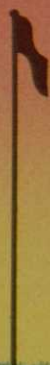


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than the other products tested.

Stacey's research also confirmed that a reliable spray like Bagon or Diazinon yields effective results when used early in the mole cricket cycle. "By applying a spray with plenty of water in May or June, there is a much better chance of getting the insecticide to the overwintered crickets. Then in the summer months, like August and September, when the adults are more active, a bait is the best and most economical means of controlling mole crickets.

"Preventive insecticide treatments are generally discouraged, but that is not the case with mole cricket control. One can bet he will have to treat for mole crickets at least twice a season in this part of the country. Sometimes three applications of an insecticide are needed. I don't think the preventive approach is the complete answer," he adds, "because a lot of times in July and August we have seen mole crickets nymphs maturing early, causing severe damage to unprotected fairways and greens. This is a problem manage-

ment can help solve. A manager should keep a close eye out during this period to see that mole cricket activity and flight is not occurring.

"In early summer, mole cricket damage may not be noticed when managers follow a good irrigation and fertilization program, but later in the season when the grass growth is slowing down, the adults are most active and need to be watched very closely or they can get out of hand. It is at this time a lot of managers make the mistake of spot treating mole cricket flare-ups. This could get a manager in a lot of trouble."

Stacey explains, "A lot of time a manager will see an area that is heavily infested and will go in with a bait or spray to get the populations under control. But, during their adult stage, the crickets are very mobile and can be in one spot for a while, and completely destroy the area and fly off before one can treat. So, treating an area like that is not only a waste of time, but a waste of chemical as well. If flare-ups are occurring, that generally means it is

happening all over the golf course. Then it becomes expensive. By comparing prices, a manager may 'blanket' treat the whole course for the price of spot treating.

"This research, by the way, was conducted exclusively in Georgia, and populations and different species of mole crickets may react differently," notes Stacey. "But, it has been our experience in the past that what works here in Georgia usually works well in Florida and the Carolinas. Response may vary a little from state to state."

Stacey's conclusion: Treat with a reliable spray in the early months of mole cricket activity in May and early June. Then, when the mole cricket adults become active again in the fall, around August and September, use a bait to draw the crickets to the surface. He adds, "Proper management that takes advantage of the right chemicals at the right time is the key to effective mole cricket control. Golf course managers have to weigh the facts and their budget and use their best judgment." **GB**

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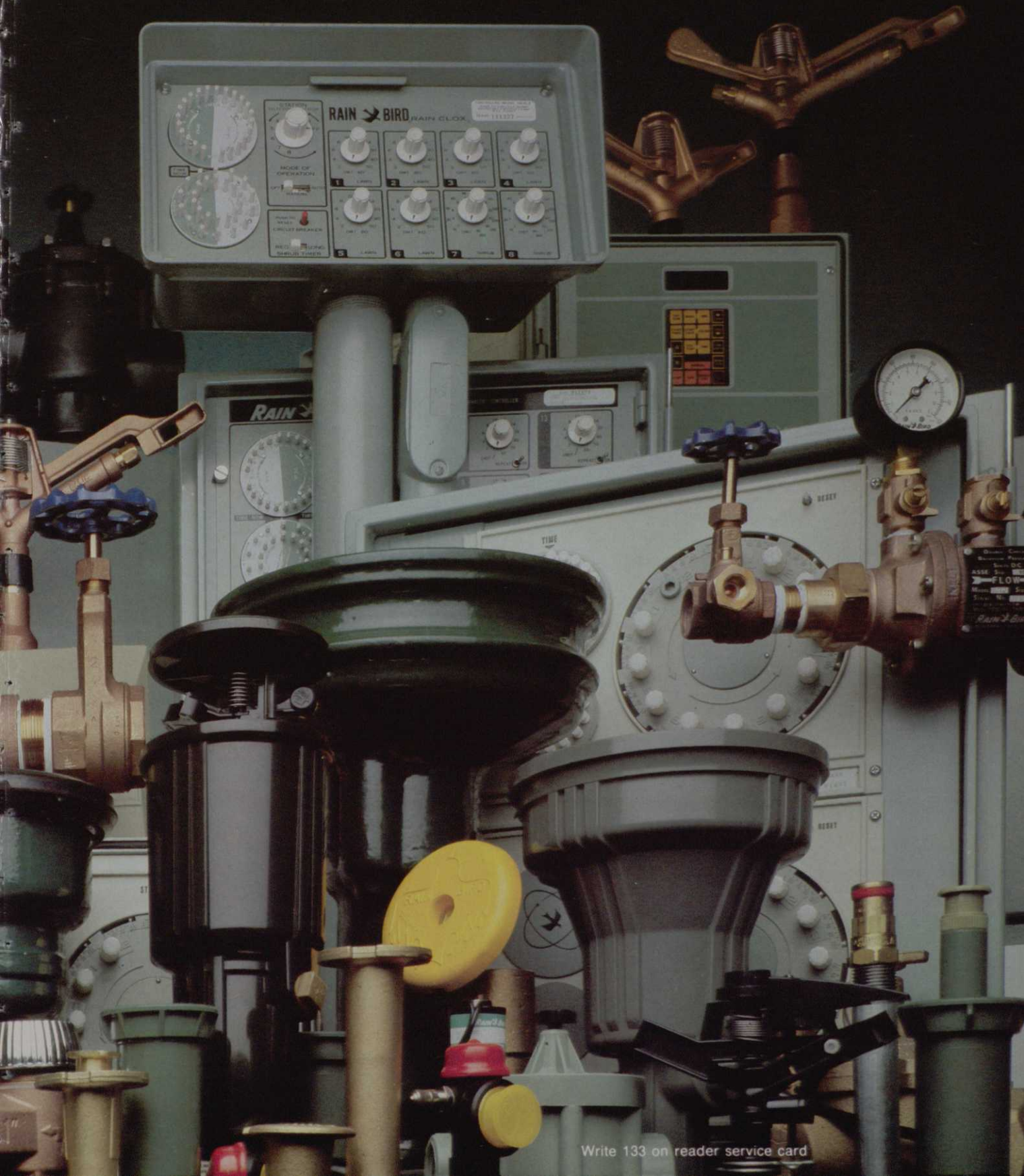
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content. Nor will he use too little else his "fastness" of ball roll will be too slow.

Growth tests on leached compositions

Procedure

Samples of soils, Nos. 2, 5, 8, and 11 described in Table 1, in which the ratio of peat moss to granular material was 1 to 1 (by volume) were

treated as follows:

Set 1

Placed in pots 3 x 3 x 2, saturated with water and allowed to drain one day, then treated with a solution of fertilizer analysing 23-19-17. The amount was calculated to be the equivalent of 6 lbs. N per 1,000 sq. ft. It figured to be 0.4 gms. of fertilizer per pot containing 18 cu. in. of soil.

This was dissolved in about 1/4 cup. Successive portions of 1/4 cups of water was added to leach out the fertilizer to the extent that 4.8 inches of water had been applied. Each pot was then seeded with Seaside Bent grass 1/14/81 and examined 1/20/81, 6 days later to find all seeds had germinated. The growth observed is as follows:

2 5 8 11 N.G.* J.**

2/15	relative amounts of clippings	6	6	5	6	7	8
2/23	condition	5	6	7	8	8	9
2/26	"	5	6	7	8	7	9

*new greens soil
**Jiffy Potting Soil
rated 1 = low, 9 = high

Set 2

Another set of pots was made up, similarly fertilized and subjected to leaching to the extent of 23.6 inches. By 1/23/81, all had germinated and by 1/26/81 were growing well except N.G., which appeared weaker and finally succumbed. I suspect the fungicide Dexon was insufficiently buffered by the low peat content.

Calculation of fertilizer content per Clark W. Nicklow, Suburban Experiment Station, Waltham

"The application of 1,000 lbs. NH_4NO_3 per acre is equivalent to 112 p.p.m. (parts per million) of soil".

I deduce from this that 1 acre, 44,000 sq. ft., 6-in. deep contains about 20,000 cu. ft., which, at 100 lbs. per cu. ft. would contain about 2,000,000 lbs.

Since NH_4NO_3 is 22.5 percent NH_4 , the amount of NH_4 in 2,000,000 lbs. would be 225/2,000,000 or about 112 p.p.m. lbs. per million of soil.

The ration of p.p.p. to lbs./acre is 1:2. Therefore, if we have an analysis of 24 p.p.m., equivalent to 48 lbs./acre.

Commentary:

I am puzzled that no one has published any procedure similar to mine and I regret this situation because when I talk about percolation tests, I feel like I am talking in a vacuum. I adapted it to determine permeability directly on turf and this procedure can also be carried out with very ordinary materials. The rather messy calculations could be simplified by means of charts. **GB**

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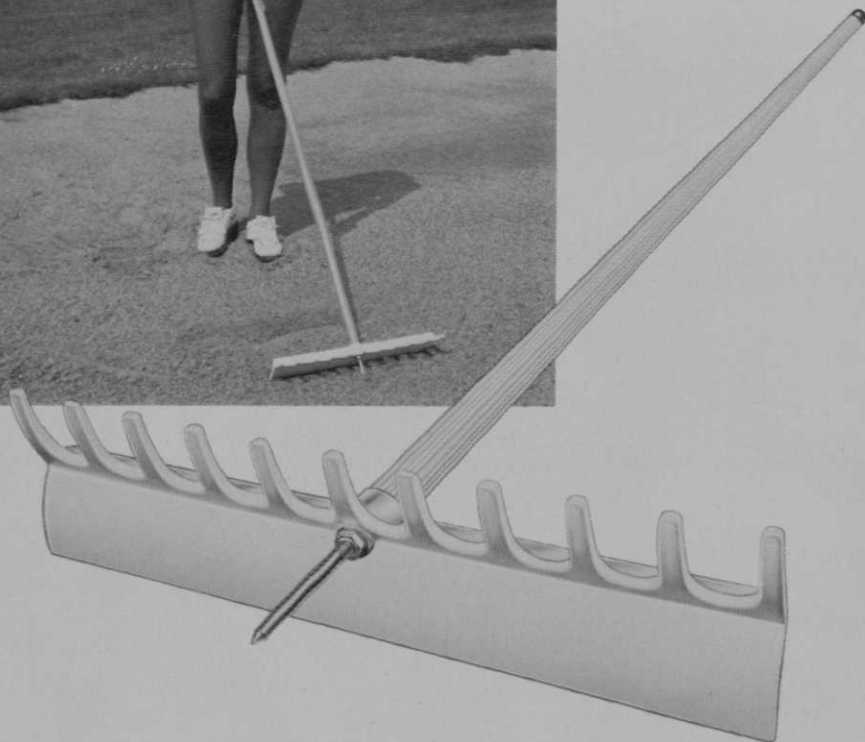
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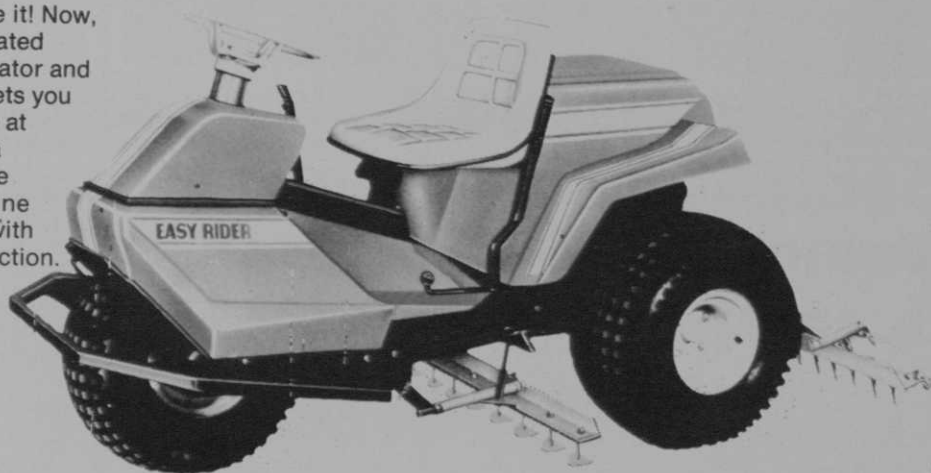
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conferences that are held in close proximity to one another. The sites could be rotated and earned revenues shared by the sponsoring organizations.

Let's face it. The cost to industry of supporting this huge number of trade shows is considerable. Suppliers are weighing the cost-benefit ratio of attending and supporting the smaller regional conferences. The turf industry, in my opinion, has always been strong in its support and contributions to regional conferences; but its resources are limited. As the number of conferences increase, supplier participation will become more selective; a simple matter of economics rather than lack of interest in support. If attendance is low because of too many conferences in the area, then the cost-benefit ratio will not warrant exhibiting.

I also maintain that conferences encompassing a larger area on a less frequent basis will bring better

attendance and allow wider options in securing speakers. The continual need to secure revenue support for the worthwhile programs at the several colleges and universities is recognized and appreciated, but is increasing the number of regional trade shows the only revenue alternative? I think not. Are there too many turf conferences? I believe there are.

At the risk of offending some of the conference planners and sponsoring organizations, I want to offer some constructive comments and suggestions before plans are finalized for next year's conferences. More consideration must be given to planning a conference format that encourages optimal attendance in the educational sessions and the exhibit areas. The New Jersey Expo conference has the best format I've seen. Educational sessions and exhibit hours do not run concurrently. There is an appropriate amount of time set aside

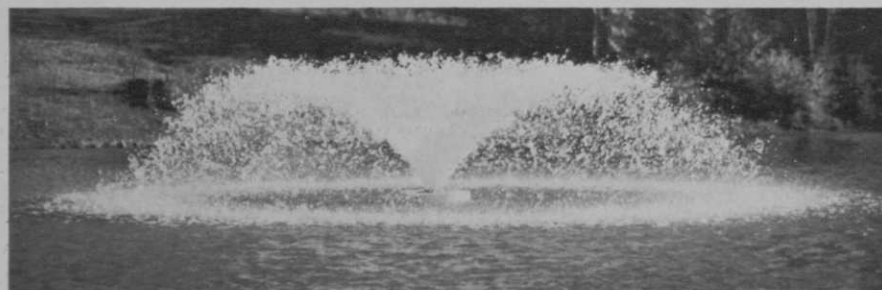
for both activities, creating no quandary of choice for the conference attendees. Such a format is also advantageous to the exhibitors who would like to attend the educational sessions or carry on other business.

"Appropriate" is a key word in determining satisfactory time periods for each activity of the conference. GOLF BUSINESS exhibited at one regional conference last year where the designated exhibitor hours coincided with the breakfast, lunch, and dinner hours. Like most people, my stomach dictates where I'll spend my time during such hours, and it is seldom in the exhibit booths. Even when food and drink are available in the exhibit area, the concession stands win the award for the most traffic; not the exhibits. In my judgement, unless a conference anticipates an attendance of 15,000, separate and appropriate blocks of time should be set aside for educational and trade show activities; neither coinciding with the traditional mealtime.

If the suggested format is followed, with sufficient blocks of time, two days are sufficient for the trade show. The GCSAA's national trade show is open only two and one-half days for conference attendees. If more time is necessary to bring the educational program to a successful conclusion, plan an extra day without the exhibits.

Timely and more frequent promotions of the regional turf conferences is needed to build attendance. In my opinion, less than 50 percent of potential attendees ever register. I am continually amazed at the number of people who claim to be unaware of the conference in their area. Conference planners should ask more suppliers and trade publications to assist them with conference promotions. Most suppliers are willing to help, but too often are never asked. GOLF BUSINESS carries regional conference advertisements at no charge during the season.

Limited resources and high costs have forced most of us to reorder priorities and find new approaches to problems and concerns in recent years. The industry that supplies us is a limited resource. . . and we must re-think our priorities and programs to accommodate this fact. Regional turf conferences are no exception. There are too many turf conferences. **GB**



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