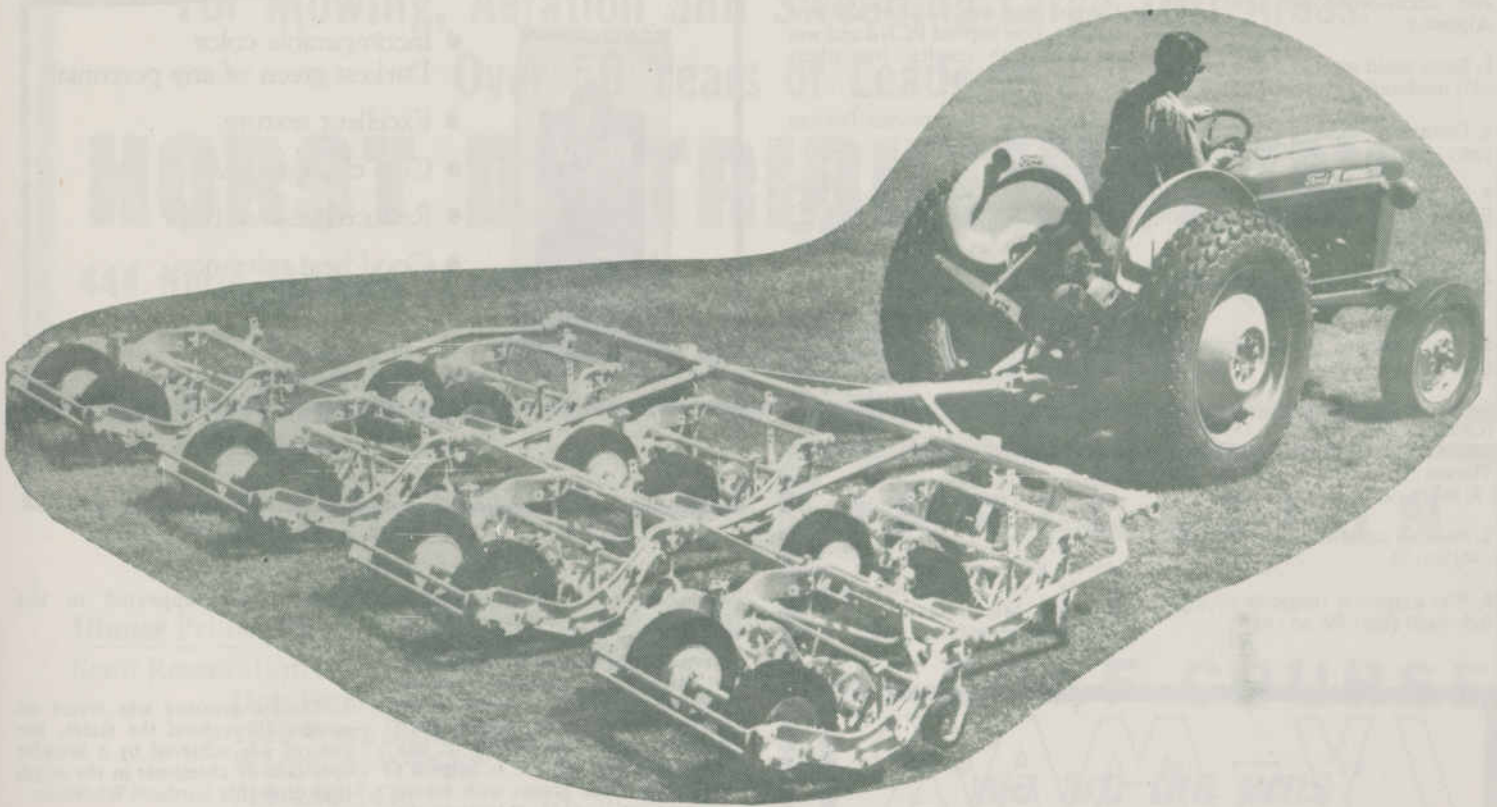


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# SNOW MOLD SURVEY RESULTS 1979

Gayle L. Worf  
Extension Plant Pathologist

Fifty-four superintendents answered the snow mold survey last spring which followed the state's record snow accumulations. Our primary reasons for the survey were to (1) determine whether the unusually severe winter had created greater snow mold problems than normal and (2) what control patterns might be gleaned from members of the WGCSA and subsequently shared. Given below are the results of the questions dealing with golf course greens (note that totals do not always add up to 54, since more than one answer was sometimes given, and occasional questions were skipped.)

1. Snow mold severity (none to light - 37; moderate - 13; severe - 5)
2. Disease level (Same as most other years - 31; not as bad - 9; worse - 14)
3. Type of snow mold (Typhula (gray) - 34; Fusarium (pink) - 8; both 7; uncertain - 5)
4. Primary turf species (*Poa annua* - 3; bentgrass - 26; both - 25)
5. Was dormant fertilizer applied? (yes - 30; no - 24)
6. Snow mold chemicals used (Calogran - 18; Caloclor - 15; PMAS - 8; Chloroneb - 18; PCNB - 7; Thiram - 9; Daconil - 1; Tersan 1991 - 4; other - 2)
7. Number satisfied with results (yes - 44; no - 7)
8. Was a summer fungicide program followed? (yes - 49; no - 4)

9. Did your course receive a "second" snow cover in March after the winter snow cover melted? (yes - 31; no - 22)

10. If "yes" to question 9, was there an increase in snow mold after the second cover? (yes - 15; no - 17)

Fairway information follows:

1. Severity (none to light - 19; moderate - 26; severe - 7)
2. Disease level (same as most other years - 20; not as bad - 7; worse - 24)
3. Type of snow mold (Typhula - 31; Fusarium - 2; both - 14; uncertain - 4)
4. Was dormant fertilizers used? (yes - 21; no 30)
5. Snow mold chemicals applied on fairway? (two applied PMA and/or Thiram; one was satisfied and one was not. One applied PCNB and was satisfied with results. No others reported treatment)
6. Sixteen reported summer fairway fungicide applications.

Individual comments were perhaps more revealing: (1) "Caloclor-Terraclor applications were made on top of six inches of snow (generally successful when applied on two to four inches of snow)"; (2) "Second snow cover caused pink (Fusarium) snow mold"; (3) "late-season golfers swept off topdressing and chemical, leaving unprotected paths."; (4) "streaks from spary patterns"; (5) "more damage from mice than mold (good snow mold control)"; (6) "severe snow mold where snow stayed on five days longer on one green."; (7) "six pounds of Calogran in one shot seems too little ..."; (8) "The snow storm in mid-March gave all the snow mold trouble"; (9) "should have treated after mid-March thaw ..."; (10) "26019 experimental results were



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## Official GCSAA Blazer Changed

GCSAA has switched from blazers made of 100 percent polyester to a polyester-wool blend. The jackets are traditionally styled with patch pockets, double topstitching and metal buttons. The new blazers are a somewhat darker green and the cost of the jacket is \$50.00. Order blanks for the blazer are available and can be obtained by contacting the GCSAA Membership Department, 1617 St. Andrews Dr., Lawrence, Kansas 66044.

encouraging ..."; (11) "changed courses during winter and no treatments were made by the previous superintendent, the disease is severe"; (several similar comments); (12) "outstanding fairway, snow mold control with PCNB"; (13) "topdressed in late November and believe it helped"; (14) "had three greens with severe desiccation"; (15) "damage to aprons most severe"; (16) "observed burning with PMA, but no crown kill"; (17) "early snow fall killed us ..."; (18) "*Poa annua* hardest hit"; (19) "greens committee would not let me treat ...!"; (20) "will treat aprons and shoulders from now on"; (21) "spot kill in low pocket areas - not certain it was snow mold"; (22) "worst snow mold activity in 14 years ... feel rains after treatment may have weakened chemicals ..."; (23) "two weeks after final snow melt we encountered 'orange spot' disease ...";

- These trends appeared in the reports:
1. Disease pressure was severe on courses throughout the states, but control was achieved by a broader spectrum of chemicals in the south than central or northern Wisconsin.
  2. Nearly all northern courses applied either Calogran or Caloclor while many southern courses did not. Several superintendents reported failures when they were used alone!
  3. Some superintendents reported "satisfaction" with snow mold control levels which were unacceptable by others.
  4. Fairway treatments are infrequent, but some interest exists, especially if more economical treatments are developed.
  5. A major concern remains over getting treatments made before permanent snow cover occurs.
  6. Either longer residual chemical combinations or immediate retreatments following late winter snow melt are needed to prevent snow mold attack, should late season snow storms occur.

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# 6 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WE NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D ASK (BUT DECIDED TO ANSWER ANYWAY)

**1** Yes, GCSAA can help you become a better superintendent. One way it does this is through educational seminars and conference sessions it sponsors each year to help you become better informed about turfgrass diseases, pesticides, landscaping and management practices.

**2** Yes, GCSAA is helping to further the advancement of the turfgrass industry. Through the GCSAA Scholarship & Research Fund, Inc., GCSAA provided more than \$13,500 last year in research grants to leading turfgrass programs. GCSAA also provides educational opportunities to turfgrass students through annual turfgrass scholarships.

**4** Yes, GCSAA offers recognition for superintendents. Through its public relations efforts, its magazine, and its award programs, GCSAA helps promote the image and the professionalism of the superintendent. GCSAA also provides information to superintendents about how they can use public relations to promote their own image to their course, their community and their association.

**3** Yes, GCSAA provides a meeting ground for superintendents. Each year, GCSAA sponsors an annual conference and show for its members. Last year more than 6,500 educators, industry representatives and members from all over the world attended. GCSAA's executive committee decided at its last board meeting that the conference experience is so valuable that first-year members should be encouraged to attend by being given free admission.

**5** Yes, GCSAA provides each member with a life insurance program. Supplemental insurance, disability and pension programs also are available.

**6** No, GCSAA can't help you with your golf handicap. You'll have to work on that yourself.



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## COPING WITH STRESS ...

In the modern pressure-cooker world, stress and fatigue are daily problems. The tension starts to mount when we tackle the morning paper, and, for some people, it never lets up.

Many executives and people in management positions feel that they have learned to live with stress. Some even claim that they need it to work at peak efficiency. However, a recent study produced these statistics on the effects of stress on businessmen earning more than \$40,000 yearly.

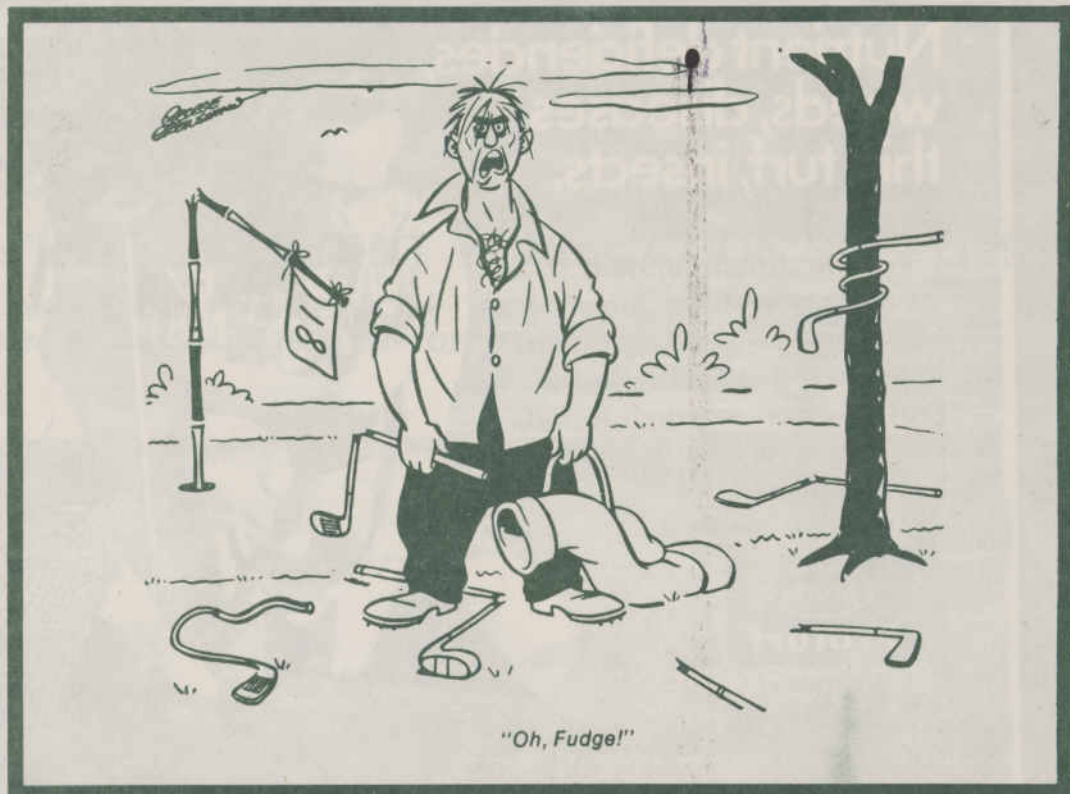
\*One out of five suffers a heart attack.

\*Two out of five are divorced.

\*Three out of five die before their wives.

\*The average life expectancy after retirement is only four years.

\*Most are asked to retire five years before the mandatory age.



If pressure is indeed necessary for these people to succeed in their jobs, they pay a high price for success. In fact, experts say that pressure and the fatigue which results from being constantly on edge are

responsible for mistakes, oversights and generally lowered efficiency. We become more susceptible to disease, we forget important steps in complicated processes, we ignore safety procedures and our personal relationships suffer because we don't have time to properly maintain them.

For example, headaches are the most common of all physical complaints, with an estimated 42 million chronic sufferers in the United States alone, and tension is a factor in all but a few types of headaches.

There are ways of fighting stress. It is possible to control and redirect it so that mental and management capabilities are unimpaired. By learning to live with it, you can anticipate upcoming problems, have time to avoid them and escape the ultimate stress---personal failure.

These four suggestions are ways supervisors can deal with the pressures of everyday life.

1. Keep your mind outwardly directed. Under stress, we lose the ability to see problems for what they actually are. We lose touch

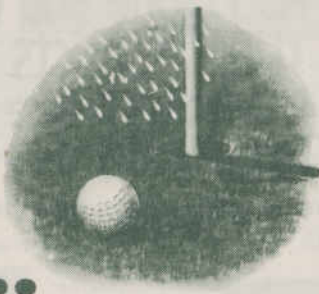
with reality, and our decisions no longer deal effectively with the problems at hand. By staying in touch with the people around us, we can get a clearer picture of problems and can anticipate future ones.

2. Ask questions. Don't do all the talking. Never assume that your employees will tell you when something is wrong. You must seek out problems and their causes for yourself.

3. Keep your sense of reality. Try to read between the words and into the true meaning of what people are telling you. Just as we are rarely able to communicate what we actually mean, we are seldom able to correctly interpret another person's thoughts from the words he says.

4. Schedule your time so that you concentrate on stressful activities when you are at your peak and try to include plenty of time for less stressful activities. Find something which allows you to escape the pressure, such as exercise or a low-key hobby. And be sure to get plenty of sleep.

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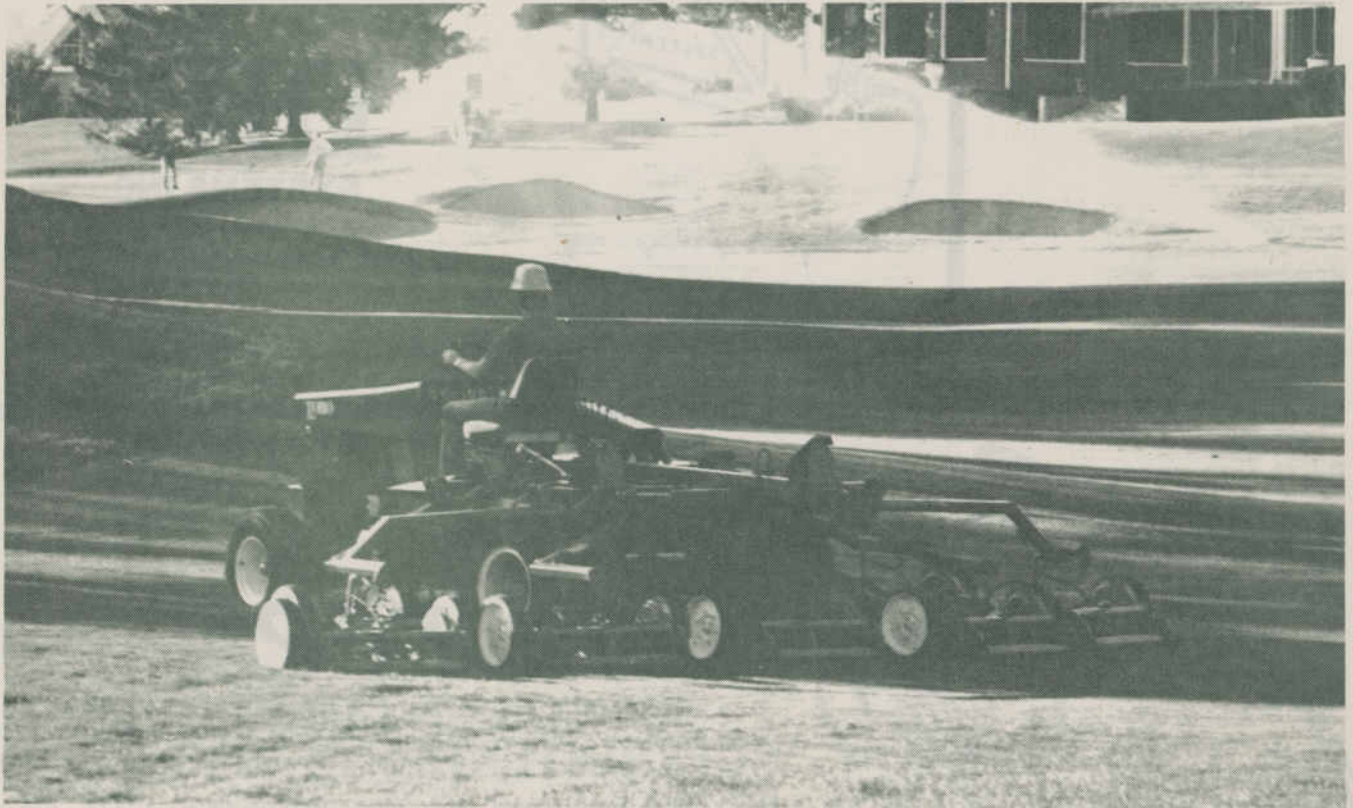
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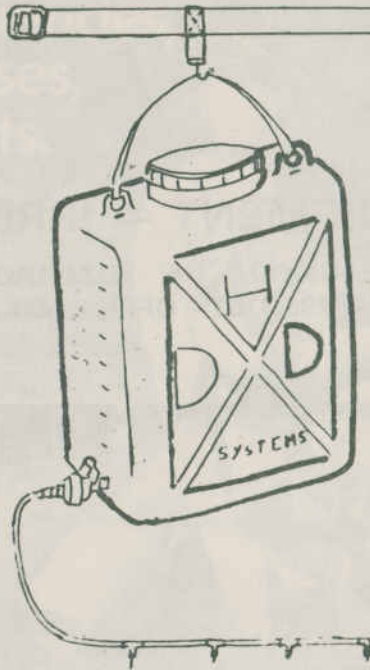
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