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growing season, which provides an extremely favorable environment for tree root growth. On the other hand, the presence of these tree roots can create a very adverse effect on turfgrass growth and quality.

The next question is what can be done. The most common practice on greens and tees is to utilize a trenching machine to cut a vertical trench of from 24 to 30 inches in depth completely around the portion of the area into which tree roots might be growing. In the process of this operation, the existing tree roots extending through this soil profile will be severed. The trench can then be refilled and the sod (previously stripped from the area to be trenched) can be transplanted back into its original position.

This technique may have to be practiced at intervals of from four to six years, depending on the particular tree species and conditions involved. As was shown in this study, certain tree species result in greater root competition than others. One is continually amazed at the improvement in shoot density and growth obtained where this root pruning technique is utilized around greens and tees that have previously suffered from tree root competition. It has also been utilized effectively along the edges of fairways.

In summary, ask yourself the question, "Is there a tree root competition problem on my golf course?" Usually the problem will be most severe on greens. It will not result in total loss of turf, but can seriously restrict the surface quality, even though the tree itself may not shade the green for any significant period of time during the day. If a potential problem exists, trenching of one or more greens might be attempted to see if a response can be obtained. It is not an excessively high cost operation, but can pay great dividends in improved turfgrass quality plus a reduction in the maintenance requirements of the turfgrass surface. If a positive response is shown from these initial trials, the operation can then be extended to all tree-root affected green and tee areas on the golf course. □

NEW PRODUCTS

CHIPMAN, Div. of Rodia, Inc., announces EPA clearance of Chipco Spot Kleen for use as a turf fungicide. Spot Kleen is a long residual, nonmercurial, systemic fungicide for control of dollar spot, fusarium blight, large brown patch and stripe smut. A wettable powder, it is uniquely packaged in a plastic jug for easier handling. Spot Kleen is an addition to the Chipco line of professional turf products.

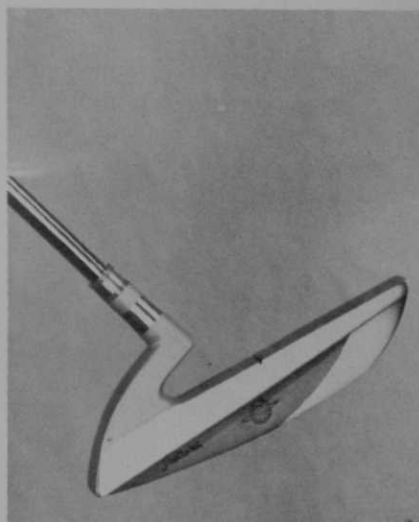


Circle No. 105 on reader service card

CENTURY ENGINEERING CORP., Spray Equipment Division, offers an answer to area control of mosquitoes and flies—the Century Mist Blower/Sprayer, which offers both blower speed with wide coverage, and handgun sprayer convenience and accuracy as standard features. The blower can reach up to 150 feet, depending on air conditions. The valve offers accurate control around breeding areas and hard-to-get places. Century points out that features, such as built-in parking stand, safety guards for blower and shielded telescoping PTO drive, are standard for more convenience and safety.

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RED HOT PUTTERS, INC., introduces its new chipper iron. The only chipper designed with toe to heel balance and slotted sole. Beautiful bronze head, True Temper shaft and distinctive red grips are also included. Red Hot Putters also features its "Futura" putter, a futuristic putter of unique styling and superb performance. Features include: bronze alloy head, slotted sole, toe to heel balance. True Temper chrome shaft and distinctive red grips.



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W. A. CLEARY CORP. offer Bromosan Systemic Turf Fungicide for year-round prevention and control of all major turf diseases. Used as directed on tees, fairways and greens or on any fine turf area, Bromosan is said to effectively curb dollar spot, brown patch, Helminthosporium, red thread, Fusarium blight, Pythium and snow mold—it's a truly all season fungicide. Bromosan is a blend of Cleary's 336 and Thiram. It is systemic, and according to its manufacturer, when sprayed weekly as the only fungicide additive in your spray tank, you're assured of disease-free turf all season long.

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