



Dr. Jim Love Awarded GCSAA
'Distinguished Service Award'!



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THE 21ST ANNUAL WISCONSIN GOLF TURF SYMPOSIUM: Starting The Third Decade

Jim Beard said it - the 1986 Symposium marked the beginning of the third decade of one of America's finest golf turf conferences and the only true single subject symposium offered. And on all counts it was a very successful beginning of a new decade. Bob Welch and Jim Spindler put together an outstanding group of speakers that tackled the difficult subject of micronutrients with a sense of serious purpose. The meeting was held on October 29 and 30 at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee.

Most of the nearly 200 attending the day and a half meeting left with several fundamental points in mind:

1. A lot of discussion focused on the micronutrient iron. Many speakers were of the opinion that iron approaches the macronutrients in its importance.

2. Sand-based root zones have increased the need to give more consideration to micronutrients.

3. Balance in nutrition is more important than absolute amounts in soil or tissue samples.

4. Other than iron, micronutrient deficiency symptoms are very seldom seen in the field.

5. Much of the information regarding microelements is extrapolated from other crops.

6. In most cases, pH values greater than 7.0 can limit microelement availability in soils.

Jack Butler presented the first lecture following an excellent introduction to the 1986 Symposium by WGCSA



Russ Weisensel was featured as the noon luncheon speaker



Nearly 200 people gathered for Wednesday's luncheon.

President Bill Roberts. Dr. Butler drew from his extensive experience in the western United States where iron deficiencies are a serious and chronic problem, to the point where 1/2 pound of iron can occasionally be substituted for 2 pounds of nitrogen. *Grass in the west dies from iron deficiency.* They frequently see deficiency expression in the spring when the soils are cold and again in August when there is a lot of irrigation that may leach available forms of iron out of the root zone. Butler recommends three approaches for correcting iron deficiencies:

1. Decrease pH. This will increase the availability of iron. In fact, iron and sulfur are frequently applied together.

2. Cultivar selection.

3. Use of iron fertilizers. Contrary to normal midwest foliar applied procedures, western golf courses make granular iron applications.

Dr. Butler pointed out that zinc, iron, copper and manganese are part of Colorado's soil test for turfgrass crops and expressed the opinion that tissue testing is important for a reference point.

Bob Shearman travelled to Milwaukee from the University of Nebraska campus in Lincoln. He started his lecture with the observation that although macronutrient recommendations for turf are based on specific studies, micronutrient recommendations are gen-

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