

University and laboratory tests confirm benefits of Isolite

WESTMINSTER, Colo. — Results from university and laboratory testing confirm that the porous ceramic technology of Isolite significantly increases root mass, relieves compaction, increases retention of plant-available water in soils and delays wilt in the turfgrasses tested.

In announcing the research data, Innova Corp., which markets Isolite nationwide, noted that the tests confirm findings in the field.

The independent tests, performed by Dr. Tony Koski, assistant professor of horticulture at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, and by Chuck Dixon of Turf Diagnostics and Design in Kansas, demonstrated Isolite's ability to favorably modify

soil conditions.

Koski's testing focused on moisture retention, while Dixon's dealt with Isolite's effects on various root zone mixes.

Calling Isolite a "unique soil modified" Dixon said, "Not only does Isolite provide water management in the soil, but it also provides air management.

"Unlike traditional soil supplements, Isolite holds water, but also gives it back to the roots of the plants. As the water is given up, pores fill with oxygen, providing a balance of water and oxygen in the soil. This is a very positive attribute of the Isolite technology."

Dixon's test results also showed that Isolite decreased the bulk density of soil, and bal-

anced the capillary and noncapillary pore space.

"One of the attributes of Isolite that amazed me was the stability of the granules," Dixon remarked. "This indicated that Isolite will remain stable in a sand system."

Koski used laboratory, greenhouse and field testing as part of his research. In the field, Koski tested Isolite in a green built to USGA specifications, with very close tolerances.

"We compared Isolite in a USGA specification 90/10 sand/peat mix to a sand/peat mix by itself," Koski said. "Our tests showed that Isolite increased water retention and plant-available water compared to sand/peat alone."

"One of the most interesting parts of this test," he added, "is that it showed the volume of roots in the Isolite amended green was increased at all irrigation levels, but the most significant differentials were in the low irrigation levels."

Resiliency — a key factor to soil scientists involved with sports turf — was significantly increased when Isolite was added to the soil, according to Koski.

"We found we had increased resiliency in Isolite amended soils, even at low irrigation levels," Koski said. "In fact, the 40-percent irrigation level plots with Isolite were more resilient than the 80-percent irrigation level plots without Isolite."

Tee-2-Green tabs Duich as consultant

HUBBARD, Ore. — Dr. Joseph M. Duich has joined Tee-2-Green Corp. as technical advisor and consultant.

Duich was professor of turfgrass science at Pennsylvania State University for more than 36 years, retiring Dec. 31.

While at Penn State, Duich assisted Professor H.B. Musser in developing Penncross creeping bentgrass, released in 1955. Penncross was the first advanced creeping bentgrass cultivar exclusively for golf course use. Duich later developed Penneagle and PennLinks creeping bentgrasses.

He taught turfgrass science to hundreds of golf course superintendents, and has often consulted with, and spoken to golf course associations.

As consultant and technical advisor for Tee-2-Green Corp., Duich will address golf course superintendents' questions and management practice inquiries concerning the 'Penn Pals' creeping bentgrasses.

Exhibitors

Continued from page 42

positive response to fans to cool stressed greens, plus improved recognition of the 2-year-old company has helped boost interest.

"Customers who bought one or two fans last year are coming back for a couple of more this year," he said. "Most courses average four fans."

E-Z-GO President L.T. Walden noted a "better mood" among pros at this year's PGA Show in Orlando and superintendents at the GCSAA event.

"Things were down last year," he recalled. "I don't know why. Golf course construction just seemed to be down. You figure 60 new cars at an 18-hole course and that hurts."

Charles Barebo of Otterbine said sales leads were higher quality, though traffic at the pond aeration company's booth was off 10 to 15 percent from 1991.

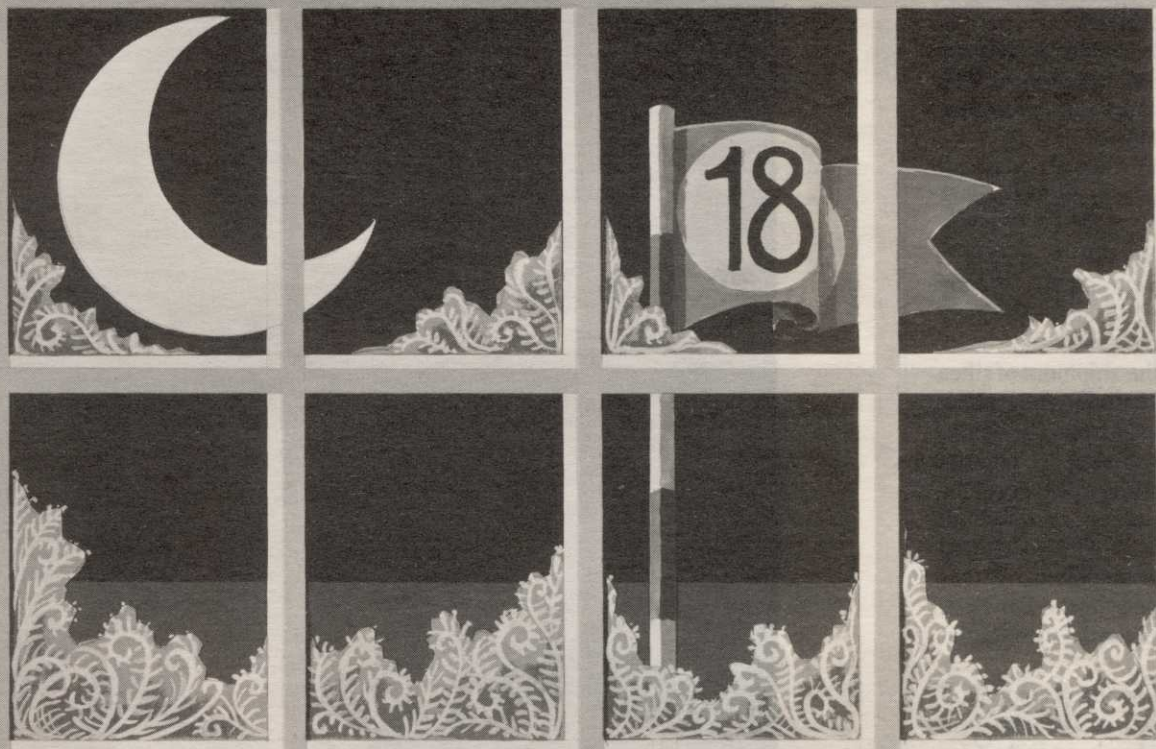
"We've used the recession to improve our distribution and quality control while introducing some new products," the company president said. "We'll be in better position to take advantage of an improved economy when we come out of this. Things should really skyrocket."

Several new companies were among the 550 exhibitors. GCSAA spokesman Scott Smith said attendance will be around 1991's 16,000, but short of the record in Orlando two years ago.

"This is our first time here," said Barbara Gonzalez, senior coordinator of business development with Arnold Palmer Golf Course Management Co.

"We've seen about 100 people every day. Many were contacts for remodeling. We had a lot of foreign interest, too. People came through here from Canada, Mexico and South America. Some had topo maps, so you knew they were serious," she said.

GOLF COURSE NEWS



Avoiding Frost At Any Cost

When vacationing linksters arrive at your course they want it to look just like it did in the brochures. They don't care how cold it gets at night, they came down to play some golf. They don't mind wearing a heavy sweater for an early morning round, but if frost and winter stress prevent your course from looking and playing up to par, they'll just keep going south.

You can't control the weather, but you can control the damage done to your course by those sub-freezing nights. NoburN™ natural wetting agent will help prevent winter stress damage, which will keep vacationing linksters coming back year after year.

NoburN™ will also provide other benefits:

- Improve the winter stress tolerance and vigor by loosening up hard soils so water and nutrients can flow to the roots.
- Morning dew is reduced, so there is less chance of frost damage to your bermudagrass. When the spring comes, the grass is ready and able to come out of dormancy and make a strong transition into spring growth.
- Unlike synthetic wetting agents, NoburN™ works by loosening hard, compacted soils for long-term relief. Your winter hardened tees, greens and fairways will benefit from the improvement in percolation.

Since NoburN™ is 90% organic, derived from the desert Yucca plant; there is no problem with burning or residual build up. Come spring time . . . you'll be glad you used NoburN™.

roots inc.

A Division of LISA Products Corp.
25 Science Park, New Haven, CT 06511

NOBURN
NATURAL WETTING AGENT
AND SOIL PENETRANT

*NoburN is a trade mark of LISA Products Corporation