Briefs

NOBLE FORMS TURF CONSULTANT FIRM

WILLOUGHBY, Ohio — Neil Noble, former director of turfgrass for Dye Designs Inc., has formed Environmental Turfgrass Systems Inc.

The firm will export American turfgrass and agromomic expertise to new golf developments in the Pacific Rim.

Noble recently opened an office in Honolulu, Hawaii. He had been consulting agronomist for Dye Designs for five years throughout the Pacific countries, and lived in Japan for three years.

Consulting services will be available to golf course architects working in the region.

Noble created and developed the agronomic consulting department at Dye Designs, coordinating marketing for these services in Asia through brochures, participation in domestic and international conferences and oral presentations to golf course developers in Tokyo, Osaka and Singapore.

He also hired and trained course superintendents for work on international projects.

Noble's office addresses are: 1040 Tioga Trail, Willoughby, Ohio 44094, tel. 216-951-6642, and 7 Waterfront Plaza, Suite 400, 500 Ala Moana Blvd, Honolulu, Hawaii, 808-543-2035.

ST. ANDREWS SEEKS SUPER

"The Birthplace of Golf" is seeking candidates for the new position of golf manager.

St. Andrews in Scotland has been the site of 24 British Open championships. Two of three other courses are considered of championship standard. Another two courses are being built.

According to the position announcement: "Candidates should be technically qualified, ideally in agronomy or estate management, and have a first-class track record in managing a significant golfing venue. Involvement at the highest championship level would be especially valuable."

Inquiries should be directed to Ronnie Cleland, Selection Thomson Ltd., 14 Sandyford Place, Glasgow, Scotland G3 7NB, 041/248-3666, FAX 041/248-3404.

MCGUIRE JOINS BAYOU CLUB

LARGO, Fla. — Randall E. Gentry has appointed Joseph J. McGuire as golf course superintendent for The Bayou Club.

Joseph McGuire

McGuire comes to The Bayou Club after a year and a half as assistant superintendent at the Arnold Palmer course at Saddlebrook Resort. He is a graduate of the School of Golf Course Operations in Lake City, Fla. He received additional training over six years at Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck, N.Y., and St. Andrews Golf Club in New York as well as Pompano Beach Country Club and Kings Point Country Club in Sun City Center, Fla.

McGuire is a member of the West Coast Chapter of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and the Florida Turfgrass Association.

Decision to ration water a course-saver

By Peter Blais

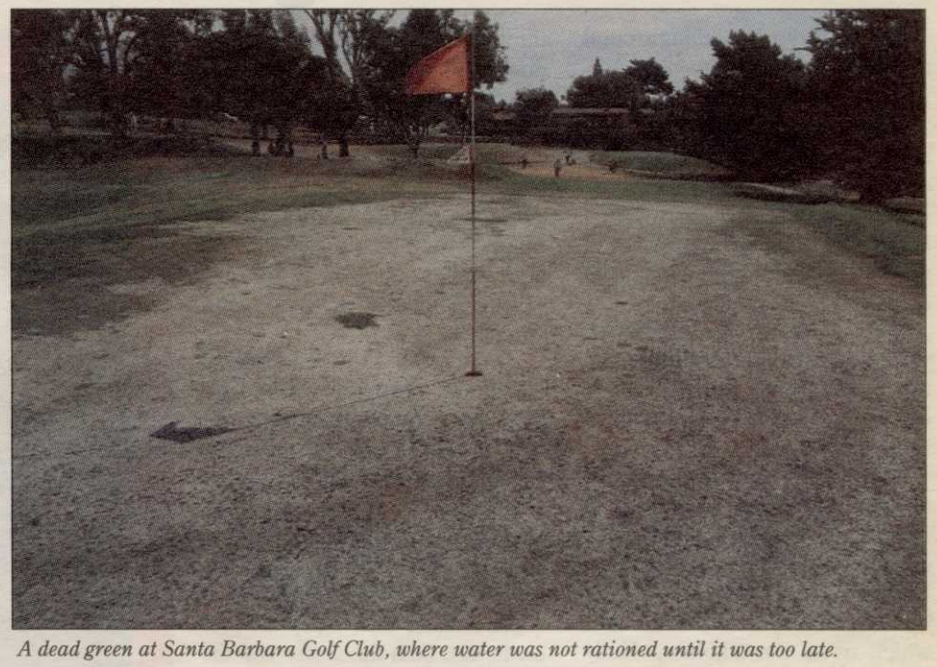
Say "yes"'to water rationing.

It is hard to imagine the golf industry jumping on the band wagon of that campaign. But it might be the smartest thing in the long run, according to a California water expert.

As golf course superintendents become increasingly involved in the debate over water use and restrictions within their communities, it is important they realize how water use by different groups can affect the way superintendents irrigate their courses, according to Larry Farwell, water conservation coordinator for the Goleta Water District near Santa Barbara.

Superintendents are also likely to find the community more supportive of continuing to provide water for golf courses if moderate, across-the-board restrictions are imposed early, rather than waiting and eventually forcing homeowners to choose between saving their lawns or the turf at the local golf course.

Elected water district officials must do something during a drought, like the one that's left California dry the past half decade, Farwell explained. They get constant pressure from the green industry not to cut its water supplies. Consequently, water districts often wait too long to take action and end up imposing severe restrictions that leave everyone unhappy.



A dead green at Santa Barbara Golf Club, where water was not rationed until it was too late.

What's the alternative?

"Don't wait," advised Farwell, who is on

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Painting presented Honors Course

A painting by New Rochelle, N.Y., artist Adriano Mannochia depicts the co-existence of wildlife and golf at The Honors Course in Ooltewah, Tenn. The Audubon Society of New York presented the painting to The Honors Course as recognition of its conservation efforts in participating with the nationwide Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses. "I attempted to capture the essence of the course, which not only details the lushness of a fairway and green, but shows the work that the course management has done for wildlife, by featuring a nesting box, as well as a bluebird, mockingbird and pileated woodpecker, three of the feathered creatures that can be found commonly on the course," Mannochia said. Honors club chairman John T. Lupton accepted the oil at the U.S. Amateur Championship held at the course. The print was unveiled Sept. 25 in Memphis, Tenn., at a three-month-long art show sponsored by One Commerce Square Associates and The Trammell Crow Co. to benefit New York Audubon. The Cooperative Sanctuary Program is partially supported by the U.S. Golf Association, which also commissioned the Mannochia painting.

Rutgers promises commitment with turfgrass center

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. - Hailed as a commitment to maintain the vitality of the turf industry in the Garden State, the Center for the Interdisciplinary Studies in Turfgrass Science will be developed at the Cook College Campus of Rutgers University.

"This is the first center of its kind," said Daryl B. Lund, executive director of agriculture and natural resources and dean of Cook College. "We will work to seize the momentum and maintain our leading status."

"The Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Turfgrass Science within the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station demonstrates the importance that the Experiment Station and Cook College attach to turfgrass research and education," said Lund.

The center, to be housed in Lipman Hall, will continue a long tradition of research in turfgrass on that campus. Turfgrass is a $500-million industry, New Jersey's largest agricultural commodity.

The center is funded through industry contributions and a portion of the royalty income from patents in turfgrasses generated at the university. Federal and state funds will also be sought.

The center will do turfgrass research, as well as education and outreach to consumers and professionals in the state. It will also provide a mechanism for faculty from diverse disciplines to work together and will support collaborative regional and national efforts.

Dr. Jaleh Daie, professor of plant physiology in the department of crop science, will serve as the center's director.

"I'm thrilled that Rutgers is committed to this expansion of its turf program," Daie said. "This will maintain the vitality of an important industry in the Garden State."

Daie received her doctoral degree in 1981 from Utah State University and was recruited to Rutgers in 1985 as a Henry Rutgers Research Fellow in what was then the department of soils and crops. She is director of the interdisciplinary graduate program in plant biology and acting chairwoman of the Crop Science Department.

Daie is an authority in carbohydrate metabolism. She and her associates investigate the molecular and cellular mechanisms by which plants allocate various carbohydrates to the economically important portions of the plant.

Turfgrass research began in 1962 at the Agricultural Experiment Station on the Cook campus with work by Dr. C. Reed Funk. A professor of crop science, Funk and his associates hold eight plant patents and more than 50 U.S. Plant Variety Protection Certificates, which are similar to patents, for turfgrass varieties.

Twenty-five Rutgers faculty members from various departments and the Center for Agricultural Molecular Biology work in turfgrass research, teaching and extension. Work at Rutgers focuses on germplasm improvement (expanding the genetic base to develop various favorable traits such as pest-and stress-resistance) and turfgrass management to develop cultural practices with minimal environmental impact.