



Terry Buchen, CGCS, MG, is president of Golf Agronomy International. He's a 38-year, life member of the GCSAA. He can be reached at terrybuchen@earthlink.net.



Travels With Terry

Globetrotting consulting agronomist Terry Buchen visits many golf courses annually with his digital camera in hand. He will share helpful ideas relating to maintenance equipment from the golf course superintendents he visits – as well as a few ideas of his own – with timely photos and captions that explore the changing world of golf course management.

Snug as a bug

John Deere trailers are used commonly for transporting one or two John Deere walk-behind greensmowers at a time. Norman A. Furtado, golf course superintendent at The Mid Ocean Club in Hamilton, Bermuda, replaced the hard, plastic interior sides of the trailers after they wore out. The interior sides, along with 8-inch-by-8-inch wood beams that run the full length of the trailer's interior, hold the mowers in place. A $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch-diameter wood bit was used to make four $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch-deep notches into the wood beams so the transport wheel shafts could be placed into the notches on both sides. Each wooden beam is held in place with two $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-diameter lag bolts. The end of each wooden beam closest to the tailgate is cut at a 45-degree angle to help guide the outside edge of the transport drive roller into place.

For added traction for the mower's large, smooth transport drive rollers, a $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch-thick piece of rubber matting about 18 inches wide was placed down the center of the trailer and tailgate. The matting is held in place with $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch-diameter pop rivets spaced 12 inches apart on both sides.

The wood beams cost about \$35, and each rubber mat and set of pop rivets costs about \$15. The labor involved was less than three hours.



Lift and cut

Norman A. Furtado, golf course superintendent at The Mid Ocean Club in Hamilton, Bermuda, uses John Deere Model 220A, walk-behind greensmowers on the greens and collars. John Cabral, head mechanic, installed small brushes from a Toro 3100 greensmower behind the solid front rollers, right in front of the reel and bedknife. The small brushes do a great job of lifting any surface runners on the TifEagle Bermudagrass greens cut off by the cutting unit, Furtado says. The small brushes are bolted to the solid front roller shafts by drilling $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch-diameter holes on both ends.

The small brushes and hardware cost about \$100 each, and it took about one hour to install them. **GCI**

