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## ABOUT THE COVER

The tables are turned on our cover subject this issue. Over his many years as executive director of the WSGA, Eugene R. Haas shared his incredible artistic ability with the golf community in Wisconsin, including past covers of The Grass Roots. Now, our own portrait artist Jennifer Samerdyke has drawn Mr. Haas for our cover as a way to honor his tremendous contributions to the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association, and to recognize him as recipient of our Distinguished Service Award.

*"We remember Grandma and the cookies and the pudding. Christmas is when we gather up everything good in our life - all the warmth and the light and all the good memories, and draw it close and enjoy it as much as we're able to. We gather our children, we make food, build a fire, light the lights, sing the songs, come as close as possible for as long as possible. And in the midst of it people cry who you never thought had a drop of water in them."*

Garrison Keillor - 1993

# THE GRASS ROOTS

THE GRASS ROOTS is a bi-monthly publication of the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association, printed in Madison, Wisconsin, by Kramer Printing. This part of THE GRASS ROOTS may be reprinted without expressed written permission by the editor.

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Front row: (L-R) Kris Pinkerton, Scott Schaller, David Brandenburg. Back row (L-R) Andy Kronwall, David Smith, Marc Davison, Dan Williams, Mike Lyons, Mark Kienert

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# An Honor and a Privilege

By **Scott Schaller**, Golf Course Superintendent, North Shore Golf Club



Where has the time gone? It seems like only yesterday that I was putting together my thoughts for my first president's message two years ago. My eight years of involvement with the WGCSA board of directors has been challenging, rewarding, educational and, most of all, an enjoyable experience.

The camaraderie of fellow golf course superintendents has been the most rewarding for me. Meeting so many different people who are involved with our profession and then having the opportunity to build relationships with them. The relationships and memories that have developed with past and present members

of the WGCSA board of directors have been especially rewarding. I wouldn't trade any of these experiences for anything.

The future of the WGCSA looks very bright with the quality, hard working and caring individuals who are running our organization. Kris Pinkerton, the next president, is one of the most organized and talented individuals I know. He will bring many good things to the association in the upcoming years.

I would like to say it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as president of the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association for the past two years. I have been very fortunate to be a part of this organization and would like to thank all of you for giving me this opportunity. Take care, have a great winter and I'll see you around at one of our upcoming meetings. Thanks! ♣



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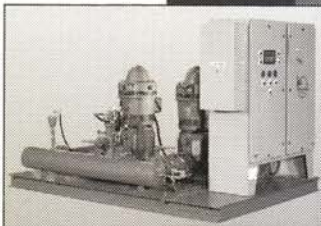


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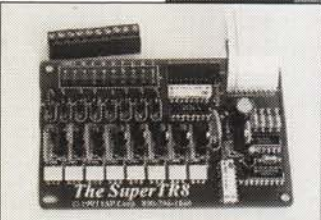
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# Y2K Grub Control: Are You Compliant?

By Dr. R. Chris Williamson, Department of Entomology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

## ***They're here and their populations are growing***

Japanese beetle infestations are on the rise in Wisconsin, especially in Rock, Walworth, Racine, and Eau Claire Counties. Adult trap counts in July and August and grub infestations in late August and September indicate their increasing population. Consequently, it's merely a matter of time before their anticipated distribution throughout Wisconsin.

Japanese beetles are one of the most important and destructive pests of turfgrass and ornamental plants. Unlike most other insects, both the larvae (i.e., grubs) and

adults can cause damage.

Adult Japanese beetles feed on the foliage of over 300 identified species of ornamental plants. Feeding damage caused by adult beetles results in the skeletonization (i.e. feeding between the veins of leaves) leaving only a lace-like appearance of the leaves. This damage often results in leaves turning brown, dying, and eventually falling-off.

As for the damage caused by Japanese beetle grubs, they are below-ground feeders that feed on the roots, rhizomes, and stolens of turfgrass. Grubs can destroy the entire root system of a plant,

resulting in the loss of turf. Where grub populations are high enough (i.e., 15-30 grubs/ft<sup>2</sup>), the first evidence of injury is localized patches of pale, discolored and dying turf that displays symptoms of drought stress. These areas rapidly enlarge and coalesce as the grubs continue to feed, grow, and expand their feeding range. Such areas can be easily lifted or rolled much like carpet.

To make matters even worse, raccoons, skunks, and other animals are attracted to grub infested areas, and their foraging behavior often results in more damage than the grubs. As if this were not

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enough, several species of birds also exploit grub infestations, causing even more turf damage.

**Prevention of Adult Japanese Beetle Feeding Damage**

One of the simplest ways to prevent feeding damage by Japanese beetle adults is to eliminate all preferred hosts; however this is obviously not practical since it is not justifiable to remove a healthy, desirable tree. Thus, the next best line of defense is to treat susceptible trees.

There are two primary options for controlling Japanese beetle adults on preferred trees; preventative or curative treatments. Currently, there is only one treatment option for preventative control of Japanese beetle adults. Merit® (imidacloprid) is the only product labeled for preventative control. However, Novartis has an experimental product that may be labeled in the near future. Susceptible plant material **must** be treated 7-9 months prior (i.e., September/October) to Japanese beetle presence (i.e., late-June/July). The recommended rate of application is 1.9 grams (0.067 ounces) of Merit® 75 WP per one inch diameter at breast height (DBH). This is obviously a very small amount of product, thus a scale or balance that measures in grams would be needed. For example, a six inch DBH linden tree would require 11.4 grams (0.4 ounces) of Merit® 75 WP.

There are two methods to apply Merit® preventatively to trees; soil drench or soil injection. Soil drench is nothing more than the uniform application of a control product and an appropriate amount of water. The manufacturer (i.e., Bayer) recommends that a minimum of 10 gallons of water per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup> be applied as a drench around the base of the tree, directed to the root zone. As for the soil injection method, a mix of the control agent and sufficient amount of

water is injected using an injection probe in a grid pattern on 2.5 foot centers, extending from the drip line of the tree.

As for curative control of Japanese beetle adults, there are several products labeled for their control. Below is a table containing trade names, common names, manufacturer, and rates for some of the control products.

Curative control requires a foliar application to the leaf surface, especially the upper leaf surface. The optimal time to treat Japanese beetle adults is at the onset or first observance of beetle flight (i.e., late-June/July). Depending on the control product selected, repeat applications may be necessary.

Trade Name	Common Name	Manufacturer	Rate
Orthene	Acephate	Valent USA	21.3 oz./100 gallons H2O
Talstar	Bifenthrin	FMC	2.0-4.0 oz./10 gallons H2O
Turcam	Bendiocarb	AgrEvo	6 oz./100 gallons H2O
Sevin	Carbaryl	Rhone-Poulenc	1 qt./100 gallons H2O
Dursban Pro	Chlorpyrifos	Dow AgroSciences	4 gallons/100 gallons H2O
Tempo	Cyfluthrin	Bayer	1.9 oz./100 gallons H2O
DeltaGurad	Deltamethrin	AgrEvo	4-8 fl.oz./100 gallons H2O
Scimitar	Lambda-cyhalothrin	Zeneca	1.5-5.0 fl.oz./100 gallons H2O



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**White Grub Control Strategies**

Golf course superintendents and turfgrass managers have two options for control of Japanese beetle grubs; they include preventative and curative control. Highly maintained turf is especially susceptible to Japanese beetle grub infestations for several reasons. Intensively managed turf is typically mowed at relatively low cutting heights and fertilized and irrigated regularly. All these cultural practices present a conducive environment for Japanese beetle development and survival. As a result, Japanese beetle adults "seek-out" or exploit such areas to increase their probability of survival. In addition, during periods when rainfall is often limited (i.e., late-July and August), quality turf is typically irrigated which helps ensure survival of grubs. Unfortunately, necessary management practices implemented to maintain quality turf are ideal for Japanese beetles. Thus, control measures must be undertaken in order to minimize potential damage as a result of grubs feeding on the roots of turf.

Preventative Control

Preventative control of grubs is simply the application of a control product before any eggs have been laid. Some preventative products must be applied at or before egg hatch to attain maximum control. Currently there are two preventative grub control products that are labeled for Japanese beetles as well as other white grub species; they include Mach 2 (halofenozide) and Merit (imidacloprid). Both of these products are available in liquid, granular, and fertilizer combination formulations.

Due the impact of the FQPA (Food Quality Protection Act of 1196), Oftanol (isophenfos) is no longer registered for grub control; Bayer has elected to no longer manufacture this product.

Trade Name	Common Name	Manufacturer	Rate
Merit 75 WP	Imidacloprid	Bayer	0.4 lbs./Acre
Mach 2 2SC	Halofenozide	RhoMid	3 qts./Acre

**Table A**

Trade Name	Common Name	Manufacturer	Rate
Turcam	Bendiocarb	AgrEvo	45-65 oz./Acre
Sevin	Carbaryl	Rhone-Poulenc	10 lbs./Acre
Dursban	Chlorpyrifos	Dow AgroSciences	4-8 qts./Acre
Mach 2	Halofenozide	RhoMid	3 qts./Acre
Dylox	Trichlorfon	Bayer	10 lbs/Acre

**Table B**

Regardless of the product, formulation, or the label "language," **all grub control products must be watered-in** with a minimum of 1/2 inch of water to maximize efficacy by distributing the compound where the target pest is located. See **Table A** which contains trade names, common names, manufacturer, and rates for preventative grub control products.

Curative Control

Curative or corrective control of grubs is nothing more than treating grubs once they have been detected. This approach to grub control may appear to be more economical initially, however, control options for curative control of grubs are quite limited. This is a result of the large variability of control exhibited by the available control products. Although there are several products labeled for curative control, based on findings from research studies, there are only two or three products that provide acceptable (i.e., >80%) control. These products include Turcam (bendiocarb), Sevin (carbaryl), and Dylox (trichlorfon). All other product only provide marginal control (i.e., 25-50%). See **Table B** which contains trade

names, common names, manufacturer, and rates for curative grub control products.

Like the preventative control products, regardless of the product, formulation, or the label "language," **all grub control products must be watered-in** with a minimum of 1/2 inch of water to maximize efficacy by distributing the compound where the target pest is located. ♣



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\*In 1998, the National Society of Professional Engineers recognized the KOHLER OHC 18-horsepower engine with its prestigious "New Product Award".

# A Summer on the LPGA Tour

By Scott Wendels

After graduating from UW-Madison on May 13<sup>th</sup> this past spring with a B.S. degree in Soil Science with a specialty in turf management, I headed for the Milwaukee airport to start my new job. I flew to Nashville, Tennessee to start caddying for my sister, Shelley Wendels, in the U.S. Women's Open qualifier. Shelley is a professional golfer on the LPGA tour. She missed qualifying for the Open at Old Waverly by one stroke, so the Open will have to wait until next year in Chicago.

My first official LPGA tournament of the summer was in Austin, Texas the next day, so I jumped onto a plane and headed for the

lone star state. The weather was hot and humid, in the 90's all week. I learned a valuable lesson in Austin. The sun is much harsher than it is in Wisconsin. My legs went from out of bounds stakes to lateral water hazard stakes in a day! I suffered second degree burns on my legs in one short day. That happened on a Thursday, so I was forced to wear pants for the rest of the week in the 90( heat. Shelley made the cut in Austin, so my second degree burns were worth it.

After Austin I flew home to Fond du Lac and had two weeks off, which I spent working at Rolling Meadows on the maintenance staff.

Dave Brandenburg allowed me to work on my off weeks to help keep my brain fresh on maintenance practices and earn some extra money. I would like to thank Dave for allowing me to work when I was home and also allowing me to come and go when I needed to. Thanks again Dave.

After the two-week vacation from the tour, it was time for Shelley and me to leave for a five-week road trip. We loaded up her 1999 Dodge Grand Caravan and headed for Rochester, New York. Shelley and I switched off driving so the 12-hour trip didn't seem too long. Once we arrived in Rochester it was off to meet the family that

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The caddies doing their Monday duty of walking the golf course and checking yardages and green sweeps and breaks.



Me caddying in McDonald's Tournament practice round.

was nice enough to house us for the week. Shelley and I arrived at the house and found that our hosts had three cats. Shelley is allergic to cats, so we headed off to find a hotel. We found a Red Roof Inn that was our home for the week. While in Rochester, I got the opportunity to play Oak Hill, site of the 1998 U.S. Amateur. Shelley's 23rd place finish was her best of the year. Right after she finished her round on Sunday it was time to load up the car and head out to Atlantic City for the next tournament.

Atlantic City was not one of my favorite cities that I visited this summer. It was dirty and very expensive, except around the casinos. The boardwalk was very pretty and worth the walk down. While in Atlantic City I was able to change cups on the practice green and on the 18th hole. I met the superintendent and was asked if I wanted to work in the mornings before I had to caddy. I turned him down because I wasn't sure if I was allowed inside the ropes before I caddied on tournament days. I later found out that I am allowed inside the ropes, but not allowed on the greens. The gambling casinos were nice to me that week in

Atlantic City; I left a winner.

Next stop was the third major of the year, the McDonald's LPGA Championship in Wilmington, Delaware. The DuPont Country Club was in fantastic shape and one of the nicest courses I have seen since Pumpkin Ridge in Portland, Oregon, home of the 1997 Women's U.S. Open. Shelley missed the cut here so we left Sunday morning for Toledo, Ohio.

Toledo was the site of the Jamie Farr Kroger Classic. While Shelley was playing in the Monday Pro Am she met Jamie Farr, but didn't know who he was. She just knew that he looked like the guy "Klinger" on MASH. She was later informed that the man that looked like Klinger was in fact Jamie Farr, the host of the tournament. On Thursday Shelley had a good start to the tournament, shooting 68, which put her two strokes off of the lead. Second day jitters took over and she finished that tournament in 50th place and we learned a little on how to handle the pressure of being in the top ten. When the pressure builds up next time, we will be better prepared to stay in the hunt and chase the leader effectively. St. Louis was the next stop on the tour so it was time to



Jan Stephenson putting.

pack the minivan and head to the gateway to the West.

St. Louis was a tough week for me as a caddy. Shelley was not playing well and the five weeks of living out of a suitcase was getting to both of us. The life of a professional golfer is not as glamorous as it seems. You are in a different city each week, sleeping in a different bed, eating at restaurants, and away from your family and close