

Why Golf Course Superintendents are Switching to LS-44



- **Dense Tillering and Upright Growth Habit-** *helps crowd out Poa annua*
- **Superior Disease Resistance-** *Improved Dollar Spot and Brown Patch Resistance... requires less fungicide*
- **Fine Uniform Texture-** *produces a superior putting surface without thatch build-up*
- **Exceptional Traffic and Wear Tolerance-** *less spiking damage*
- **Excellent Seedling Vigor-** *establishes quickly*
- **Outstanding Low Mowing Performance**
- **Superb Heat, Humidity and Cold Tolerance-** *Adapted to a broad range of climates and elevations*



LS-44 was developed by noted Bentgrass breeder Dr. Virginia Lehman of Blue Moon Farms, formerly director Lofts Research.



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Golden Nugget Kentucky Bluegrass

For complete trial data go to www.ntep.org

| SCALPING 2004 NTEP 1 - 9; 9=NONE | | Fall - % LIVING GROUND COVER GROWN ON A GREEN 2002 NTEP DATA | | QUALITY - SOIL GREEN 2004 NTEP DATA 1 - 9: 9 = IDEAL TURF | | | QUALITY- SAND GREEN 2004 NTEP DATA 1 9: 9 = IDEAL TURF | | |
|--|------------|---|-------------|---|------------|------------|--|------------|------------|
| NAME | MA1 | NAME | MEAN | NAME | TX2 | VA1 | NAME | AZ1 | MN1 |
| LS - 44 | 8.0 | LS - 44 | 97.6 | LS - 44 | 5.8 | 5.0 | LS - 44 | 7.0 | 6.7 |
| Penncross | 7.0 | Penncross | 96.7 | Penn A - 1 | 5.9 | 4.2 | Penn A - 1 | 6.6 | 6.1 |
| Benchmark DSR | 6.0 | Penn A-1 | 96.1 | Benchmark DSR | 5.5 | 4.1 | Benchmark DSR | 6.3 | 6.3 |
| Penn A-1 | 4.7 | Benchmark DSR | 95.6 | Penncross | 4.4 | 4.5 | Penncross | 6.9 | 5.3 |
| LSD Value | 1.7 | LSD Value | 9.6 | LSD Value | 0.6 | 0.5 | LSD Value | 0.8 | 0.5 |

Less Thatch ... High Quality Without High Maintenance Requirements ... Use Less fungicide!

LS-44 Creeping Bentgrass - a better choice for your course!

The Big Picture

THE NUMBERS THAT SHAPE YOUR BUSINESS



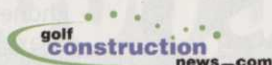
TIDBIT OF THE MONTH

Aloha to Development Doldrums

Golf development activity is gradually picking up again in Hawaii. After a period of overbuilding and the influx of disastrous Japanese investments in the 1980s

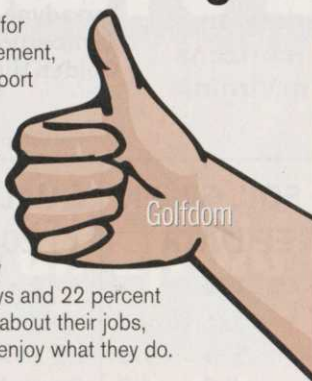
and '90s, followed by the debilitating 9/11 travel downturn, golf projects are back on track in these lush Pacific Ocean islands. Among the more promising are King Kamehameha Golf Club (formerly known as Sandalwood), now undergoing an extensive remodel; the new 725-acre Palamanui Project in Kailua-Kona on the Big Island; the 550-acre Kapolei West in Kapolei, Oahu; and the renovation of the South course at Maui's Kaanapali, slated for completion in mid-November. For details on these and other golf projects around the United States, visit www.golfconstructionnews.com.

COURTESY OF:



How's the Job Going?

According to the Society for Human Resource Management, 8 out of 10 employees report overall satisfaction with their work. Does that include superintendents? Well, according to a recent *Golfdom* study, nearly 60 percent of superintendents said they like their jobs on most days and 22 percent said they were "ecstatic" about their jobs, meaning that 82 percent enjoy what they do.



Golf Rounds Played

The percentages below represent the difference in number of rounds played in June 2005 compared to the number of rounds played in June 2004.

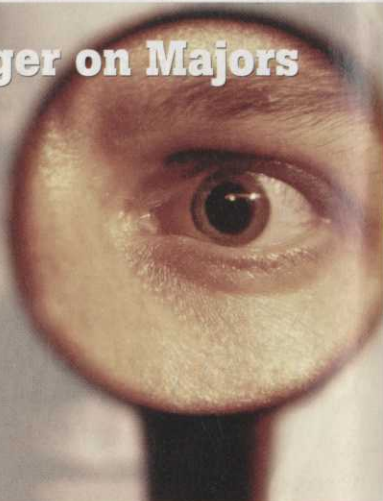
| REGION | JUNE | Y.T.D. |
|--|--------|--------|
| New England ME, VT, NH, MA, RI, CT | -0.9% | -5.2% |
| Middle Atlantic NY, PA, NJ | 1.5% | 0.1% |
| East North Central MI, OH, IN, IL, WI | 3.7% | 4.4% |
| West North Central ND, MN, SD, NE, KS, IA, MO | -1.2% | -0.3% |
| South Atlantic WV, DE, MD, VA, NC, SC, GA | -3.9% | -3.8% |
| Florida | -13.4% | -3.5% |
| East South Central KY, TN, AL, MS | -1.0% | -1.5% |
| West South Central OK, AR, LA | 11.8% | 3.4% |
| Texas | 19.5% | 4.3% |
| Mountain MT, ID, WY, NV, UT, CO, AZ, NM | 3.5% | -0.6% |
| Pacific WA, OR, AK, HI | -1.0% | -5.9% |
| California | 1.1% | -7.1% |
| TOTAL UNITED STATES | 1.1% | -1.3% |

GOLF DATATECH

Eye of the Tiger on Majors

In a *Sports Illustrated* poll, more than 50 PGA Tour players were asked which of the five players will win the most Major tournaments over the next five years: Ernie Els, Retief Goosen, Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson or Vijay Singh?

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Tiger Woods | 58% |
| Ernie Els | 34% |
| Phil Mickelson | 4% |
| Vijay Singh | 4% |
| Retief Goosen | 0% |



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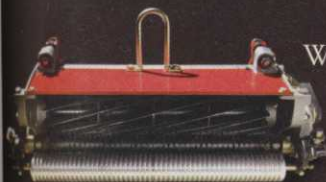
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Off The Fringe

NEWS WITH A HOOK

Business briefs

2,4-D verdict: no risk when used appropriately

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) concluded that the herbicide 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D) does not present risks of concern to human health when users follow 2,4-D product instructions as outlined in EPA's 2,4-D Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED) document.

The agency's announcement and release of the RED on 2,4-D completed a 17-year EPA review process. 2,4-D is a phenoxy herbicide discovered 60 years ago and is used worldwide for a variety of applications, including golf courses.

Over the course of 17 years, the Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data developed and submitted to EPA more than 300 Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) toxicology, environmental and residue studies that EPA scientists reviewed to assess the herbicide's safety under the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA).

Task Force members hold technical 2,4-D FIFRA registrations and include Dow AgroSciences, Nufarm Ltd., Agro-Gro and PBI/Gordon.

"The EPA's assessment of the human and environmental scientific data reinforces a growing number of regulatory decisions and expert reviews that conclude the use of 2,4-D according to product instructions does not present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment," stated Don Page, assistant executive director of the Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data.

In 1947, 2,4-D was registered for use in the United States on crops and turfgrass. The EPA initiated an assessment for a toxicology review of 2,4-D in 1980, and reregis-

Briefs continue on page 21

Groups Wanted to Stay in New Orleans

BUT GCSAA, NGCOA HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO MOVE SHOW

By Larry Aylward, Editor in Chief

The brass at the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and the National Golf

Course Owners Association (NGCOA) wanted to keep the February-scheduled Golf Industry Show (GIS) in New Orleans even after Hurricane Katrina had flooded and devastated most of the city. They wanted to keep the show there, says GCSAA CEO Steve Mona, for a good reason — to pump some money

into the ravaged city's economy. But when city leaders announced that all conventions through March had been canceled, Mona and NGCOA Executive Director Mike Hughes announced a few days later that the show would go on in Houston during its original dates, Feb. 9-11.

"We definitely wanted to support New Orleans," Mona said.

"Our first consideration was to host the event in New Orleans because we know the convention

industry will be vital to the city's recovery," Hughes added.

Mona says GCSAA's members felt the same way. Their collective message — mostly through e-mails sent to the organization — was to figure out a way to stay in New Orleans.

"In the last week or so we received more member feedback about any issue that I can recall in the almost 12 years I've been here," Mona said on Sept. 9.

Carey Spence, president of the Louisiana-Mississippi Golf Course Superintendents Association and superintendent of Ellendale Country Club in Houma, La., about 50 miles southwest of New Orleans, said in mid-September that it had been difficult to contact the chapter's

members because of damage to the region's communication structure.

"Communications around New Orleans and the Mississippi Gulf Coast are spotty at best and nonexistent for the most part," Spence said. "Those areas there are totally devastated. It's just a horrible situation."

Mona said the GCSAA has been in contact with some members who live and work in the Gulf coast area affected by the storm. He said about

Continued on page 22



golf industry show

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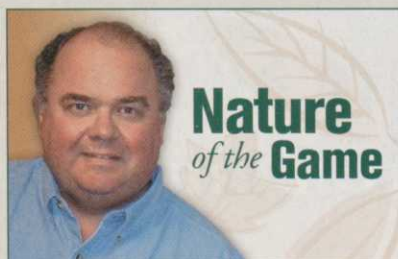
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Do Golf Courses Provide Valuable Wildlife Habitat?

BY RON DODSON

Editor's Note: This column will appear bimonthly in *Golfdom*. Dodson, the CEO of Audubon International, can be reached at rdodson@auduboninternational.org.



Golf courses can be havens for all sorts of interesting wildlife. Golfers often say they enjoy seeing wildlife on the courses that they play. But questions are often asked about the actual value of the habitat that is created by golf courses. In other words, are golf courses providing valuable wildlife habitat, or are the species that are often seen on golf courses merely an illusion of a course being wildlife friendly.

These and other golf- and wildlife-related topics are at the root of the Wildlife Links program, a grant program administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and funded by the United States Golf Association (USGA). The USGA has been providing \$200,000 a year to look into these and other questions.

The Wildlife Links program was started in 1996, and more than 15 projects have been funded since that time. In addition to generating scientific data concerning wildlife on golf courses, educational materials have been developed and are being disseminated to those interested in becoming involved in wildlife conservation on golf courses.

The projects include:

► Golf Courses and Bird Conservation: A Management Manual;

► Wetlands Management Manual for Golf Courses;

► Data Management System for Information on Wildlife Habitat on Golf Courses;

► Conservation of Native Pollinators on Golf Courses;

► Pesticides and Nutrients in Surface Waters Associated with Golf Courses;

► Effects of Construction on Amphibian Movements and Population Size;

► Avian Community Response to a Golf Course Landscape Unit Gradient;

► Corridor Establishment for an Endangered South Florida Butterfly;

► Enhancing Amphibian and Reptile Biodiversity on Golf Courses Through the Use of Wetlands;

► Are Forests, Such as Golf Courses, Hotspots for Biodiversity in the Desert Southwest?;

► Native Biodiversity and Golf Courses in Midwest Landscapes; and

► Burrowing Owl Conservation on Golf Courses.

For information about the Wildlife Links Program, contact: Peter Stangel, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, 1875 Century Boulevard, Suite 200, Atlanta 30345, 404-679-7099 or e-mail him at peter.stangel@nfwf.org.

In addition to working with the National Fish and Wildlife Founda-

tion, the Wildlife Links Program has an established committee to review all proposals and a group of technical advisors to help with specific proposed projects. Groups on the Wildlife Links Committee include: Audubon International, the USGA Fairfax County Park Authority, The Wildlife Society, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Defenders of Wildlife.

The Technical Advisory Group is comprised of representatives from Antioch New England Graduate School, The Xerces Society, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, American Birding Association, Sutton Avian Research Center and the European Golf Association.

For a summary of the results of the funded project efforts, go to www.nfwf.org or to the USGA Green Section Web page at www.usga.org/turfenvironmental_programs.

