

Clippings

Brief bits of news from in and around the golf business . . .

A reprint in the "Carolinas Newsletter" from "Green World" says that soil scientist Roy Bond in Australia has found a type of **fungus** that invades the sandy base of **golf greens** and coats sand grains with a water repellant layer of organic matter. Wetting agents did not help, but the introduction of loam soil into the sandy soil did help. It was noted that this might help to remember that slow water percolation on a turf soil is not always caused by too many fine particles in the soil mix.

Tom Mascaro, Turfgrass Products Corp., titled a piece in "A Patch of Green", the Border Cities GCSA newsletter, "**Dew is not dew**". In the article, he goes on to explain that the "dew" found on turfgrass is not water of condensation, as the definition of dew explains, but is exudate, or plant sap being pumped out by hydathodes which are relief mechanisms that transport excess water out of the plant system. Wilson from Cornell found, in 1923, that different grasses pumped the exudate at different rates. Bentgrasses, bermudagrasses and *Poa annua* were high pumpers. Other bluegrasses were medium and Zoysiagrass, fescue and ryegrasses were low. The difference explains why patches of heavy "dew" can be observed on impure stands. Dollar spot spores were found to grow better in the exudate than in water. Quickly-available nitrogen was demonstrated to be rapidly transported through the leaf tissue and into the exudate. The high salt content of the exudate caused leaf, stem and root burn. It was noted that the USGA found that superintendents who syringed had less disease than those who didn't.

OSHA is touting its commitment to regulatory conform by proposing to revise its electrical safety standards to make it easier for employers and workers to understand and comply with them. The reduction would be from 250,000 words down to 15,000, more than a 90 percent reduction. That is fine and will benefit those to whom it applies. However, someone should have had the good sense to do it right the first time. We had to pay for and a lot of people had to deal with the unnecessary 235,000 words for a while!

There have been several personnel changes in industry within the past month or so. **Robert Scobee** has joined The Andersons as a Lawn Fertilizer Division technical salesman. He will be responsible for the sale of professional specialty fertilizer products, including those for golf courses. He is establishing a brand new line of High Premium Golf Course Turf Foods under The Andersons Tee Time label. Scobee is a turf management graduate from Purdue University in Indiana.

Jacobsen has named **Fred Schneider** as vice president, engineering. He will be responsible for all product design and product engineering support functions. **William Howard** will be Jacobsen's corporate recruiter for both professional and technical personnel. **Gary Allenbrand** has been named manager of regional sales for Turf Products, Jacobsen. He will represent Jacobsen in the northwestern U.S. and Canada.

Porter Brothers has appointed **Gary Randolph** field sales manager for the turf division. He will work with the division's sales representatives in their marketing of turf maintenance equipment and supplies in the Carolinas, Tennessee, Virginia and W. Virginia. **William Ligon, Jr.** has been appointed sales representative in the turf division. He will live in Conway, South Carolina and call on customers in the eastern S. Carolina and southeastern N. Carolina sales territory. Porter Brothers, Inc. is based in Shelby, N. Carolina.

Rex Dixon has been named marketing manager for the Turf Division of the Rain Bird Sprinkler Mfg. Corp. Dixon will supervise advertising and public relations and marketing efforts. **Ann Runley** has been named an area specifications manager for Rain Bird. Ms. Runley will call on landscape architects, and other firms involved in specifying irrigation equipment in the northern California geographical region. A Rain Bird distributor, A-1 Turf Irrigation Sales, has opened a new branch office in Houston, Texas. **George Burtch** will manage the approximately 10,000 square foot facility.

The Toro Company has named two vice presidents. **John Szafranski** has been named vice president and general manager of Toro's Commercial Products Division. **Ralph Murray** is vice presi-

dent of marketing of Toro's International Group.

Larry "Casey" Jones has been promoted to Associate Product Manager for TUCO Agricultural Chemicals, Division of The Upjohn Company. Jones will assume management responsibilities for TUCO's line of herbicides, insecticides and fungicides. **Russell Tiller** has been promoted to agricultural chemical sales representative for TUCO. He will be responsible for Agricultural chemical sales in the states of Michigan and Indiana.

Bob Dunning passed away November 1. Bob, a well known golf course architect and erosion control specialist, had built many golf courses in the Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas region.

Bob Williams is retiring from Bob O'Link in Illinois at the end of this year. Among Bob's many accomplishments was the training of 67 young men studying agronomy. Thirty-two are now head superintendents at clubs throughout the country.

The **New Hampshire Turf Conference** will be held **January 10 and 11** at the Sheraton-Wayfarer Motor Inn in Bedford, NH. January 10 sessions include Dr. Vaughn Holyoke speaking on "Soil and Turfgrass Management, Dr. Joseph Troll speaking on 1979 Turfgrass Problems, Dr. Stan Swier on Turfgrass Insect Problems, and Jeff Cornish will give a history of golf course architecture. Friday topics for the golf course session include: Planning your estate; safety and equipment; the energy crisis; and

you and the national. The afternoon sessions are: Recertification sign-up; new laws and regulations; fungicide and herbicide review; and an insecticide review. Contact: Dr. John M. Roberts, Plant Science Department, Nesmith Hall, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 03824.

The **16th Turfgrass And Environmental Landscape Exposition** is to be held **January 30 and 31** at the San Mateo County Fairground in San Mateo, California. Contact: The Northern California Turfgrass Council, P.O. Box 268, Lafayette, CA 94549.

The **Pennsylvania Turfgrass Conference** will be **February 26-29** at the Hershey Motor Lodge & Convention Center in Hershey, Penn. Contact: Arthur D. Wick, P.O. Box 362, Sewickley, PA 15143; or Christine E. King, Secretary-Treasurer, PTC, 412 Blanchard St., Bellefonte, PA 16823.

Following are the dates and locations for the **USGA Green Section's Regional Turf Conferences for 1980**: Feb. 4, Myrtle Beach Hilton, Myrtle Beach, SC; Feb. 6, Quality Inn, Cypress Gardens, FL; March 3, Phoenix Country Club, Phoenix, AZ; March 5, The Registry Hotel, Newport Beach, CA; March 7, Broadmoor Golf Club, Seattle, WA; March 11, Lakeside Country Club, Houston, TX; March 13, James River Country Club, Virginia Beach, VA; March 18, Westchester Country Club, Rye, NY; and March 20, Oakmont Country Club, Pittsburgh, PA.



Dr. Fred V. Grau (center) holds the trophy he donated for the Mid Atlantic Turfgrass Boosters tournament which contributed more than \$1500 for the support of turfgrass research. He is flanked on the left by Bob Orazi, superintendent at Nunt Valley CC and tournament chairman, and on the right by John Strickland, president of the Maryland Turfgrass Council, which cosponsored the event.