented young people are going into turfgrass research," said Dr. Reed Funk

of Rutgers University, an expert in cool-season grasses. "They will do a lot of things that haven't been done.

"Priming," he added, "could be developed to be a delivery system for micro-

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