

BRIEFS



GOVERNOR APPOINTS CLARK

GREEN VALLEY, Ariz. — Mark K. Clark, head superintendent of Green Valley Country Club here, has been appointed by Arizona Gov. Fife Symington to the Structural Pest Control Commission. Clark is the first person from the "green industry" to hold such a position. His appointment is for three years, and will require monthly meetings which involve travel and a great deal of case study for each meeting. It is a voluntary position.



Mark Clark

PHILLY GCS ELECT GUSTAITIS

PHILADELPHIA — The Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents has elected Anthony Gustaitis president. Vice President is Joseph Owsik, while Donald R. Brown, CGCS, is treasurer; Henry C. Wetzel, Jr. secretary; and Steve Carpenter sergeant at arms.

PAIUTE RESORT HIRES LOPEZ

LAS VEGAS — William "Willie" Lopez is the new superintendent here at the Las Vegas Paiute Golf Resort, according to Carl von Hake, general manager. Lopez, formerly the assistant superintendent, takes charge of 40 employees and two 18-hole championship courses — Snow and Sun Mountain. He graduated from the Turf Management Program at the College of the Desert in Palm Desert, Calif. Von Hake said Lopez has filled the vacancy left by Jim Sprankle, who has assumed a similar post in Indonesia.

PENN STATE RESEARCH GETS \$130K

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council has allocated \$130,000 to the Pennsylvania State University for the 1996-97 fiscal year. The grants, totalling more than \$1 million, have been donated to Penn State by the council over the past nine years. The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council has a membership of more than 1,200, comprising golf course superintendents, lawn care owners/operators, landscapers, grounds managers, industrial representatives, and many others in the turf industry.



CANADIAN CONFERENCE

Rossi: As knowledge expands, so will IPM

By MARK LESLIE

MONTREAL — Predicting that pest-management careers loom in the future of the turfgrass industry, Dr. Frank Rossi said Integrated Pest Management (IPM) will become more effective as the base of knowledge widens.

Speaking at the Canadian International Turfgrass Conference and Show here, Rossi told superintendents: "As we get more people in turf and the

superintendent gets more and more educated, the jobs are going to be more competitive and you're going to need more trained staff. You'll have lifetime assistants, people who spend a career as pest-management experts on golf courses."

The move in that direction will correlate with knowledge, said the New York State Extension turfgrass specialist and Cornell University assistant professor.

"To me," he said, "IPM is just a matter of making decisions based on what you know — not on how much [pesticide] you have in the shop. We want you to make knowledge-based, not product-based, decisions... We have to know more about the biological system we are managing. This means the plants as well as the pests."

IPM, Rossi said, "is about options. How many options do I have to deal with this

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USGA funds research on floating green

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho — The U.S. Golf Association (USGA) Green Section will award Washington State University (WSU) a \$24,000 funding grant to study the run-off water used to irrigate the floating green here at the Coeur D'Alene Resort.

A multi-million-dollar, state-of-the-art water-collection system exists underneath the floating green. It collects all rain and irrigation water into huge tanks and prevents any of the water — not to mention any other products used to maintain the floating green — from escaping into Lake Coeur D'Alene.

The water is then pumped back on shore where it's disposed of along with other golf course runoff. In their continuing efforts to make golf courses more environmentally-friendly, WSU and the USGA will study this water and the products it contains.

In 1996, Washington State Golf Asso-

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PROVING GROUND

Hercules Country Club in Wilmington, Del., has been a testing area for fall-applied pre-emergence herbicides for crabgrass control by Sam Snyder, director of facilities and grounds. This shows the signature 15th hole of the 27-hole facility. See story, page 28

QA Danneberger details research into bent and rye

Karl Danneberger is an associate professor of Turfgrass Science at Ohio State University. He coordinates and teaches undergraduate turfgrass science, and conducts research in turf management and physiology. His studies have included plant growth regulator use, green speed studies, alternative spike use, control of moss, and high temperature stress work. At present, he is concentrating on the three research areas discussed in the following article.

Golf Course News: Could you discuss your research involving creeping bentgrass and perennial ryegrass cultivar identification?

Karl Danneberger: Golf course superintendents choose specific cultivars to fill specific needs. Superintendents base their selection on information listed in seed catalogs, and National Turfgrass Evalu-



Karl Danneberger

ation Program (NTEP) reports. These two entities report cultivar's resistance to disease, insects, levels of endophyte, performance under stress, color, texture and growth habit.

Understandably, when superintendents purchase a lot of seed of a particular cultivar they expect it to perform similar to

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COOLING THE CANOPY

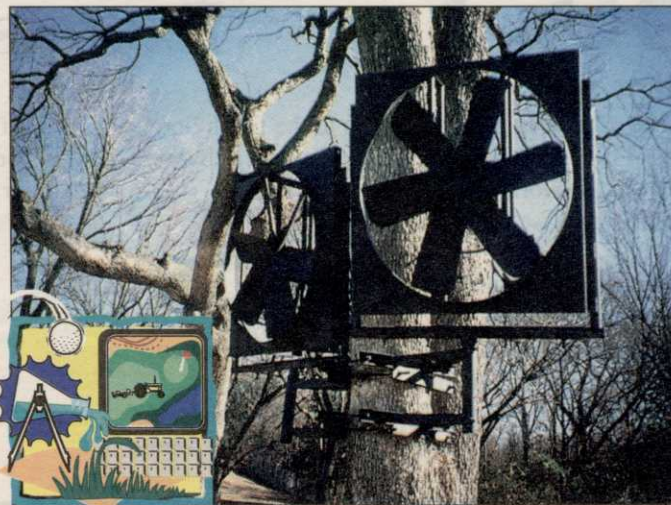
Technology advances fans

By TERRY BUCHEN

DALLAS — Growing bentgrass greens, in the transition zone or warm-season climates, is difficult at best, but has been made easier with the advent of greens fans installed at a superintendent's discretion.

"Since we have installed our fans, we have seen the quality go from fair/mediocre to excellent summer greens," said Mark Price, greens and

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ON THE GREEN

New way found to bring fan relief to turf.

An easy breeze is quite enough

MONTREAL — Knowing air, soil and canopy temperatures — and taking measures to control them — are crucial to keeping turfgrass alive, according to Dr. Joseph DiPaola.

Well-known for his research in turf-growth regulation, water stress and cold hardiness, DiPaola told Canadian superintendents: "The entire system of turfgrass stresses is largely

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BIGGA steps up environmental programs

By TREVOR LEDGER

HARROGATE, England — The continued effort to improve the environmental image of golf course construction and maintenance received a boost here at January's BTME '97, the annual trade show and conference sponsored by the British and International Golf Greenkeepers As-

sociation (BIGGA) "The BIGGA Golf Environment Competition in association with Amazone and Rhone Poulenc Amenity" is open to every course in the United Kingdom that honors environmental achievement. This is the third year the competition has been held but the first time that Rhone Poulenc Ame-

nity has put its name to it. Further environmental efforts include BIGGA's release of a new video, "Golf Course Ecology," which complements the book, "A Practical Guide to the Ecological Management of the Golf Course." As the industry grows, environmental opposition to golf development is sure to become

more strident. Strengthening the environmental competition and release of the video highlight golf's need to be seen as "green."

"Yes, we do need to let people know what we are doing," said BIGGA Press Officer Scott MacCallum. "Both the video and the book are designed to be accessible to everyone, not just greenkeepers and managers but the whole golf club."

General public consumption is not the immediate aim, yet BIGGA is aware that the wider its influence, the better for the game.

Matt Phillips of Friends of the Earth was prepared to give it a cautious welcome, but also to fire shots over bows regarding the activities of golf courses.

Phillips conceded there is a positive side to golf in that Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) are able to flourish on some of them, largely in uncut rough. This concession, however, was a minor one.

"Internationally, golf course construction is having a devastating impact on the environment," said Phillips. "Micronesian rain forests that have evolved over millenia are being carved out to make way for golf courses."

"Whilst we are pleased that the boom in golf course planning applications seems to have slowed down," he said, "the damage to the environment on established courses continues on a large scale."



Poor soil structure results in recurrent drainage and disease problems, excessive irrigation and syringing needs, and unnecessary maintenance expense.

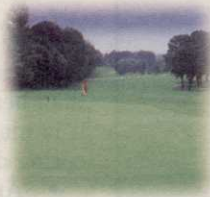


University and field tests show AXIS improves infiltration, increases available water, reduces compaction, and improves soil structure to promote healthy root growth.

You can keep treating symptoms. Or improve your soil structure once and for all with AXIS.

AXIS amends soil for turf that's more resistant to recurring problems.

It's basic. Healthier turf handles stress and fights off disease better. And it all starts in the root zone. AXIS is a superior all-natural inorganic soil

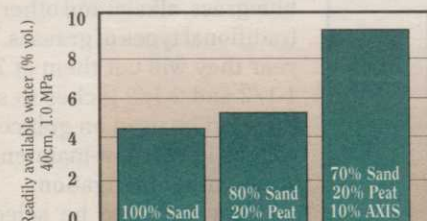


amendment that makes a permanent structural improvement in virtually any soil profile to make it easier for you to grow healthier turf.

Proven effective in USGA greens.

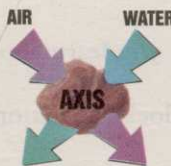
Ohio State University testing showed AXIS increases both readily available water and water retention in USGA root zone mixture, while increasing permeability in most cases.

% of Readily Available Water In USGA Fine Sand Mix



How to use AXIS.

AXIS is very effective helping you manage the air/water balance in soil to promote dense, healthy root growth.



1. Soil Modification.

On tees and greens, fill aeration holes with a 50% sand, 50% AXIS mix for an ongoing, low-cost soil modification program.

2. New Construction.

Mix 10% AXIS in the top 6" of sand-based root zone mixes to help create a soil structure that combines fast drainage and reduced compaction with increased water retention.

3. The Quick Green Rebuild.

Strip sod from a distressed green. Till 10% AXIS, along with lime, slow-release NPK into the top 6" of the sand-based root zone. Apply washed sod directly on the modified base. Irrigate regularly. After 3 weeks, verticut the new sod, and roll. The result will be a playable green in about 6 weeks, at much lower cost than conventional renovation. Call for additional details on this technique.

AXIS is a unique diatomaceous earth product.

AXIS is the only American-made calcined DE soil amendment. It's naturally porous with low



AXIS has internal pores designed by nature to absorb and release water.

bulk density, is chemically inert, and will not compact or break down over time even under the most extreme conditions.

Improve your soil structure once and for all with AXIS. It's the surest, safest, most basic way to create better turf.

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Floating green is being studied

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ciation (WSGA) began earmarking 50 cents from each individual member's annual dues for regional turfgrass research, to be administered by the Northwest Turfgrass Association (NTA).

This resulted in a total contribution of approximately \$44,000 in 1996. According to the Western Director of the USGA Green Section, Larry Gilhuly, WSU was chosen from 15 applicants to receive this grant, in large part due to the WSGA's contribution.

"It is the USGA's policy to fund research projects which have significant support from state and regional golf associations before all others," Gilhuly said. "The WSGA's contribution was a primary factor the USGA considered in awarding this grant to WSU. Without it, the grant may not have been made. This is an exciting example of how the WSGA's contribution is being put to good use and will result in long-term benefits for all Northwest golfers and our golf courses."

Along with WSU, Coeur D'Alene Resort superintendent John Anderson will be involved in overseeing the research. Anderson, formerly of the Oregon Golf Club in West Linn, Ore., has received national recognition for his efforts in using and promoting environmentally friendly maintenance practices.

The USGA has indicated it will possibly extend funding into 1998 and 1999.