

BRIEFS



HINES HONORED FOR OPEN EXCELLENCE

MONTEREY, Calif. — A plaque recognizing outstanding course preparation for the U.S. Open went to Pebble Beach superintendent Bradley C. Hines during that prestigious tournament. Presentation was made by GCSAA Vice President Randy Nichols, course superintendent at Cherokee Town and Country Club in Dunwoody, Ga., at the annual GCSAA VIP reception.

STORAGE TANK SAFETY VIDEO

BETHESDA, Md. — The Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Underground Storage Tanks has released a new video showing what happens when petroleum leaks into the subsurface. "Petroleum Leaks Underground" is a two-part video focusing on the liquid and gas phases of leaks.

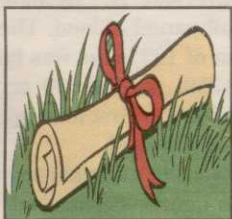
The video shows how traditional pump-and-treat cleanup processes may smear contaminants through the subsurface, creating a more difficult cleanup. EPA is encouraging several new site-assessment and cleanup techniques, such as vapor surveying and vacuum extraction. Copies of the video are available by calling 800-522-0362 or writing EMC, Box 30212, Bethesda, Md. 20814.

WADE RETURNS FROM BRITAIN

MARYSVILLE, Ohio — Back from the recent British Open in Scotland, Skip Wade was abuzz with tournament tales. The golf course superintendent at Cherry Valley Country Club in Amityville, N.Y., won a trip in a contest sponsored by O.M. Scott & Sons Co. The trip for two, July 14-21, included round trip airfare, hotel accommodations for six nights, ground transportation, three rounds of golf and four days of admission to the British Open.

SCHOLARSHIP INFO AVAILABLE

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Application packets for the 1993 GCSAA Turfgrass Scholarship competition have been mailed to turf management program advisers at U.S. colleges and universities. Eligible are undergraduate turf management students who have completed either the first year of a two- or four-year program, and graduate students enrolled in turf management programs. More than 900 students have received scholarship assistance from GCSAA Scholarship & Research the past 35 years.



Toro OKs wetting agents in HydroJect

By HAL PHILLIPS

Good news for all those maintenance crew members who've been using wetting agents in their HydroJects on the sly: The heat's off.

The Toro Company has approved the use of wetting agents in the Toro HydroJect 3000 water injection aerator. The approval is limited to liquid, soil-wetting agents that can be applied directly through the machine.

Officials at Toro have long been aware that superintendents across the country have been running dispersants through the HydroJect. However, "They won't admit it to us because it would void their warranty," said Ben Street, market manager for Toro's Commercial Products Division.

In fact, HydroJect owners have raised the issue with Toro since the technology was introduced in 1990.

"They've been wanting to do it almost from the beginning, but we've never approved it," Street continued. "We've always had concerns about what we could run through the HydroJect without damaging the machine."

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Overseeding: Not much fun, but necessary

By ANN SCHREIFELS and DR. DOUGLAS HOUSEWORTH

Overseeding turf is like taking medicine you wouldn't take — if it weren't good for you. In the case of golf courses in the South, overseeding definitely is good for business.

The process requires extra work, but it pays off fast. Managing the transition from summer to winter turf, however, requires preparation well in advance of the planting date.

Peer and disease pressure both play big roles as golf course superintendents determine whether to overseed. Peer pressure boils down to one question: What is the competition doing? Once one course in an area begins overseeding, others most often follow suit.

From a marketing standpoint, year-round, wall-to-wall green is a big attraction. The course that isn't green is perceived to be "worse" than its competitors. Dr. Gerard Pepin, director of research at Pickseed West, said the trend has grown rapidly in recent years.

"Overseeding began many years ago in the Southeast and 10 years ago on greens and tees in California," he said.

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Ann Schreifels is a free-lance writer. Dr. Douglas Houseworth is manager of technical services for Ciba-Geigy's Turf and Ornamental Products group.

Fairway/Tee Results

NAME	CA1	GA1	KS1	KY1	MA1	MI1	MS1	TX1	WA3	MEAN
*PROVIDENCE	N/A	7.1	7.2	6.4	7.5	6.6	5.9	4.2	5.8	6.3
*PUTTER	6.3	6.9	7.0	5.5	6.9	6.2	5.7	4.3	6.6	6.2
88.CBL	X	6.9	6.8	6.0	7.5	6.2	6.5	3.3	5.7	6.1
*WVVB 89-D-15	6.1	6.5	6.8	6.1	7.1	5.0	6.0	X	5.4	6.1
*SR 1020	6.4	6.7	6.9	5.5	7.1	5.9	6.4	4.2	5.8	6.1
*PENNLINKS	6.3	7.0	6.8	6.0	7.5	5.8	6.3	3.7	5.6	6.1
*FORBES 89-12	6.3	6.7	6.5	5.6	7.7	6.1	6.3	3.8	5.6	6.1
*NORMARC 101	6.3	6.6	7.0	5.8	7.3	6.0	6.3	3.5	5.3	6.0
MSCB-8	6.3	X	6.6	X	6.8	5.3	6.3	X	4.3	6.0
*COBRA	6.6	6.4	6.8	5.3	7.3	5.8	6.1	3.3	5.6	5.9
88.CBE	5.8	6.6	6.8	6.2	7.3	5.7	6.1	3.5	5.1	5.9
*PENNCROSS	6.0	6.9	6.7	5.8	6.7	5.8	6.0	3.8	4.3	5.8
*CARMEN	5.9	6.8	6.5	5.2	6.6	6.0	5.7	3.5	4.7	5.7
TAMU 88-1	6.4	5.9	6.7	4.8	7.1	5.9	5.9	3.3	4.8	5.6
UM 84-01 (BISKA)	6.1	6.8	6.1	5.0	6.6	5.7	5.7	3.3	5.5	5.6
MSCB-6	X	5.6	6.3	X	6.5	4.7	6.3	X	4.4	5.6
*NATIONAL	5.2	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.4	4.7	5.4	4.7	4.4	5.6
*EMERALD	5.7	5.9	6.8	5.7	6.1	4.9	4.7	3.8	5.2	5.4
*EGMONT	5.5	4.7	6.3	6.0	6.7	1.8	5.5	X	5.9	5.3
*BARDOT	4.4	5.2	6.6	5.1	6.3	1.2	6.0	4.2	6.1	5.0
*TRACENTA	4.2	5.3	6.1	5.6	6.2	1.1	5.1	3.3	6.3	4.8
ALLURE	4.1	5.0	6.3	X	5.9	1.7	5.2	X	4.8	4.7
BR 1518	3.4	5.5	6.5	4.9	4.7	1.1	5.3	3.3	3.5	4.3
LSD VALUE	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.5	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.3	0.5	0.3

NTEP bentgrass results are in; more specific testing in offing

By MARK LESLIE

National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) officials plan to more closely study wear tolerance, close mowing and aggressiveness in a new battery of tests on bentgrasses.

After publishing second-year data from the NTEP's first bentgrass plots ever, National Turfgrass Federation National Director Kevin N. Morris said more specific studies are needed. "These tests are a starting place," Morris said. "We have been able to show there are a lot of good varieties available besides the standards. We've also been able to get good disease data."

"But bentgrass is very specific to golf course use. We have to do more in-depth work on wear tolerance and other factors that are what superintendents encounter in the real world. For instance, aggressiveness. Competition with poa annua is important. And more intense maintenance would be important to superintendents."

Improvements in the testing system will be evident in a new group of bentgrasses that will be planted in the fall of 1993. Results will be published in 1995.

Striving to address the variance in how different sites are maintained and gain more complete data, the NTEP this year will start paying cooperators in the tests as they submit information.

"Basically, that will give us more freedom and flexibility to get better tests in place and pay people to do a better job," Morris said. "We will be able to do some of these tests like wear tolerance that take more time, resources and power."

He explained that bentgrass tests require cooperators to more intensely mow, water and treat the grass with pesticides: "In many cases you have to have an area set up particularly to do that — graded, irrigated and with the right soil. It is more expensive to set up an area initially, so not

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Modified Soil Results

NAME	CA1	IL1	IN1	KS1	KS2	KY1	MD1	NJ1	NJ3	OH2	ON1	OR	RI	UB1	VA5	WA3	MEAN
*Providence	6.4	6.7	7.0	5.5	8.4	8.2	6.7	6.2	6.2	5.9	7.6	6.3	3.7	5.4	4.6	5.1	6.2
*Putter	6.9	6.3	7.0	6.0	8.2	7.1	6.8	5.8	5.2	6.4	7.7	5.9	2.9	4.4	5.6	6.0	6.1
*Forbes 89-12	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.0	8.0	6.9	6.5	5.6	5.0	6.3	7.5	6.5	2.4	4.6	5.3	4.8	6.0
*Penneagle	6.5	6.5	6.7	5.7	7.7	6.8	6.4	5.8	5.7	6.3	7.1	5.8	3.4	5.2	4.7	5.1	6.0
*Pencross	6.7	6.1	6.9	5.8	7.1	6.0	5.4	5.6	6.0	6.3	6.9	5.6	3.0	5.5	6.3	5.5	5.9
*Cobra	7.0	5.7	6.7	6.0	7.9	7.3	6.6	6.1	5.3	5.9	7.1	6.2	2.8	4.7	4.4	5.1	5.9
*Normarc 101	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.0	7.9	4.9	6.5	5.8	5.1	5.9	7.1	5.9	3.2	5.6	5.4	5.1	5.9
*WVVB 89-D-15	6.7	6.0	6.8	6.0	7.8	6.7	6.7	5.8	6.0	6.2	7.0	6.0	2.9	4.5	4.3	5.1	5.9
88.CBL	X	5.5	X	6.2	7.8	7.3	6.7	5.3	X	X	7.3	6.6	3.2	5.3	4.8	4.9	5.9
*SR 1020	6.3	6.3	6.2	5.8	7.7	8.0	6.3	4.4	5.0	6.3	6.9	6.0	2.6	4.4	4.1	4.8	5.7
TAMU 88-1	6.8	X	6.2	6.7	7.3	5.5	6.1	5.0	X	6.1	7.2	5.8	3.1	3.6	4.9	5.4	5.7
*Carmen	7.1	6.3	6.8	5.8	7.2	6.4	5.6	4.6	5.0	5.9	6.5	6.0	2.8	4.7	4.6	4.7	5.6
*Emerald	6.1	5.0	6.1	6.5	6.3	6.8	6.5	4.1	3.7	5.7	7.0	5.5	2.5	3.7	5.9	4.9	5.4
*National	5.4	5.6	6.5	6.2	6.6	6.6	6.2	3.9	4.7	5.8	7.2	4.9	3.1	3.9	4.4	4.6	5.3
*Egmont	5.6	5.8	5.1	5.2	4.3	7.3	6.2	4.6	3.8	5.5	6.7	4.2	4.4	6.1	5.1	5.3	5.3
*Bardot	4.8	5.9	5.4	6.2	4.8	4.0	6.4	4.7	4.0	5.5	7.2	4.6	4.3	6.0	5.4	5.1	5.3
88.CBE	X	6.1	X	5.8	X	5.7	X	5.3	X	X	X	6.4	2.8	5.0	4.8	4.4	5.1
*Tracenta	4.4	5.8	5.1	4.8	4.5	3.9	5.8	5.4	3.4	6.1	6.9	4.0	4.5	6.3	5.3	4.5	5.0
Allure	5.3	X	4.1	5.7	4.2	6.1	6.1	4.1	3.0	5.5	6.3	4.3	4.0	4.4	4.9	4.8	4.8
BR 1518	4.0	3.9	3.5	5.2	4.9	3.0	5.6	3.7	2.5	5.1	6.5	2.8	3.8	4.1	4.8	4.3	4.2
LSD VALUE	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.9	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.8	1.2	0.6	0.2

Native Soil Results

NAME	AL1	CA1	IA1	IL1	IL2	NJ1	NJ3	ON1	OR3	RI1	VA1	WA1	WA2	MEAN
*PROVIDENCE	3.4	6.5	5.9	5.5	5.5	7.3	5.6	7.8	6.1	5.8	5.1	7.4	6.9	6.1
*FORBES 89-12	3.7	6.5	6.3	5.5	5.7	6.8	5.9	7.8	6.4	4.4	4.8	7.3	6.5	6.0
88.CBL	4.0	6.6	5.9	6.1	4.9	6.7	5.5	7.5	6.4	4.0	5.1	6.7	6.3	5.8
*PUTTER	3.3	6.4	5.9	5.3	5.5	6.0	5.1	8.3	5.8	5.1	4.9	6.6	6.4	5.7
*COBRA	3.7	6.6	6.0	5.4	5.4	6.7	4.9	7.5	6.0	4.3	5.2	6.8	6.2	5.7
*PENNLINKS	3.8	6.9	6.1	4.7	5.1	6.3	4.6	8.0	"5.9"	4.6	4.9	6.7	6.8	5.7
*WVVB 89-D-15	3.7	6.7	6.3	5.1	5.5	6.8	5.5	7.5	5.6	3.8	4.6	6.8	6.4	5.7
*NORMARC 101	3.6	6.3	6.2	5.1	5.1	6.5	5.3	7.8	5.6	4.7	5.2	6.5	6.1	5.7
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*EGMONT	4.9	5.2	4.6	3.3	4.5	4.1	3.2	7.7	3.5	3.4	4.9	5.2	4.6	4.6
ALLURE	4.7	4.6	4.2	3.9	4.0	3.0	2.6	7.3	3.4	2.0	4.2	4.3	5.4	4.1
BR 1518	4.6	3.4	4.2	4.3	3.1	2.4	2.7	6.5	2.4	2.0	3.8	3.7	2.9	3.6
LSD VALUE	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.2	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.2

Overseeding booms in California, Southeast

Continued from page 11

"Now, the practice has boomed in the Southeast, and California is overseeding fairways."

Competition for winter golfers is increasing, and "snowbirds" have come to expect lush, green courses. Once overseeding eases peer pressure from the competition, though, another kind of pressure takes over — turf seedling disease.

Even with all the advances in modern technology, superintendents cannot control the one factor most responsible for disease in overseeded turf: weather.

In fact, during overseeding, the two factors most responsible for Pythium blight and similar diseases become prevalent: heat and moisture. Frequent irrigation is necessary to establish turf, and in many Southern locales — even during fall and winter — high temperatures are common.

"You can't let the seedbed dry out," said Chuck Rogers, director of grounds at Saddlebrook Resort in Wesley Chapel, Fla. "But keeping it wet opens you up to a lot of problems."

Rogers minimizes the disruptions caused by overseeding by taking all the necessary precautions.

"We close the course for two or three days during overseeding, and we use good fungicides to safeguard our seed," he said. "That cost doesn't compare to what closing the course a second time would cost."

Rogers uses only treated seed, and then applies a systemic fungicide. "Young seedlings are very susceptible to pythium," he added. "The spray schedule we follow gives them a better chance."

Dr. Phillip Colbaugh, associate professor of plant pathology at Texas A&M University, recommends that people who are overseeding use seed treated with fungicides.

"Planting at any time of year is conducive to pythium because there's lots of moisture," he said. "Using treated seed and a systemic fungicide can protect the seedlings until their roots are better established."

Colbaugh added that seedling disease is always present in the soil. Its effect on turf depends on moisture, temperature and the resiliency of the roots.

"The soft tissue found in newly established seedlings has no natural defense mechanisms," said Colbaugh. "Superintendents need to recognize this so they can plan a good program."

In a recent study, Colbaugh compared untreated seed with seed treated with a fungicide combination. Results showed that average stand counts were 20 to 95 percent higher with the treated seed, and the incidence of infection was signifi-

cantly reduced.

Root development is one of the most important elements when establishing new turf. A strong root system gives young plants an extra edge as they compete for survival.

There is no sure-fire method for promoting growth, but certain fungicides can aid in seedling development two ways: protecting against disease, and promoting faster root growth.

According to Dr. Doug Houseworth, manager of techni-

cal support for Ciba-Geigy Turf and Ornamental Products, timing is critical for the effectiveness of herbicides on cool-season grasses. "Establishment is best enhanced when the product is applied at the two-to three-leaf stage," he said.

Rooting — along with seedling disease — are facets of overseeded turf that can't be ignored. While superintendents cannot control Mother Nature, they can control disease and root establishment.

Certification for lawn care pros

Standards for certification of natural organic lawn care professionals in the Northeastern United States have been set.

It's the first effort by the Natural Organic Lawn Care Standards and Certification Committee to codify in the United States minimum standards of natural lawn care by professionals seeking to limit lawn care practice to a strict, ecological program.

These standards will be

the basis for certifying professional natural organic lawn practitioners engaged in contract service work in the public and private sectors in the northeastern U.S. and southern Canada.

For additional information, contact Mary Owen, turf program coordinator, University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension System, 812 Millbury St., Worcester, Mass. 01607; or call 508-831-1225.

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Sonesta Bermudagrass



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gram, including fertilization and disease control requirements.

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