



THE SUPERINTENDENT'S LIBRARY: The Third Shelf

By Michael Semler



In my first two articles concerning the Superintendent's Library, I listed what I felt were some of the most important and some of the better books written concerning golf course and turf management. I hope in this third and final article to give you some pertinent books to the world of golf, but at the same time give some which may read more like novels than textbooks.

To be certain, the first two lists of books were the most important in a technical sense. However, like any other profession, we must have an understanding of more than just the technical aspects. An understanding of some of the ideas and the history of the game is sometimes helpful, if not entertaining.

Where to begin, or end, as the case may be, is difficult. It would appear that many of those who have ever picked up a golf club or walked on a golf course have written about it. What follows may be some of the better ones written.

One of the first books I felt should be included on the third shelf was:

The Golf Course
Authors, Cornish and Whitten
1981 Cost \$35.00

It is one of the best books giving golf course design its due. This book goes through the history and evolution of the golf course and gives some of the great, or better known, courses and shows how they were designed and constructed. There are many color, and black and white photographs which makes this book extremely interesting.

Another book which deals with some of the more well known and well designed courses is:

The World Atlas of Golf
Authors, Ward-Thomas et. al.
1980 Cost \$15.00

This book also lists some of the best courses around and gives the layout and strategies for playing them.

A book which the GCSAA put out in a limited edition and is a biography of one of golfs' wiser and more experienced golf superintendents is:

The Life of Old Tom Morris
Author, W. W. Tulloch
Cost \$50.00

A biography of one of golfs' past leaders with some good historical information on St. Andrews and some of the celebrities who have played there. A worthy addition to our library and should provide us with some entertaining reading.

The next book was written by one of the best golfers (in this author's opinion) in the history of the game. The book:

Golf My Way
Author, Jack Niclaus
1976 Cost \$10.00

could prove to be valuable to your golf game, providing

you want to improve. The book goes into great detail about instructions for a good golf swing, as well as some good points on golf strategy.

The following two books were also written by well known golfers. However, these are on a very light hearted note and should read like novels. They are:

Confessions of a Hooker
Author, Bob Hope
1985 Cost \$18.00

Snake in the Sandtrap
Authors, Lee Trevino & Sam Blair
1985 Cost \$14.00

They provide some good detail on their lifetime love affair with golf and some of the more humorous situations and personalities they have dealt with.

Along the same lines as the previous two books, the following one:

Following Through
Author, Herbert Warren-Wind
1985 Cost \$20.00

is a compilation of his previously published newspaper columns. This book includes some of his best articles and editorials, and provides some enlightenment into the nature of the game, its players and the golf course they play on. I found it to be quite interesting and at times, critical of the golf world.

In a past article of mine, I gave the book "The Rules of Golf" by the USGA, as a priority. It is obviously essential to us, however, it is quite dry and short on detail. The following book:

The New Rules of Golf
Authors, Tom Watson & Frank Hannigan
1984 Cost \$15.00

is also an excellent manual of rules. But this one gives in-depth interpretations, some good pictures and does an overall better job of explaining and discussing golf rules. It therefore may be a preference to you and is worthy of further consideration.

The United Kingdom is claimed to be the birthplace of golf. The game itself and the golf courses are certainly a bit different from the American style golf. Therefore, I would also include the book:

Golf In Britain
Author, Geoffrey Cousins
1975 Cost \$18.00

for our further education on the British perspective of golf. This one gives some insights into the nature of golf, insights into the game and a bit of history. It is certainly a worthy companion for our library.

The final book which I will recommend for our library is:
Soils of Wisconsin
Author, Francis Hole
1976 \$40.00

The only way to describe this book is to say, whatever you

wanted to know about the soils of Wisconsin, it is in this book. It covers everything from the factors forming Wisconsin soils, to their properties, to covering the nine different soil regions. In addition to this, there are large numbers of maps, pictures and profiles to aid the reader. In my opinion, it is one of the more interesting soils books I have read in a long time.

During the course of the last three articles we have

covered many different books on the topic of turfgrass management and golf courses. The intention of this was to make the readers aware of the amount of written material concerning our profession and hopefully guide you to some of the better books available to us. I hope in the very least that your interest has been stimulated and that they will serve as some type of guiding light to finding that perfect book.

The Other Plants

Chrysanthemum Culture on the Golf Course

By Dr. Lois Berg



The chrysanthemum is truly the 'Queen of Autumn.' If cultivars and planting locations are carefully selected, mums can be permanent additions to the landscape, requiring less work than most other herbaceous plants. This flower deserves consideration on the golf course, where it can provide an interesting and beautiful variety of color, size and shape from August to hard frost.

The genus *Chrysanthemum* includes several familiar plants: Costmary, an herb; Pyrethrum and Painted Daisy, both sources of pyrethrum insecticide; and Marguerite, Oxeye Daisy, Nippon Daisy, Feverfew and Shasta Daisy, all used as ornamentals. But by far, the most important member of the genus is *Chrysanthemum x morifolium*, the *Chrysanthemum*. This hybrid, probably originating in China, is used as a greenhouse potted plant, as a commercial cut flower and as a much-loved hardy perennial. A more recent use is as an annual bedding plant. . .but more on that later.

The chrysanthemums we plant outdoors are called "garden mums," a term that refers to those mum cultivars which will naturally flower in most of the country early enough in the fall to be showy before the first heavy frost. On the other hand, most greenhouse mum cultivars flower naturally in late October or November, and would be nipped by frost if grown outside. Many garden mums are winter hardy, and while this may vary greatly from one location to another and from one

season to another, there are many excellent cultivars for the upper Midwest.

Variety of color, size, habit and bloom season

Chrysanthemum flowers vary tremendously in color, type and size. Most garden mums have small flowers, $\frac{3}{4}$ to 2" in diameter. A few cultivars bear flowers up to 5" across, but these generally are not as durable outdoors. Flower types range from tiny 'buttons' to huge, shaggy pompons. Singles have daisylike flowers; anemones are much like singles but have a rounded center of deeper colored petals; pompons are nearly globular flowers with short, closely packed petals; decoratives have close regular petals curving inward toward the center or outward toward the edge of the flower; spoons' petals have spoon-shaped tips; spiders have long, tubular petals with hooked ends; and quills have straight, long, tubular petals. In general, most singles and anemones are hardy, and some pompons, decoratives and spoons are hardy. Few spiders and quills are hardy in the upper Midwest.

Not all mums have the same growth habit. Some are classified as 'cushion mums,' meaning that they form a rounded mound when grown in an uncrowded, full-sun location. A second type of habit is 'upright,' meaning that the plants display a stiff vertical character.

Colors include white, yellows, pinks, lavenders, bronze, oranges and reds. There are also bicolors, with petals of

one color on top and another color underneath. Newer introductions are more resistant to fading.

Chrysanthemums' flowering season is determined by daylength. In the long days of summer, mums produce stems and leaves. During the short days of autumn, they initiate and develop flower buds. Mums are classified according to the number of weeks required for flower development. Because late-season varieties which require many weeks for flower development will not bloom before hard frost, it is important to select only early- or mid-season mums.

History of the mum

The chrysanthemum has a long history as an ornamental. It was cultivated in China over 2000 years ago. The Japanese subsequently adopted the flower, contributing much to its culture, hybridization and improvement. It was introduced to the U.S. around 1820, primarily as a garden plant. By 1880 its value as a greenhouse crop was fully realized, and many new varieties were developed every year. Today, the mum is grown by a greater number of florists than any other commercial crop, and is among the top three commercially grown flower crops.

Over the years, more than 3000 cultivars of garden mums have been available in the U.S. Plant breeders have responded to the public's demand for shorter, sturdier, more compact plants, and have developed excellent cultivars that are self-branching and free-flowering, with longer lasting flowers in a wider range of color and form. The season of bloom has been extended, and winter hardiness has been much improved.

Choosing the right mum

Study your landscape needs first, and learn which types and cultivars are best suited for your conditions. A good