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The Company Line

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Battery-operated controller DIG introduces a six-station, battery-operated controller featuring a four-start time per day operation; independent valve programming; water budgeting from 0 percent to 90 percent in 10-percent increments; and sequential semi-automatic manual operation. It's powered by two 9-volt batteries with wire runs up to 150 feet from controller to valve. For more information, contact 800-322-9146, www.digcorp.com or CIRCLE NO. 200

Fungicide Griffin L.L.C. received a supplemental label from the EPA for its fungicide Pentathlon DF to extend the spectrum of diseases controlled. Pentathlon DF, a dry flowable formulation of mancozeb and zinc, is already popular for algae control in turf. The new

diseases include: copper, gray leaf and dollar spots; fusarium and pythium blights; slime and fusarium snow molds; red thread and brown patch. This label is available in all states except California. For more information, contact 800-237-1854, www.griffinllc.com or CIRCLE NO. 201

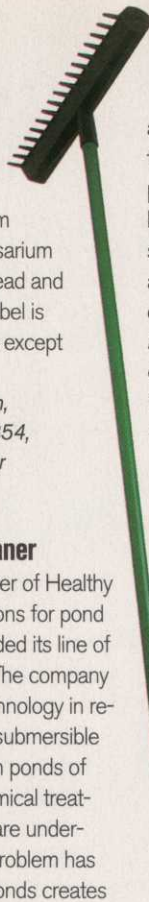
Natural pond cleaner Bioverse, manufacturer of Healthy Ponds natural solutions for pond cleaning, has expanded its line of patented products. The company now provides its technology in refillable, floating and submersible dispensers for use in ponds of any size. Unlike chemical treatments, which often are undertaken only when a problem has occurred, Healthy Ponds creates

a self-sustaining environment that brings a pond into balance to prevent algae and other problems from arising. The product is safe for aquatic life, birds, animals and people, according to the company. For more information, contact 952-948-0303, www.bioverse.com or CIRCLE NO. 202

Bunker rake Standard Golf offers its Tour-Lite Rake. Manufactured from a high-density polyethylene head and ultralight plastic-coated steel handle, the rake is light for easy, one-handed use, according to the company. A special tooth angle and curved 15-inch-wide head creates a smooth bunker surface. The rake also features a 4-inch-long grip cap at the end of the

54-inch-long handle. For more information, contact 319-266-2638, www.standardgolf.com or CIRCLE NO. 203

Insect control Envirometrics Systems introduces BugBarrier Tree Band, a non-chemical barrier for crawling and climbing insects. A sticky material physically traps insects, eliminating the need for chemical pesticides. BugBarrier Tree Band is a multilayer product. A dense, flexible, fiber barrier is wrapped around the trunk to fill bark crevices and cut off insects' escape routes. The fiber also lets the bark "breathe" by allowing air to reach it and prevents the adhesive from touching the bark. For information, contact 888-276-4104, www.envirometrics.ca or CIRCLE NO. 204



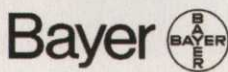
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The screenshot shows the TurfGrass Trends website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like Home, Search, and Newsletter. The main content area features an article titled "Seashore Paspalum Offers Alternative for the Future" with a sub-headline "A Practical Research Journal". The article text discusses a breeding program at the University of Georgia-Griffin. To the right of the article is a small image of a golf course. Below the article, there are sections for "RECENT COVER STORIES" and "PRACTICAL RESEARCH". The website also includes a sidebar with various categories like Equipment, Growth Regulators, and Irrigation. At the bottom right, there are logos for Bayer, Andersons, and Scotts.



www.TurfGrassTrends.com



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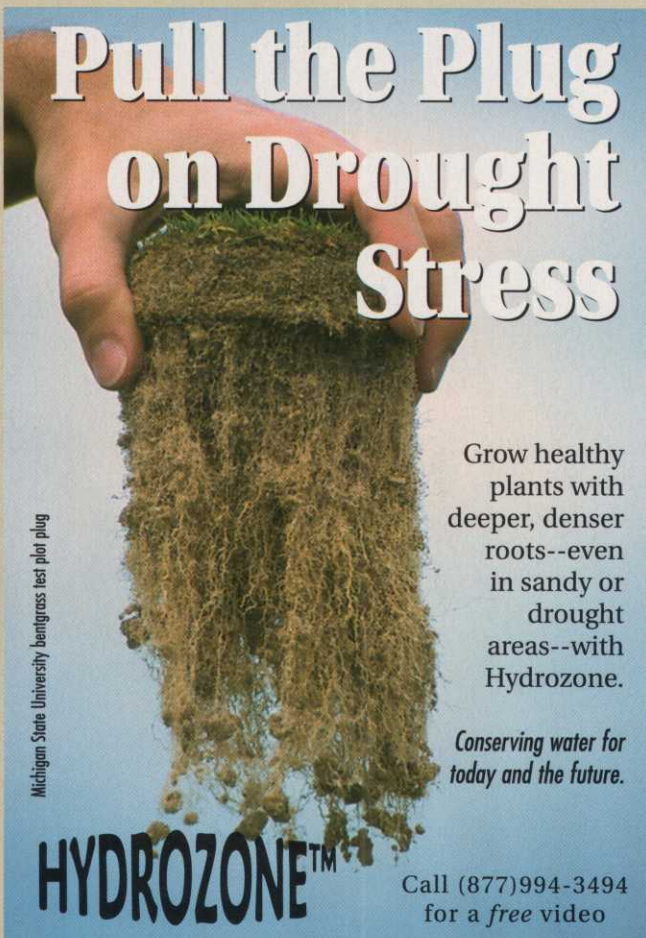
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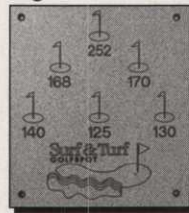
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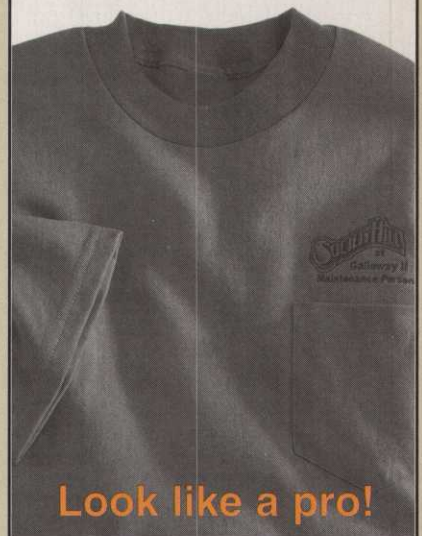
Golfdom's
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of the month



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personal library

I owe it all to Mrs. Turnipseed. I learned of her Dickensian surname after she encouraged students to join her fledgling Library Club, which I did with great joy.

For a bookish third-grader like myself, the idea of spending time before and after school shelving books at the Adams Elementary School Library in Davenport, Iowa, was a free pass to fantasy land. As a bonus, we got a piece of candy, mostly Brach's hard sour balls, for each shift. Since I was a hard worker, I'd occasionally snag two or three from the decorative tin in her bottom drawer.

Every day after school (except Wednesday), I would dart to the library shelves to see what had come in. My time spent filing books allowed me to learn and read perhaps more than would be considered healthy for most children.

The aforementioned obsession continued into adulthood. In the fall, I'll be teaching high school students the pleasures, escapes and joys of novels in an English class.

Almost everyone says they don't have time to read anymore, to which I politely reply, "Hogwash." I suggest there are at least 30 minutes a day that you could make some page time, and the rewards are manifold — for your well-being, your brain and even your family. With this in mind, I offer the following "Thinking Person's Library," a quick list of some good, often contemporary, places to start your reading

TOO BUSY TO READ? HOGWASH.
HERE ARE SOME CHOICES
THAT CAN START YOUR READING
RENAISSANCE

BY MARK LUCE

renaissance. Please note, this is strictly fiction — look for the nonfiction version in a later column.

My Antonia, by Willa Cather. A gem about the land, space, sunsets and character of the Midwest.

Light in August, by William Faulkner. A tale of alienation far more accessible than Faulkner's thicker works.

The Sun Also Rises, Ernest Hemingway. Bullfights and bitterness.

Jesus' Son, by Denis Johnson. An unbelievable, raw collection of stories centered around a drifter.

To Kill a Mockingbird, by Harper Lee. Plenty of lessons still to be learned today.

The Unbearable Lightness of Being, by Milan Kundera. A political, philosophical and erotic delight.

Lolita, by Vladimir Nabokov. Best opening paragraph of all time — and it gets even better.

Blood Meridian, by Cormac McCarthy. A bloodbath of a novel, but the best novel by our contemporary



answer to Faulkner.

The Intuitionist, by Colson Whitehead. You'll never feel the same way about being on an elevator.

Tomato Red, by Daniel Woodrell. Lean and mean in the Ozarks. Woodrell's novels are tougher than a three-legged coon dog.

Here are some others worth checking out: *Where I Am Calling From*, by Raymond Carver; *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay*, by Michael Chabon; *The Hours*, by Michael Cunningham; *Libra*, by Don DeLillo; *The Trial*, by Franz Kafka; *Mr. Phillips*, by John Lanchester; and *White Teeth*, by Zadie Smith.

Remember, 20 pages a day keeps the blues away.

Mark Luce wiles away hours reading in his den in Kansas City, Mo.

GOLFDOM, Volume 58, No. 8, (ISSN 1526-4270) is published monthly by Advanstar Communications Inc., 131 W 1st St., Duluth, MN 55802-2065. Subscription rates: One year \$30 (U.S. and possessions), \$49 (Canada and Mexico) and \$78 (all other countries). Air expedited service is available in countries outside the U.S. and Canada for an additional \$45 per year. Current issue single copies (prepaid only) \$5 (U.S. and possessions), \$7 (Canada and Mexico) and \$8 (all other countries). Back issues (if available, prepaid only) \$10 (U.S. and possessions), \$14 (Canada and Mexico) and \$16 (all other countries); add \$6 per order shipping and handling for both current and back issue purchases. Periodicals postage paid at Duluth MN 55806 and additional mailing offices.



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