

President's Message



Now that the golf season is almost over and we move into our winter projects it is time to reflect on what we accomplished in the past year. It is also the time for the Superintendent to relax a little and prepare for next season.

Our next meeting is November 5 at Waupaca Country Club. This is our annual meeting where in the past we have had very poor attendance.

The election of officers for 1980 is one of the main business functions for the meeting. It would be good if we could have a large attendance so everyone could voice their opinion.

The Golf Course Superintendent Association of America Convention is in St. Louis February 17-22. This is only an easy days drive from Wisconsin. It should be a good chance for many superintendents to attend that have not attended previously.

There are many excellent education sessions each day. It is also the largest Turf Equipment show. The convention gives you a chance to meet and talk with superintendents from all over the U.S. and foreign countries. Some good can not help but rub off to help each of us on our own course.

ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 5.

WOODY VOIGHT

Code of Ethics for Supervisors

1. Set an example of what you expect from others.
2. Emphasize the future rather than the past or present.
3. Look for, and deal with, causes rather than symptoms.
4. Admit, and learn from, making a mistake.
5. Don't pass the buck.
6. Consider both the long-run and short-run results.
7. Everyone involved should benefit.
8. Legal and ethical means should be used to achieve legal and ethical ends.
9. The dignity of every individual should be respected.
10. Try to understand others, and make yourself understood by them.

REMEMBER ...

You can discover your own weaknesses and become a better manager of people if you...

1. Evaluate your own methods and performance with emphasis on the human angle.
2. Analyze each problem thoroughly so you can give explicit instructions.
3. Spread the tedious jobs around - don't let your talented and ambitious workers waste their time on them.
4. Train replacements for yourself and your key people.
5. Provide rewards or punishments as required.
6. Learn to control your temper and avoid the superiority complex. The supervisor who is easy to get along with gets better cooperation.

One of the greatest challenges is to motivate your workers to peak performance. The successful supervisor starts by eliminating the petty irritations that prevent full concentration on the job at hand.

I am the foundation of all prosperity. I am the fount from which all blessings flow. Everything that is of value in the world springs from me. I am the salt that gives life its savor.

I am the sole support of the poor, and the rich who think they can do without me live futile lives and fill premature graves.

I am the friend of every worthy youth. If he makes my acquaintance when he is young, and keep me by his side throughout life, I can do more for him than the richest parent.

I keep bodies clean and fit, minds alert. I am even the parent of genius itself.

I am represented from every paper that flies from the press, in every loaf of bread that springs from the oven.

Fools hate me, wise men love me. The man who shirks me, scorns my aid, never lives -- never really lives, even though he may continue to breathe.

Who am I? What am I?

My name is W-O-R-K.

Good Reading

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Evergreen Needle Loss Heavy This Fall ...

Narrow-leaf Evergreens throughout the Midwest are experiencing unusually heavy needle loss this fall, according to James A. Fizzell, University of Illinois Horticulturist in Cook County.

Evergreens such as Pine, Spruce, Arborvitae are so named because of their habit of keeping their leaves (needles) through the winter. Under normal conditions, the needles are produced in the spring and live 2 or 3 years. When sufficient new growth has taken place on the tips of the branches, these older needles in the center drop off, having served their purpose of photosynthesizing carbohydrates for the tree.

The normal needle drop occurs during late spring and summer and is usually not noticed because of the density of new growth hiding it.

During the last week or so, all University Extension Offices throughout the North Central States have received a tremendous number of calls from distressed plant owners reporting browning and dropping of needles from all types of evergreens this fall.

Inspection of these plants, says Fizzell, reveals no disease or insects, but premature shedding of one and two year old needles. These needles should not drop until next summer under normal conditions.

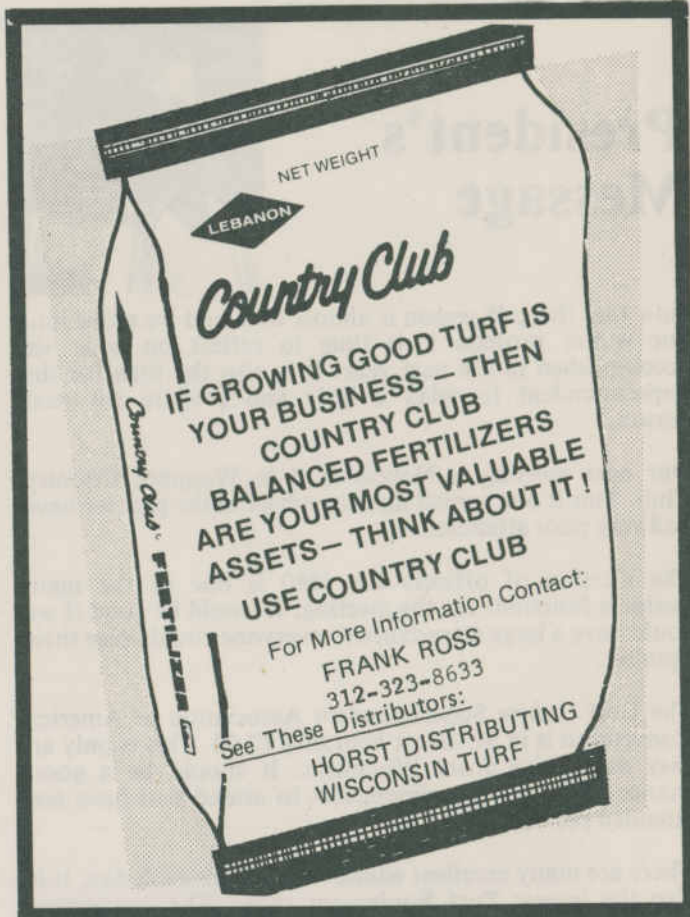
But, continues Fizzell, weather conditions here have been anything but normal for at least the last two years. We have experienced two unusually severe winters and two droughty summers since some of these needles were produced.

Current season growth on affected plants is generally normal and healthy. The older, affected needles have been exposed to one and sometimes both of the severe seasons. Since disease or insect problems are not involved, we can assume the premature drop is a result of this stress.

Fizzell says plant owners should not be alarmed as long as the current season's growth at the tips of the branches is healthy and normal. If the new growth is weak or is turning brown, root injury or canker disease may be involved and a tree expert should be contacted.

While we don't know all the factors involved, the stress on evergreens can be reduced by making sure they go into winter well watered. In exposed situations, screening to protect the plants from winter sun and winds may be helpful, Fizzell concludes.

James A. Fizzell



HOW ACCURATE IS YOUR RAIN GAUGE?


Rainfall records have been kept for thousands of years with very little difference between measurement techniques - rainfall is still collected by placing a vessel of prescribed dimensions on the ground. Since the 1800's wind has been identified as chief cause of rain gauge error. Even before then people were placing rain gauges in pits so that gauge orifices were at ground level and wind influences were eliminated. However, this presented new problems, so gauges were raised above ground and mounted with windshields.

Earl Neff, hydraulic engineer with the government SEA, studied rainfall data at four different locations and times throughout the Pacific Northwest to determine the most accurate way to measure rainfall.

He found that rain gauges exposed to wind catch 5 to 15 percent less rain than pit gauges and errors for individual storms range from 0 to 75 percent, depending upon the storm's wind velocity. Neff says that the error most often made in a rain gauge reading is the assumption that the gauge is completely accurate.

How much does a rain gauge gauge? Seldom as much as falls from the sky.

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Dear Jeff:

We appreciate very much the \$500 check recently received from the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association. The support will be used primarily to cover the travel costs incurred during this summer's evaluation of candidate and registered fungicides on several important turf disease problems in the state. As you know, considerable concern had surfaced over failures of dollar spot control programs in recent years, and the need to find some means to stabilize efficacy of chemicals.

To date this year dollar spot pressure has been minimal, and we may not have opportunity to gain much information from these, or certain other trials that have been established. However, the season is not over yet, and we may also have an excellent opportunity in 1980 to assess carryover benefits of several candidate (and recently registered) systemics applied at different rates and spray schedules.

It is a pleasure to work with Wisconsin's golf course superintendents, and we appreciate your support.

Sincerely yours,
Gayle L. Worf
Professor



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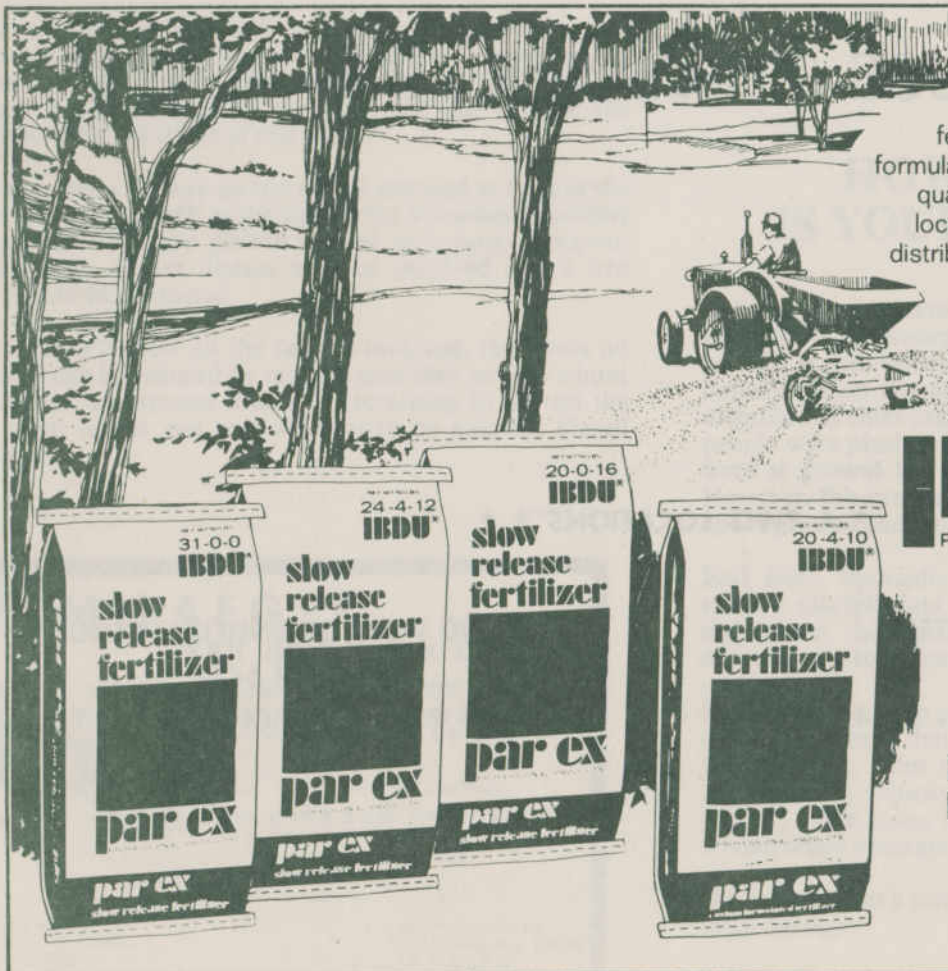
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Snow Mold Control Recommendations for 1979-80

Dr. Gayle L. Worf
Extension Plant Pathologist

We would like to project a goal for WGCSA courses this winter - no snow mold on any greens or tees! It is an ambitious goal, but after evaluating the results of superintendent reports and considering the successes of several treatment combinations that have surfaced in research plots over the past decade, we think it is a realistic possibility. We offer ten suggestions here for your consideration in achieving that goal!

1. If you have had good success with a treatment schedule or practice in past years (and your green committee or owner is satisfied with results) stay with that program.

2. Compatible combinations of "effective" snow mold fungicides are virtually always more dependable during severe winters than individual fungicides applied alone.

3. Inorganic mercury (Calogran or Caloclor) is the basic component of our recommendation in central and northern Wisconsin, and can be used very satisfactorily in southern Wisconsin, too. Chloraneb (Tersan SP or Proturf Fungicide II) can be substituted as the basic snow mold control component in southern Wisconsin.

4. The "basic component" should be supplemented with a second chemical. PCNB (Terraclor 75 W or Turcide 10 G or Scott's FF II) is the

preferred chemical to combine with inorganic mercury in more northern areas. Chloroneb - Mercury combinations are dependable in southern Wisconsin. Chloroneb with other combinations have also been successful in southern Wisconsin, but chloroneb is not recommended in northern Wisconsin. The need for chemical mixtures appears to be due to several different species of snow mold fungi present on courses. Individual courses and greens have somewhat different disease pressures. Final selection of treatments should take into account the superintendent's previous experiences. Troublesome greens may require more intensive treatments than the remainder of the course.

5. Summer fungicide programs are generally helpful in supplementing snow mold fungicide effectiveness. If no summer fungicide treatments have been applied, and/or where snow mold pressure is severe, October applications of chlorothalonil (Daconil or Scott's 101V Fungicide) have improved snow mold fungicide performance, PMAS or other chemicals may do as well.

6. Apply the snow mold fungicides before permanent snow cover. (Combination treatments appear to have efficacy even where applied two to three weeks before normal application dates, though this observation needs confirmation.)

7. Our tests have not demonstrated any consistent advantage to either granular or wettable powder formulations. Granula formulations are certainly more comfortable to apply, but costs are probably two to three times higher. Costs may be a concern when combination treatments are needed. Wettable powders can help reduce cost; also, use the lowest recommended rate for each chemical. (We have had as effective success with even lower rates. At Mt. Telemark, for instance, four pounds of Calogran or two ounces of Caloclor, plus four ounces of PCNB applied in early November on top of four ounces of Daconel applied two weeks earlier provided excellent control at a cost below the "normal" rate of the mercury alone.)

8. A late winter application should be considered if snow melt permits. We have not encountered springtime collapse of better treatments in our trials, but we cannot be certain whether that is a result of chance or chemical efficacy. Cheaper "shorter term" chemicals such as PMA-Thiram may be adequate at the time of year. A superintendent could also consider use of a chemical which might provide some early spring Helminthosporium control as a bonus, such as PCNB.

9. Miscellaneous cultural practices may be worth considering where heavy disease pressure is expected. Dormant fertilizer application

encourages rapid, early spring growth and recovery, without increasing disease potential, as once thought. Physical removal of snow after March 1 can be useful, especially if topdressing was applied so that desiccation is less likely to occur. Milorganite over the snow or ice surface will also speed surface release. While some superintendents feel that topdressing may help, we have observed extensive disease in spite of the cover.

10. Apply all chemicals uniformly, at properly determined rates. Some superintendents split applications and apply two directions for more assured coverage. And keep accurate records so that you can repeat the treatments next year if results are successful - or make intelligent modifications if results are less than desired!



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Guadalajara To Be Site For 1980 GCSAA Golf Tournament

The 1980 GCSAA Golf Tournament will be a post-conference tournament instead of the traditional pre-conference tournament and will be held in Guadalajara, Mexico. The golf courses that will be used are: Men - San Isidro Country Club and Club de Golf Santa Anita; Ladies - Guadalajara Country Club.

More information will be forthcoming.



**JAMES R. BROOKS JOINS
HARVESTING PUBLISHING AS
NATIONAL SALES MANAGER
FOR GOLF BUSINESS MAGAZINE.**

The Harvest Publishing Company is pleased to announce that James R. Brooks has joined the company as national sales manager for **GOLF BUSINESS**, the magazine for golf course management and turf maintenance. According to Richard J.W. Foster, Group Publisher of Harvest's Business Publications Division, Brooks will have over-all responsibility for the sales and promotion activities associated with **GOLF BUSINESS**. In addition, he will be personally responsible for

the southern sales region. Brooks will be based in the Business Publications Division's new Atlanta sales office.

Brooks, 39, is well-known among golf course superintendents, turfgrass educators, and the turf maintenance industry. For the past five years he has been associated with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, serving most recently as director of marketing and sales.

**GASOHOL AND
SMALL ENGINES**

With the recent rise in gasoline prices, gasohol, a mixture of 10 percent alcohol and 90 percent gasoline, has been receiving widespread publicity. In some parts of the country, it is widely available at service stations and some resourceful people are distilling with their own alcohol to mix with gasoline.

While the use of gasohol in automobiles is still a matter of controversy, scientists at the Tecumseh Research Laboratory, Ann Arbor, Mich., warn that it can have serious effects on small engines.

Tecumseh scientists say that most gasohol contains grain

or methyl alcohols which may react with the water content of the fuel to form strong acids. These acids can corrode metal parts and eat rubber and plastics.

Except for cold-weather starts, automobile engines do not use a rich fuel-to-air ratio. Small engines, however, do run on a rich mixture and they are frequently stored for long period of time.

This is particularly evident in the case of turf maintenance equipment where both the equipment and the fuel supply may be stored during the off-season. If you want to use gasohol or any other synthetic fuel in your equipment, you should check first with the dealer or the manufacturer.

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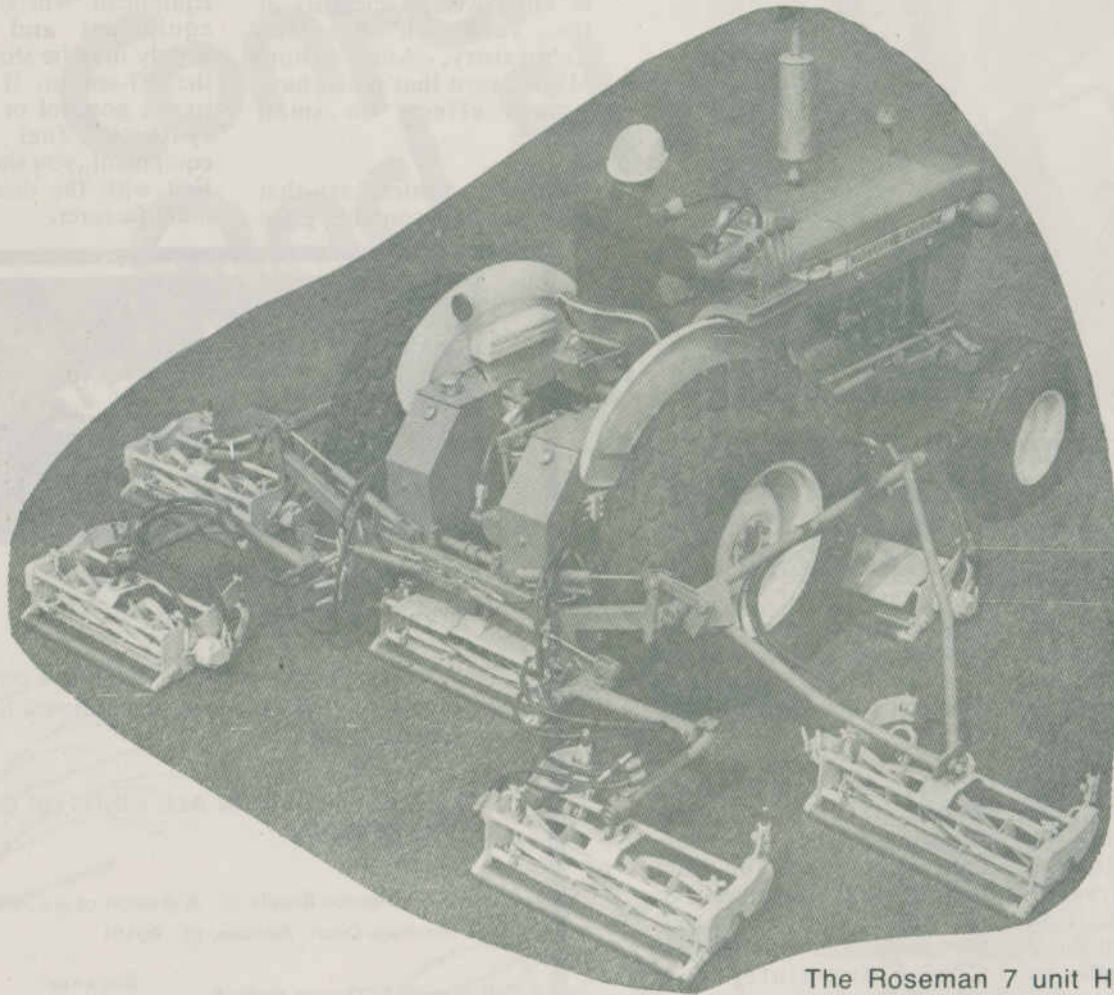
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