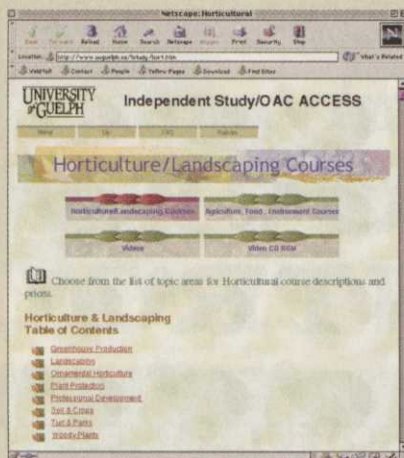


Scanning the Web

(**** – Bookmark it and return frequently; * – Look at only if absolutely necessary)

Excuse me if I seem a little blurry-eyed. All this studying about turfgrass and golf course maintenance has left me little time for sleep. But if you think you don't have time to learn the latest information in turfgrass maintenance, think again. Here are some distance learning sites that are worth your while:

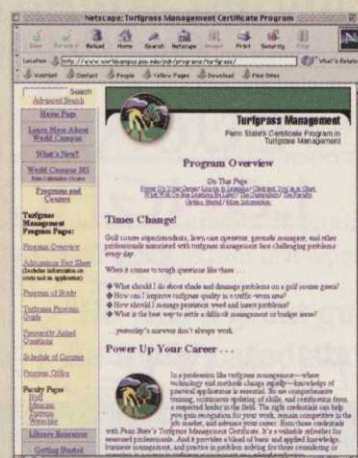
▶ ****<http://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/pub/programs/turfgrass/> – Of all the sites I studied, this had the most complete course offering in turfgrass maintenance, along with other courses specifically aimed at superintendents. Best of all – the courses offered at this site can be accessed online, so you can learn at your own pace and own schedule. Its user-friendly format even gives tips on how to learn online. It's the complete package.



▶ ***<http://www.uoguelph.ca/istudy/hort.htm> – At the University of Guelph (located in Guelph, Ontario, in Canada), traditional correspondence courses are the rule. The programs in golf course maintenance range from environmental management to design, with a host of turf management issues in between. Information is a little harder to find on this site, but it also offers a general professional development division to help you enhance your overall management prowess.

***<http://www.gactr.uga.edu/dl.html> – The University of Georgia's Center for Continuing Education offers a full correspondence course in turfgrass management. The result is a five-year certification in the area, renewable every five years through re-examination. The course covers a variety of subjects across the turf maintenance discipline. It's a survey course designed to help superintendents stay current in the field.

Scanning the Web is compiled by Frank H. Andorka Jr., Golfdom's associate editor, who constantly thirsts for further education. You can contribute to that effort by contacting him at fandorka@advanstar.com to teach him about future column suggestions or sites you think he should visit.



License to Kill

Continued from page 12

provide details of the incident and would not discuss the hunters or their experience.

"I'm not going to discuss it," said Brian Vickers, the Pine Hills superintendent, who notes the grub control program has ceased fire.

Golf pro Steve Brzytwa, the club's spokesman for the controversy, called for the investigation to be dropped.

"This is old news as far as I'm concerned," he said, and claimed that using large-caliber firearms to remove raccoons is an accepted practice for golf course maintenance.

"Things like this can potentially happen anywhere," Brzytwa added, noting that "this thing has been turned over to the attorneys and the insurance company."

Radin says he contacted employees from about 15 golf courses in locations similar to Hinckley's rural environment, and none said they used firearms to remove raccoons and varmints. Jeff Bollig, spokesman for GCSAA, would not comment on whether it was an accepted practice or not.

Clarification on Seed Testing

Our recent article on seed certification ("Testing Debate Continues," Sept. 1999) spurred a critical response from Terry Hollifield, executive director of the Georgia Crop Improvement Program. He was particularly concerned with this statement: "In Florida, for example, where the certification program fell by the wayside, inferior quality seed prompted some turf managers to file lawsuits against seed companies after it was allegedly determined that a few Florida seed producers had sold turfgrass seed using fraudulent certification tags from Georgia."

Hollifield challenged that assertion, which was sourced to John Mascaro of TurfTec International, so we checked back with Mascaro to clarify and confirm his comments. Mascaro said his original comments to our writer were not about seed certification, but about similar problems that Florida had experienced with "live vegetative turfgrass material in the form of sprigs and sod," including several where Georgia tags were placed on the shipment.

Mascaro continued: "I acknowledge that there were numerous problems in the past, but I believe that the Georgia certification program was never to blame. In fact, because of the past problems (with the Florida sod program), I always recommend that all my customers purchase sod from Georgia because of its outstanding certification and quality control."

Golfdom apologizes for this reporting error.