



The Surrounds



By Wayne G. Horman

The 1993 season ended in a very positive way. Once again the GCSAA provided some excellent seminars in Rhineland and Fond du Lac. The weather was not nearly as wet as it has been in previous falls, and most superintendents were able to get a lot more of their construction projects completed. The drier conditions may have also made it easier for turfgrass plants themselves. Unlike the standing water we had in turf areas last fall, the plants have had great conditions going into dormancy this autumn.

The number of manufacturers in the turfgrass industry is getting smaller. NOR-AM Chemical is combining with HOECHST-ROSUSSEL Agri-Vet Co., and THE SCOTTS/GRACE SIERRA purchase is dependent on approval by the U.S. Trade Commission. The year ended with a number of personnel changes, and almost all of them took place on the vendor side of the industry.

Dean Musbach left Timber Ridge Country Club in Minocqua, and has filled the northern sales representative position vacated by Bob Koca's departure. Bob Koca had worked for Reinders for the last two years.

The Country Club fertilizer here in Wisconsin will have to look for assistance somewhere else. Paul Olson has decided to leave Lebanon Turf Products after five years of service. Olson has taken a sales position with Foster Wholesale Supplies Inc., out of Waterloo, Iowa. Olson will

be responsible for the Twin Cities area, and a lot less travel will be required. Olson said he really enjoyed working with superintendents here in Wisconsin, and appreciated the reception he received from them.

At Wisconsin Turf, Derek Kastenschmidt will move over from his southwestern Wisconsin territory, and replace Jim Knapp in the Madison/Janesville area. Knapp was a Jacobson fixture in the southern Wisconsin area for over 20 years. I know most superintendents will miss his BADGER sports insight.

The other Jacobson vendor in Wisconsin, Horst Distributing, is also making some changes. Ron Schumacher has retired after 25 years of service. He has been replaced by Joe Deschler. Deschler, formerly of Hanley's will cover the extreme northern reaches of Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula.

Joe Wollner has decided to get back to being a Superintendent, and has left Wilbur Ellis after nine years. Wollner will stay closer to home, and will take over at Foxboro Golf Course in Oregon, Wisconsin.

Faulks Brothers has expanded their business by adding a sales representative, who calls directly on superintendents in Wisconsin and Illinois. Chris Manning has filled that position, and will be providing topdressing mix and other soil products.

The Northern Great Lakes Golf Course Superintendents have elected their new officers.

The new president is Dan Barrett of Trout Lake Golf Course, vice president is Ken Smith of Eagle River Municipal Golf Course, secretary is Steve Schmidt of Butte Des Morts Golf Course, and the treasurer is Todd Cantrall of Inshalla Country Club. The NGLGCSA is holding their symposium on March 7th, at the Holiday Inn in Rhineland.

Only one new arrival to report during this issue. Jeff Bahr, superintendent at the new Windwood Country Club in Watertown, is a new proud daddy. Jeff's wife, Janet, gave birth to a little girl on October 9th. Jennah Rosann is the first child for the Bahrs.

Reinders is holding spring seminars on March 1st in Stevens Point, and March 2nd in Madison. This is the off-year for their conference in Waukesha.

There are many rumors going around about the availability of Calo-Clor and Calo-Gran for next year. Grace Sierra had to stop production in 1993. However, they do not have to stop selling to distributors until June 15th. There is no deadline to stop sales of Calo-Clor and Calo-Gran by distributors. They can sell it until the inventory is depleted.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Wisconsin Turfgrass & Green Industry EXPO in early January in the Madison area. It is going to be a great event! 