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**JOHN DEERE**  
GOLF



*Continued from page 70*

soil temperatures. This research shows that foramsulfuron (Revolver), flazasulfuron (to be marketed) and trifloxysulfuron (Monument) were all slower acting in cooler temperatures. With regard to long-term control, foramsulfuron at 17 fluid ounces an acre controlled only 30 percent of perennial ryegrass when the soil temperature at 3 inches was below 65 degrees Fahrenheit, compared to 80 percent control when soil temperature was above that threshold. Cold temperatures affected trifloxysulfuron and flazasulfuron causing slower action, but overall no long-term reductions in perennial ryegrass control.

Transition aids should be applied at a timing based on long-term forecast with favorable conditions for bermudagrass growth. Time and again, we've found that factors increasing bermudagrasses' competitive ability improve spring transition. Once you see a significant amount (greater than 40 percent) of bermudagrass start greening up, help it along with increased nitrogen fertility, lower mowing height and judicious use of water before using a transition aid. More aggressive cultivars for a given area consistently yield a more acceptable transition.

Cultivars more prone to spring dead spot and winterkill show their weakness during spring transition, so updating your bermudagrass by renovating, interseeding or intersprigging might be something to consider. Mike Goatley, Ph.D., turfgrass extension specialist for Virginia Tech, said cultivars which tolerate spring dead spot and overcome winter injury through aggressive growth habit often do better in Virginia.

"Riviera and Patriot are two cultivars we've had the most success with in terms of aggressive growth habit and overcoming cold weather issues," Goatley says.

*Continued on page 76*

***Nine weeks after application, perennial ryegrass control (in absence of bermudagrass) is influenced by low soil temperatures.***

***When applied at soil temperatures below 65 degrees F (A) foramsulfuron activity is reduced more than trifloxysulfuron (B) and flazasulfuron (C).***

# Rooted in Science

## Periodic Table Atomic Properties of the Elements

Elements essential to plant health

Group	1 IA	2 IIA	3 IIIB	4 IVB	5 VB	6 VIB	7 VIIB	8 VIII	9 VIII	10 VIII	11 IB	12 IIB	13 IIIA	14 IVA	15 VA	16 VIA	17 VIIA	18 VIIIA		
1	<b>H</b> Hydrogen												<b>B</b> Boron	<b>C</b> Carbon	<b>N</b> Nitrogen	<b>O</b> Oxygen	<b>F</b> Fluorine	<b>He</b> Helium		
2	<b>Li</b> Lithium	<b>Be</b> Beryllium											<b>Al</b> Aluminum	<b>Si</b> Silicon	<b>P</b> Phosphorus	<b>S</b> Sulfur	<b>Cl</b> Chlorine	<b>Ar</b> Argon		
3	<b>Na</b> Sodium	<b>Mg</b> Magnesium											<b>Ga</b> Gallium	<b>Ge</b> Germanium	<b>As</b> Arsenic	<b>Se</b> Selenium	<b>Br</b> Bromine	<b>Kr</b> Krypton		
4	<b>K</b> Potassium	<b>Ca</b> Calcium	<b>Sc</b> Scandium	<b>Ti</b> Titanium	<b>V</b> Vanadium	<b>Cr</b> Chromium	<b>Mn</b> Manganese	<b>Fe</b> Iron	<b>Co</b> Cobalt	<b>Ni</b> Nickel	<b>Cu</b> Copper	<b>Zn</b> Zinc	<b>Ag</b> Silver	<b>Cd</b> Cadmium	<b>In</b> Indium	<b>Sn</b> Tin	<b>Sb</b> Antimony	<b>Te</b> Tellurium	<b>I</b> Iodine	<b>Xe</b> Xenon
5	<b>Rb</b> Rubidium	<b>Sr</b> Strontium	<b>Y</b> Yttrium	<b>Zr</b> Zirconium	<b>Nb</b> Niobium	<b>Mo</b> Molybdenum	<b>Tc</b> Technetium	<b>Ru</b> Ruthenium	<b>Rh</b> Rhodium	<b>Pd</b> Palladium	<b>Ag</b> Silver	<b>Cd</b> Cadmium	<b>In</b> Indium	<b>Sn</b> Tin	<b>Sb</b> Antimony	<b>Te</b> Tellurium	<b>I</b> Iodine	<b>Xe</b> Xenon		
6	<b>Cs</b> Cesium	<b>Ba</b> Barium		<b>Hf</b> Hafnium	<b>Ta</b> Tantalum	<b>W</b> Tungsten	<b>Re</b> Rhenium	<b>Os</b> Osmium	<b>Ir</b> Iridium	<b>Pt</b> Platinum	<b>Au</b> Gold	<b>Hg</b> Mercury	<b>Tl</b> Thallium	<b>Pb</b> Lead	<b>Bi</b> Bismuth	<b>Po</b> Polonium	<b>At</b> Astatine	<b>Rn</b> Radon		
7	<b>Fr</b> Francium	<b>Ra</b> Radium		<b>Rf</b> Rutherfordium	<b>Db</b> Dubnium	<b>Sg</b> Seaborgium	<b>Bh</b> Bohrium	<b>Hs</b> Hassium	<b>Mt</b> Meitnerium	<b>Uun</b> Ununium	<b>Uuu</b> Ununium	<b>Uub</b> Unbinium	<b>Uuq</b> Unquadium	<b>Uuh</b> Unhexium						

Photosynthesis  
 $6CO_2 + 6H_2O \rightarrow C_6H_{12}O_6 + 6O_2$

Symptoms of nutrient deficiency include:  
 Chlorosis, necrosis, stunted growth,  
 lack of growth or even loss of stand resulting  
 in yield loss.

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*(Top) Sponge application controls perennial ryegrass in small dots. (Bottom) Strip-killing perennial ryegrass reduces aesthetics when viewed down the strips, but turf color and quality are still acceptable when viewed across strip. Both methods allow for play and acceptable quality during transition.*

*Continued from page 72*

Riviera and Patriot have become very popular on golf courses and athletic fields in Virginia. Keep in mind that every fairway and even certain areas within a fairway may need individual attention. For instance, north-facing slopes, shady areas and low-lying areas can be three or more weeks behind hilltops and south-facing slopes in terms of bermudagrass green-up and development.

Virginia Tech researchers have developed a novel approach to spring transitioning that involves partially controlling perennial ryegrass prior to applying a blanket application of a transition-aid herbicide. Partially controlling perennial ryegrass gives bermudagrass the competitive edge in the small places that are controlled prior to the blanket application. Therefore, more bermudagrass

should be in place when a blanket application is applied. More bermudagrass cover will improve quality and color that's sacrificed by the traditional blanket transition method.

Three partial-control techniques have been tested: drip kill, sponge kill and strip kill. Between 20 percent and 30 percent of perennial ryegrass was killed using these techniques prior to the blanket application.

Partial-control techniques preserve aesthetics based on the fact that turfgrass in front and behind a small opening in the canopy will mask the appearance of that opening. The turf looks uniform when viewed from a distance of about 30 feet. The strip-kill method was the only partial control technique that resulted in a significant reduction in quality prior to the blanket application and then only when viewed with the line of the stripes. When viewed overhead, the drip-kill and sponge-kill methods look more like a natural phenomenon and less distinct. All methods of partial control resulted in significantly more bermudagrass cover after the blanket application was made.

One month after the transition, plots using partial-control techniques had 80 percent to 90 percent bermudagrass cover compared with 68 percent cover in plots using blanket treatment only. While partial-control techniques are an effective way to improve aesthetics during spring transition; further research is warranted to refine application equipment, timings, and percent of partial control needed for best results.

*John Willis is a research associate and Ph.D. candidate in turfgrass weed science in the department of plant pathology, physiology and weed science at Virginia Tech. Shawn Askew is associate professor of turfgrass weed science in the department of plant pathology at Virginia Tech. He is also Virginia's extension specialist for turfgrass weeds. For more information, visit his web site at [www.turfweeds.net](http://www.turfweeds.net).*



#### QUICK TIP

Maintaining healthy turf is one of the most important components in pest management. Healthy turf can grow through pest invasion and infestation, fighting off attacks. Compromised, nutrient-deficient turf may need the added protection of pesticide to kill the offending pests, but having a proactive nutrition plan in place will ensure that turf is properly equipped to handle the stress of infestation and recovery from pest attacks. Ready your turf against attacks by giving it the strength needed to withstand attack and the corresponding stress. Read more at [www.floratine.com](http://www.floratine.com).

## TURFGRASS TRENDS

### INDUSTRY ADVISORS

**Jerry Quinn**  
John Deere

**Scott Welge**  
Bayer Environmental Science  
**Kevin Cavanaugh**  
Floratine

# The Company Line

## PRODUCTS & SERVICES

### Out with the old, in with the new herbicide

**BASF Turf & Ornamentals** is no longer selling Drive 75 DF herbicide to the professional turf and ornamentals market. The company says it's now focusing on selling the postemergent herbicide, Drive XLR8.

Launched in 2008, Drive XLR8 herbicide is a true liquid formulation and, as such, exhibits rainfastness in only 30 minutes. Drive XLR8 also shows improved efficacy over the older Drive75 DF and is easier to handle and mix, BASF says.



### ▲ Topdresser aims to be precise

**Turfco's** WideSpin 1540 EC Topdresser makes topdressing precise and easy. It gives an accurate, wide range of applications with the least amount of adjustments due to patented WideSpin technology and an electronic controller, which allows users to dial in and set three custom application rates from ultra-light to super-heavy, ensuring a precise spread every time. The topdresser provides a great range of spinner angle, both up and down, for up to 40-foot ultra-light applications or angled down for even better turf penetration. Belt and spinner speeds adjust instantaneously for greater productivity. Turfco also offers a three-year warranty.

### Fungicide receives registration

**Quali-Pro** said its new Myclobutanil 20 EW fungicide has received registration from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). A systemic fungicide powered by the active ingredient myclobutanil, a demethylation inhibitor (DMI), Myclobutanil 20 EW controls stubborn turf diseases without inhibiting turf growth or root development.

"It's a versatile fungicide with low use rates for use on greens, tees, fairways and roughs," says Russ Mitchell, Quali-Pro's product and marketing director. One applica-

tion of Myclobutanil 20 EW provides up to four weeks of curative control and protection from new infections, according to Quali-Pro. It will also control dead spot on bermudagrass throughout the winter when applied 30 to 60 days prior to dormancy."

A broad-spectrum liquid fungicide, Myclobutanil 20 EW provides both curative and protective control of nearly 20 turfgrass diseases, including: dollar spot, dead spot, brown patch, copper spot, necrotic ring spot and summer patch. It's an easy-to-mix formula that's a compatible tank partner with most insecticides, pesticides, fertilizers and other fungicides.

### Fungicide added to line

**Arysta LifeScience** said it has received EPA approval for its newest fungicide and the addition of another product to the DISARM line. DISARM M is an advanced premix formulation of fluoxastrobin and myclobutanil that optimizes ingredient rates to maximize efficient spray application, turfgrass plant coverage and disease-control efficacy. With two modes of systemic, preventive activity, DISARM M protects turf in both the root and leaf, according to the company.

DISARM M provides early and later cool-season turf disease control of anthracnose, dollar spot, brown patch and summer patch on Kentucky bluegrass on fairways and greens. It's also approved for use in overseeding warm-season golf turfgrass with ryegrass.

### Rewards program gets overhaul

**Bayer Environmental Science** says it's now "easier than ever" to find rewards and redeem points on its enhanced Accolades Web site. Golf course superintendents can track their point balance, review their account history, and browse from more than 4,000 rewards on BayerAccolades.com. "Since Accolades is all about rewarding the turf managers for their loyalty, we wanted to make it as easy as possible for them to take advantage of the improved program," said Matt Bradley, Bayer's Accolades program manager. "The user-friendly Web site and extensive variety of rewards to choose from will appeal to all existing and future members."

After soliciting feedback from customers, Bayer made changes necessary to improve the program. More than 4,000 new rewards have recently been added.



▲ **John Deere's** 220 E-Cut Hybrid Walk Greens Mower is now available through John Deere Golf's extensive distributor network. The mower's independent floating head provides a precise cut and guarantees less turf stress from clean-up passes, the company states. The ball-joint design and electric drive motor eliminate the need for mechanical linkages to drive the cutting unit, allowing the head to float freely over the surface of the green.

The 220 E-Cut Hybrid also offers a cutting unit that steers easily through clean-up cuts to help to reduce stress around the outside of the green.

### Earnings program kicks off

**Dow AgroSciences** has kicked off its 2009-2010 Power of MORE earning program, which allows users of Dow AgroSciences turf and ornamental herbicides, fungicides and insecticides to earn cash rebates on product purchases made through Aug. 31, 2010.

The more customers purchase, the more they earn in rebates. Customers who purchase enough product to earn at least \$500 in base rebates also will receive bonus rebates. There are more than 50 participating products that earn cash rebates for every unit purchased. Users must send in invoices and a completed claim form to qualify. Qualifying products and program guidelines are outlined in a program detailer, which is available online along with other program information at [www.PowerofMORE.com](http://www.PowerofMORE.com).

### Compact utility loader

The **Toro Dingo** compact utility loader can help golf course crews do everything from tilling, digging, grading and trenching to snow removal, backfilling, planting and transporting materials. Toro Dingo compact utility loaders offer the versatility to complete all these tasks in less time using less labor.

Known for their lightweight footprint — as low as 3.4 psi on some models — and compact profile and zero-radius turning ability, Toro Dingo compact utility loaders easily op-

*Continued on page 78*

# The Company Line

■ PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Continued from page 77

erate in confined areas. This includes around existing landscaping, through tight spaces like gates, and on delicate grounds such as greens and bunkers.

Toro offers a variety of Dingo units with turf-friendly features to accommodate all terrains. Track models include the gas-powered TX 427, available in wide- or narrow-track design; the gas-powered TX 413 narrow-track unit; and the diesel-powered TX 525, available in both wide- and narrow-track designs.

## Silicon-enhanced fertilizer

Excellerator from **Excell Minerals** provides a unique blend of micronutrients proven to enhance turf health.

Excellerator is an environmentally friendly, granular product especially designed for golf courses that provides a unique source of soluble silicon, according to the company. It also strengthens turf and enhances resiliency. Ideal for high-traffic areas, Excellerator reduces heat stress and increases tolerance against

toxic elements, according to the company.

With silicon-enhanced Excellerator, the higher-mown turf in the rough tends to stand up instead of roll over under play.

## Cover Up

**GreenJacket** introduces its AFS (Air Flow System) insulation putting green cover, a product the company says reflects the calls for a better method of insulating, while allowing for even better air movement under the GreenJacket Turf Cover.

The AFS (Air Flow System) system is a UV-resistant, non-woven PET staple fiber, bonded with a blend of non-water-soluble acrylic resins. The company says its AFS fabric is designed to its strict specifications to meet its strict requirements, including suspending a snow/ice load of 50 pounds per square foot and allowing air flow to move freely under such a load.

The GreenJacket AFS allows air to transfer passively under the cover all throughout the covered surface.



## ▲ The latest Verti-Drain

**Redexim Charterhouse** offers the 7621 Verti-Drain. This latest version expands the range to 18 different models. The 7621 Verti-Drain has a working width of 84 inches with a working depth of up to 16 inches. A hydraulic-tine depth adjustment has been added for operator convenience. The 7621 is a heavier built machine than the existing 7521 and has a faster-working speed for the toughest soil conditions, the company says.

Every Verti-Drain is equipped with maintenance-free, self-lubricated sealed bearings on all pivot points, three-speed gearbox, and the patented parallelogram action. This design gives forced heave to the tines thus producing the shattering effect and relieving compaction.

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# LISTEN UP!

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### ▶ Dealing With Dreaded Disease

**Kyle Miller**, the senior technical specialist for BASF Corporation, sheds light on how to diagnose and combat turf disease outbreaks.

### ▶ Revving Up For Biodiesel Technology

**Steve Wood**, manager of The Toro Co.'s commercial test engineering department, discusses the company's role in implementing biodiesel technology.

### ▶ Extinguishing Fire Ants

**Chuck Silcox**, global turf and ornamental product development manager for Dupont Professional Products, talks about fire ant control on golf courses.



## STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION (Required by 39 USC 3685)

1. <b>Publication Title:</b> <i>Golfdom</i>				
2. <b>Publication Number:</b> 1526-4270				
3. <b>Filing Date:</b> 9/3/09				
4. <b>Issue of Frequency:</b> Monthly				
5. <b>Number of Issues Published Annually:</b> 12				
6. <b>Annual Subscription Price:</b> Free to Qualified				
7. <b>Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not Printer):</b> <i>Questex Media, Inc., 306 West Michigan Street, Suite 200, Duluth, St. Louis County, MN 55802-1610</i>				
<b>Contact Person:</b> Heidi Spangler				
<b>Telephone:</b> 216-706-3705				
8. <b>Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not Printer):</b> <i>Questex Media Group, Inc. 275 Grove St. Ste. 2-130, Newton, MA 02466</i>				
9. <b>Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor - Publisher:</b> <i>Patrick Roberts, Questex Media Group, Inc., 600 Superior Ave. East, Suite 1100, Cleveland, OH 44114; Editor: Larry Aylward, Questex Media Group, Inc., 600 Superior Ave. East, Suite 1100, Cleveland, OH 44114; Managing Editor: Questex Media Group, Inc., 600 Superior Ave. East, Suite 1100, Cleveland, OH 44114</i>				
10. <b>Owner - Full name:</b> <i>Questex Media Group, Inc., 275 Grove Street, Suite 2-130, Newton, MA 02466. The sole shareholder of Questex Media Group, Inc. is: OMG Holdings, Inc., 275 Grove Street, Suite 2-130, Newton, MA 02466</i>				
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12. <b>Does not apply</b>				
13. <b>Publication Title:</b> <i>Golfdom</i>				
14. <b>Issue Date for Circulation Data:</b> August 2009				
15. <b>Extent and Nature of Circulation</b>	Average			
	No. Copies	No. Copies		
	Each Issue	of Single Issue		
	During	Published		
	Preceding	Nearest to		
	12 Months	Filing Date		
a. <b>Total Number of Copies (Net press run)</b>	25,591	24,211		
b. <b>Legitimate Paid and/or Requested Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)</b>				
1. <b>Individual Paid/Requested Mail Subscriptions Stated On PS Form 3541. (Include direct written request from recipient, telemarketing and internet requests from recipient, paid subscriptions including nominal rate subscriptions, advertiser's proof copies</b>	19,898	17,476		
2. <b>Copies Requested by Employers for Distribution to Employees by Name or Position Stated on PS Form 3541</b>	0	0		
3. <b>Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid or Requested Distribution Outside USPS</b>	165	160		
4. <b>Requested Copies Distributed by Other Mail Classes Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)</b>	0	0		
c. <b>Total Paid and/or Requested Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))</b>	20,063	17,636		
d. <b>Nonrequested Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)</b>				
1. <b>Nonrequested Copies Stated on PS Form 3541 (include Sample copies, Requests Over 3 years old, Requests induced by a Premium, Bulk Sales and Requests including Association Requests. Names obtained from Business Directories, Lists, and other sources)</b>	5,249	6,359		
2. <b>Nonrequested Copies Distributed Through the USPS by Other Classes of Mail (e.g. First-Class Mail, Nonrequester Copies mailed in excess of 10% Limit mail at Standard Mail or Package Services Rates)</b>	0	0		
3. <b>Nonrequested Copies Distributed Outside the Mail (Include Pickup Stands, Trade Shows, Showrooms and Other Sources)</b>	61	16		
e. <b>Total Nonrequested Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3))</b>	5,310	6,375		
f. <b>Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)</b>	25,373	24,011		
g. <b>Copies not Distributed</b>	218	200		
h. <b>Total (Sum of 15f and g)</b>	25,591	24,211		
i. <b>Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c divided by 15f times 100)</b>	79.07%	73.45%		
16. <b>Publication of Statement of Ownership for a Requester Publication is required and will be printed in the October 2009 issue of this publication.</b>				
17. <b>Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner</b>				
<i>Heidi Spangler Director of Audience Development</i>				
<i>Date: 9/3/09</i>				
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**GOLFDOM** (ISSN 1526-4270) is published monthly (12 issues per year) by Questex Media Group, Inc., 306 W Michigan Street, Suite 200, Duluth, MN 55802. Corporate office: 275 Grove St, Suite 2-130, Newton, MA 02466. Accounting, Advertising, Production and Circulation offices: 306 W. Michigan St., Suite 200 Duluth, MN 55802-1610. **Subscription rates:** One year \$43 (U.S. and possessions), \$65 (Canada and Mexico) and \$98 (all other countries). Air expedited service is available in countries outside the U.S. and Canada for an additional \$75 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 \$6.50 per order shipping and handling for both current and back issue purchases. Periodicals postage paid at Duluth MN 55806 and additional mailing offices.



**POSTMASTER:** Please send address changes to *Golfdom*, P.O. Box 1268, Skokie, IL 60076-8268. Canadian G.S.T. Number: 840033278RT0001, Publications Mail Agreement number 40017597. Printed in the U.S.A. **Copyright 2009 by Questex Media Group, Inc.** All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher. Authorization to photocopy items for internal or personal use, or the internal or personal use of specific clients, is granted by Questex Media for libraries and other users registered with the Copyright Clearance Center, 222 Rosewood Dr., Danvers, MA 01923, phone 978-750-8400, fax 978-750-4470. Call for copying beyond that permitted by Sections 107 or 108 of the U.S. Copyright Law. For those not registered with the CCC, send permission request to [questexpermissions@reprintbuyer.com](mailto:questexpermissions@reprintbuyer.com) or 800-494-9051, ext 100.

## In Deep Water

I recently sat in on a big city's request-for-proposal meeting to hear about a contract bidding process to work on the fleet of "product" (aka city golf courses). As you might imagine, it was standing-room only considering the lean economy. Architects and contractors came from throughout the country.

The architects and contractors were prepped during most of the meeting for the extensive documenting necessary when contacting the minority subcontractors they were required to hire for work, which the city was not yet ready to detail. (Key thing to remember: They'll be checking to see that you didn't call at lunchtime to not reach the subcontractor, the one you're hiring for work to be determined.)

Naturally, the big-city bureaucracy had developed a cutesy acronym for the minority subcontractor-hiring process, but it turns out that even the city itself discriminates against the disadvantaged.

When an architect timidly raised his hand and asked if those with disabilities were included in the process, a hollow-eyed bureaucrat replied, "We're not in the disability business. That's federal."

But the highlight of the meeting came when the city's own golf manager got up and started talking. "If any of you have been to our courses, you know we put out a good product," he said. "A green product."

I, the blithering idiot, assumed he was talking about strides the city made to make its courses more environmentally friendly. After all, the city is in the early stages of a severe drought, complete with workable water restrictions on residents and now golf courses (but only

GOLF'S FUTURE IS IN BIG TROUBLE IF FOLKS

LIKE THIS BIG-CITY GOLF MANAGER REFUSE

TO UNDERSTAND THAT COURSES MUST BECOME

MORE EFFICIENT IRRIGATORS

BY GEOFF SHACKELFORD



after some shrewd negotiating by the golf lobby). Many of the restrictions, enforced by ticket-distributing undercover water cops, have reduced wasteful water use without harm to quality of life.

So, as I awaited the exciting explanation about how the city courses embraced the 21st century, it became apparent the green he was talking about had nothing to do with organic fertilizers or converting turf acreage to non-irrigated native grass.

No, he was talking about green grass. "I told my superintendents, I don't care if you get a ticket, bring it to me because we will give our golfers green golf courses," he said to the room of golf industry veterans.

You gotta love a city where the staff openly defies its mayor in a public forum.

However, it was hard to stay quiet when you know that at the same time, golf faces years of controversy, battles, skirmishes and all-out ridicule for being labeled as a huge water waster. And much of that perception is tied to this ridiculous obsession with lime-shaded turf. It became clear that even with guns to their heads, some in the game with the power to help steer us in a bet-

ter direction still just don't get how serious this fight will get.

Think "Road Warrior" and mo-hawked motorcycle-riding lunatics fighting over land, not for the views or the great shopping nearby but for water rights. Oh, golf courses will be in demand . . . for their wells, irrigation rights and not for the privilege of enjoying the Royal and Ancient.

Do these folks really think Ted Turner is buying up huge chunks — 2 million acres at last count — of the western United States just because he can? Or because he wants to put ranchers out of business? Or to let the buffalo roam again?

No, he wants control of the world's largest underground water system because he knows the future will be all about water.

When will folks like this big-city golf manager begin to understand where the future is headed? Will it take the paralysis of golf before they get it?

Because *we are* all in that disability business.

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*Follow Shack, Golfdom's Contributing Editor, at [www.geoffshackelford.com](http://www.geoffshackelford.com) or via [Twitter.com/GeoffShackelford](https://twitter.com/GeoffShackelford).*