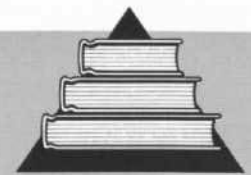




THE SUPERINTENDENT'S LIBRARY: The Second Shelf

By Michael Semler



If you have ever spent any time in a bookstore and gone through the endless shelves of books, you may know the situation with which I am faced. The number of books in print on a given subject can be innumerable. I have found this to be true on the topic of golf course management. In my journeys the past few weeks I have found more books than I will ever possibly read, or own for that matter. I hope in these articles that I will do an adequate job of discerning some of the best books from the rest of them.

In the first part of this series I gave what I felt were the priority books for the Superintendents' Library. In this article I will give the "Second Shelf" or the priority books for the Superintendent's Library. tions and may be worthy of consideration if money is not limited for your personal library.

As I stated before, of primary consideration in managing turfgrass is managing the soil. Another excellent, general soils text is:

Soil Science

Author: R. I. Housenbuiler

1985 Cost \$27.00

He covers all aspects of soils and does an excellent job on soil fertility. In my opinion, owning a second or third text on soils is a good decision and Housenbuiler's is certainly a worthy addition.

Managing turfgrass for golf courses is a varied and complicated talent. We, as managers of turfgrass, cannot ever have too many books relating to turf. One classic book which should be included is:

Principles of Turfgrass Culture

Author: John Madison

1978 Cost \$25.00

It provides some good detail on all aspects of turf culture, not just for golf courses. We are golf turf managers as a priority but a good overall background in turf management is also necessary.

Included in the top shelf was a text on specific turfgrass diseases. In addition to this I would include a good overall text on Plant Pathology. This text would have to be:

Plant Pathology

Author: George M. Agrios

1978 Cost \$25.00

It covers all aspects of general Plant Pathology including fruits, vegetables, ornamentals, and serves as an excellent reference manual for the wide ranging field of plant pathology. A good turf manager must have an adequate background for a good understanding of plant diseases.

Another excellent text on diseases of turfgrass which I feel is noteworthy is:

Management of Turfgrass Diseases

Author: Joseph Vargas

1981 Cost \$25.00

It identifies turfgrass diseases by description and illustration. It also includes a complete approach to healthy turf and practical management strategies for golf courses, lawns and more.

In the first article I gave books for managing and

identifying insect pests and their problems. Since I feel background information is just as important as being able to recognize and solve the problem I would include:

Introduction to the Study of Insects

Authors: Borer, DeLong and Triplehorn

1982 Cost \$42.00

This book has classification and general insect morphology as its strong points and will enhance your knowledge of insects.

Our ornamental plants play an increasingly popular role in our overall golf course management programs. Keeping them healthy and beautiful is then also essential. To aid us in this process I would recommend:

Diseases and Pests of Ornamental Plants

Author: P. O. Perone

1978 Cost \$32.50

It covers all plant materials and their most significant problems and control measures for them to help maintain their health and beauty.

In addition to keeping our ornamentals beautiful we must consider the care and selection of flowers and bedding plants. Nothing adds more color and beauty to a course or club entrance than a well designed and well placed flowerbed. Three helpful books in identifying flowers and their characteristics are:

Taylor's Guide to Gardening Annuals (Perennials) (Bulbs)

Author: Taylor

1986 Cost \$14.95 each

These three books give excellent pictures of all the flowers, as well as growth habits, characteristics and the best environments for maximum flowering and growth. I feel they are welcome additions because you may find some worthy substitutes for more dramatic color and arrangement.

Just as having a strong background in soils is important, we must be well versed in the structure, function and classification of plants. For example, how could we understand bacterial wilt if we didn't know the difference between the xylem and phloem cells. A solid background in biology is essential. For this I would recommend:

Biology of Plants

Authors: Curtis, Raven and Evert

1983 Cost \$36.00

An excellent, in-depth text covering the biology of plants and classification of them. Also included is a good selection of pictures and electron micrographs as visual aids.

Since weeds are always an unwelcome sight on a golf course, I am including a book which will help us identify both broadleaf and grass weed species. For this I would recommend:

Weeds of the North-Central United States

University of Illinois — Urbana

Ag. Bulletin Publication 772

1981 Cost \$15.00

An impressive handbook with good pictures of all weed species in the Midwest and written descriptions and explanations of the growth habits.

All of us are aware of the increasing concern over the use of pesticides and their proposed harmful effects to the public. We must, therefore, be keenly aware of the products we are using, the technical data and proper application procedures to avoid any mishaps. To aid in the technical portion, I would recommend:

Farm Chemicals Handbook
1986 Cost \$45.00

An extensive book covering all pesticides manufactured in 1986 and the necessary technical information concerning these products. Such information should be taken seriously and thus the reason for this book's inclusion on the second shelf.

Like I have stated before, the ability to write properly is essential for any successful profes-

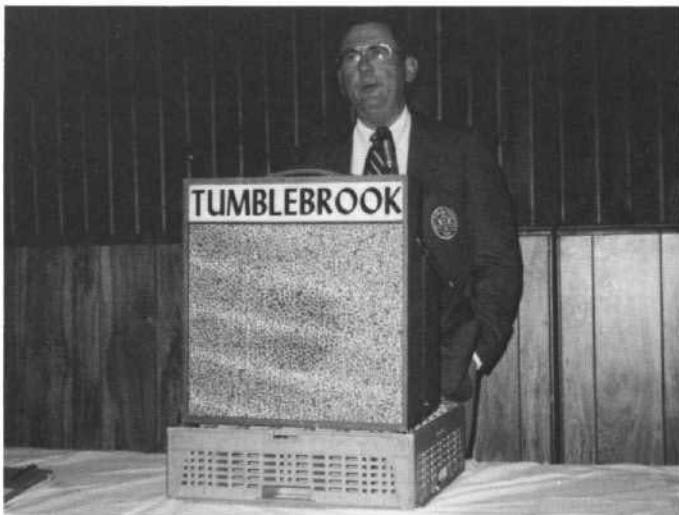
sional. Many times the written word is the first impression someone may receive of us. Imagine a cover letter on your resume which has poor grammar or poor English usage. Certainly the impression given the reader will be less than positive. For this reason, a book on grammar and writing is priceless for anyone and I would recommend the book:

Fundamentals of Technical Writing
Author: Patricia Robinson
1976 Cost \$21.00

It is a college level writing book covering all grammatical aspects and is guaranteed to aid you in the written word. A highly worthwhile book for the Superintendent's library.

It is hoped that these additional selections will help you find that perfect book for your personal library. If none of the books mentioned in the last articles is what you desire, keep looking; there is more to the bookshelf than at first meets the eye.

COOL WEATHER GREETSS APRIL WGCSA MEETING



Jim Latham, Great Lakes Region Director of the USGA Green Section, continued the tradition of leading off the first golf meeting of the WGCSA.

Approximately 50 Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association members met the challenge of April golf in Wisconsin and, braving mostly cloudy skies, a fairly brisk Northeast wind and cool temperatures, took advantage of Golf Course Superintendent Bob Belfield's hospitality at Tumblebrook Country Club. The April 28, 1986 meeting signified the "real start" of the playing season in our State.

The Wisconsin GCSA Board of Directors meeting saw approval of several new members including Dan Williams, Riverview Golf Club, Appleton — Class A, Sam Schultz, Vitense Golf Club, Madison — Class D, John Sittig, Fort Dodge Country Club, Fort Dodge, IA — Class B, Lohmann Golf Design — Class E and Donald Clemans, River Run Golf Club, Kohler — Class A. Also, in recognition of long and meritorious service to and for the profession of golf course



Irv Graf, left, and Mike Lees, right, received awards for 25 and 30 years of continuous membership in the WGCSA. Congratulations to two outstanding guys!

management in the State of Wisconsin, the WGCSA Scholarship has been renamed the Dr. J.R. Love WGCSA Scholarship. Dr. Love's contributions to the "business" are many and significant and the scholarship will personify the contributions for years to come.

Following an excellent dinner prepared by the Tumblebrook staff, the 70 WGCSA members and guests in attendance were able to share in the experiences and insights of Mr. Jim Latham, USGA Green Section Regional Director. Jim's remarks relative to winter injury and spring recovery were timely and appropriate to all in attendance as year in and year out, the winter extremes in our State seem to "play no favorites."

The April 28, 1986 WGCSA meeting. Again, thanks to our host Bob Belfield for a great start to our golf season.