

# WHIPPING GREEN INTO SHAPE

A member of the grounds crew at Jamaica's Tryall Country Club whips the greens to rid the putting surface of the earthworm casts prior to cutting the grass. Since it is soil-like, the worm cast material is similar to top dressing, allowing golfers to putt over a relatively smooth surface.



## ISS organizes employee training

POMPANO BEACH, Fla. — As part of its effort to enhance employee skill levels and customer satisfaction, ISS Golf Services has created a special training center for assistant superintendents, according to company literature.

The classes, which will be held at the Pompano Beach Municipal Golf Course, will emphasize 'training the trainers' and increasing the skills and knowledge base of the ISS training team.

"Even though many of our assistant

superintendents have four-year degrees, they don't necessarily know how to train people to operate landscape equipment," said Paul Hickman, division vice president for ISS Golf Services. "This program gives them a very formalized and structured review of how equipment should be used."

The first two sessions, held in 1998, emphasized the diverse skills needed to maintain turfgrass in sports settings, particularly golf courses and professional baseball fields. Topics covered equipment operation, field calibration of chemical sprayers, and the anatomy and physiology of turfgrass.

Sessions include classroom activities in a specially renovated construction trailer, followed by outdoor demonstrations.

For instance, the turfgrass classes led by ISS agronomist Keith Kirchoffer included a review of literature, followed by an actual demonstration of healthy and stressed turfgrasses.

"We are making a concerted effort through our Associate Development Programs (ADP) to standardize the way we do things throughout the company," Hickman said. "The combination of classroom and hands-on experience is working well for us. And everyone who attends has to turn in a review and critique of the program."

## N.C. Turf Council awards scholarships

Seven North Carolina turf students were awarded scholarships from the Turfgrass Council of North Carolina for the 1998-99 school year.

The students were chosen by interview, from the turf school in North Carolina, including North Carolina State University, Catawba Valley Community College, Sandhills Community College, Wayne Community College and Brunswick Community College.

North Carolina State University students were awarded a total of \$4,000, including the Anthony Angelichio Memorial Scholarship and the TRIMS Software International, Inc. scholarship.

The recipients were Grant Leonard of Chapel Hill, who plans to graduate early in December with an associate degree in turfgrass management.

Also, Allen J. McNally of Durham, who plans to graduate early in December with a four-year degree in turfgrass management; and Matthew C. Sandberg of Marshville, who plans to graduate with an associate degree in turfgrass management.

Four Catawba Valley Community College students received scholarships. They were Dan Kaminski of Nebo, who plans to graduate with an associate degree; Matteo J. Recchio of Sparta, who plans to graduate with an associate degree in turfgrass management; Christopher Walker of Lincolnton, who plans to graduate with an associate degree in turfgrass management technology; and John M. Gillespie III of Boone, who plans to graduate with an associate degree in turfgrass management.

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