

Brayton Meeting Held

Brayton Chemicals, with Joe Wollner at the helm, brought their "Greatest Show On Turf" to Madison on a beautiful mid-February day for over 100 turf-grass managers from throughout Wisconsin. The program consisted of about a dozen manufacturer representatives and Dr. Robert Shearman. Shearman, from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, was the featured speaker. Company reps updated their product lines and almost to a man expressed concern for environmental safety.

Dr. Shearman discussed a topic that is on the minds of a lot of Golf Course Managers these days - the now infamous "Black Layer". He offered no simple solutions to what is more and more shaping up as a complex problem. More specifically, he observed that the following factors appear to be of some note:

1. Light and frequent sand topdressing.
2. The use of very fine sands in topdressing operations.
3. Black or bluegreen algae.
4. High rates of nitrogen fertilizers.
5. Iron and sulfur reacting in anaerobic conditions.
6. Over-application of pesticides.

Shearman reported that the only short term help, at this time, is core aeration and the use of wetting agents.

Dr. Shearman also addressed the topics of potassium fertility and water use in the culture of golf turf. He recommends the increased use of potassium to assist in building a healthy root system, which in turn results in less water use during stress periods during the summer months. He also gave an update on plant breeding efforts in the search for species more efficient in water usage.

"The Greatest Show On Turf" may not match up to P. T. Barnum's standards, but it certainly was very educational. Everyone present seemed to agree that it was an informative and valuable experience.

— George Magnin



Host Joe Wollner



Ric Lange and Dr. Bob Shearman

THE UN-CHEMICAL

"Chemicals" a problems?

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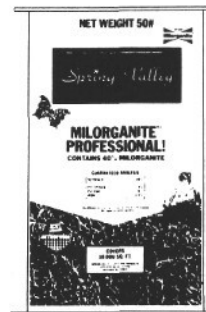
SPRING VALLEY'S Milorganite Professional turf fertilizers have been blended to give you a quick green-up, that lasts and lasts!

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- Crabgrass preventer . . . 20-2-5 + TEAM
- Summer formula 20-3-6 + IRON
- Fall formula 10-5-15 + IRON
- Flower & shrub 8-4-4 + IRON
- Tree & shrub planter 12-4-4 + VITERRA

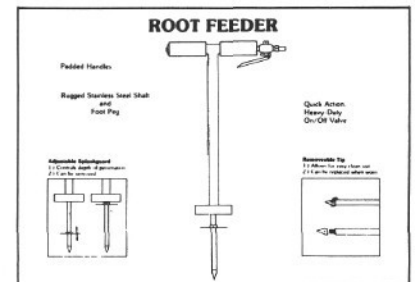
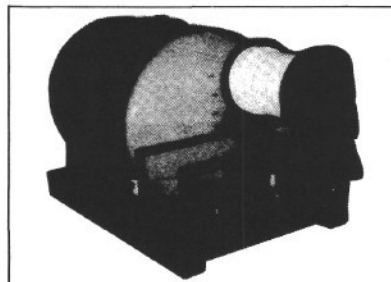
POWDER FINE SPRAYABLES:

- Summer formula 30-2-3 + IRON
- Fall formula 12-9-20 + IRON
- Tree root feeder 25-5-5 + IRON



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