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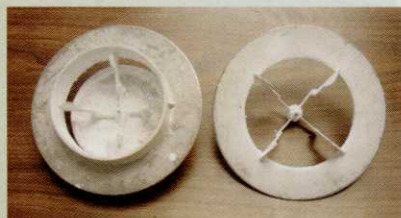


Travels With Terry

Globetrotting consulting agronomist Terry Buchen visits many golf courses annually with his digital camera in hand. He shares 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.

SPREADER MOUNTING

A unique fertilizer spreader mounting was accomplished by Bart Miller, former superintendent at the Whiskey Creek Golf Club in Ijamsville, Md. The Lesco Commercial Plus rotary spreader, with an extended hopper, had a 1.5-inch piece of angle iron bolted to it, which was welded to a 2" x 2" female receiver hitch, which allows the spreader to be installed/removed quickly. A Valley Industries Class III receiver hitch was welded upside-down to the front of the Ventrac aerifier which was mounted on the Steiner 430 Max four-wheel-drive tractor. A new, longer on-off cable was installed that allowed the operator to open and close the granular material flow operation. The 12-volt wires from the rotary spreader motor to the battery, with quick disconnects, ran to an on-off switch on the dashboard for the operator. The spreader initially costs about \$500, the hitch and receiver was about \$300, the angle iron, bolts, etc. were in stock and the labor time was about four hours.



HOLE-IN-WHITE MODIFICATION

The modification Shannon Wheeler, East Golf Course superintendent at The Club at Admiral's Cove in Jupiter, Fla., did to the Hole-In-White template took about 30 minutes labor time and the cost was negligible because the materials were in inventory. Wheeler first traced the outline of a putting green cup on a piece of 1/8" thick steel (an old stop sign). The edges were then beveled up so that it would rest on the top of the cup once in the ground. He then drilled a hole in the middle of the piece of steel and put the set screw from the Whole-In-White "tray" through the hole and re-set the nut. The new plate on the bottom prevents any paint drops from hitting the bottom of the cup and any excess paint from caking up the edge of the cup while allowing for the same consistent paint around the exposed soil of the fresh putting green cup. Wheeler then took an old plastic practice putting green cup and cut 1" off the top. He then lined up and cut grooves half way through the new ring so that the ring would rest on the existing supports on the Hole-In-White "tray." This new ring prevents "ghosting" on the turf from the paint mist when painting the cup. This modification saves the staff from having to put a towel in the bottom of the cup to prevent drips and another towel around the outside of the "tray" to prevent "ghosting." **GCI**