



Poa trivia

By Cubby O'Brien



Turf Talk

About mid-September it felt more like fall than it does now. I'm writing this in the third week of October and honestly, a customer of mine said that dollar spot was re-emerging. Down the road another was spraying for pink snow mold. God only knows what the weather is doing now when you're reading this. Snowing I hope!

I don't know about you guys but I've never been more ready for winter. I'm not sure why either. It hasn't been a particularly rough year. On the contrary, it's been pretty mild. Maybe that's it. Maybe there wasn't anything going on this year to get the "juices flowing" if you know what I mean. Maybe we (or I) need those times when things get a little hectic. In your case it might be "do I spray now or wait and risk losing more turf?". In my case it would be "can I get the product there on such short notice?" Or in the worst case, as in a year like '95, do we have any Subdue, Banol or Aliette left in stock?"

At any rate, I guess years like this tire me out more because of the lack of pressure. I hope that makes some sense to a few of you. Those doing grow-ins like Jake, Dave and Jim, Brent, Donny, T.R. and others probably think I'm nuts.

Beetle Mania

Anybody notice that Paul had a face lift? Oops, wrong beetle. What's up with all of these lady bug beetle look - alike. Man, those things are everywhere! It's

not really a turf topic but somebody should ask Chris Williamson what the heck are those things and where did they come from. It wouldn't be so bad but the little pr-cks bite pretty hard. I've heard they are a European beetle in the same family as lady bugs. These guys are more tan in color than the common red and black pattern we see on the lady bug. If they would eat turf I'm sure more of us would be concerned but I just thought I'd mention them.

Irish Ayes...

were smilin' when we had the good fortune of playing the Irish Course at Whistling Straits for the UW - Madison Distinguished Graduate Fellowships. All I can say is that golf course is magnificent in its brutality or brutal in its magnificence, whichever you prefer. Someone in our foursome made the comment that when you are on any given hole, it seemed as though it was the only hole on the golf course. A couple of times I could have used a chirper to guide me to my ball up on some of those peaks in the rough. A big thanks should go to Mike Lee and the Kohler Company for allowing us to play.

Career Moves

The job at Milwaukee CC has been filled and the individual's name is Pat Sisk. He is from the East and unfortunately has not started as of this writing so I have no more details. We welcome him and wish him well on his new job.

Some other moves within the state (and there haven't been many) are Scott Neary was hired as the new superintendent at Beaver Dam CC in Beaver Dam. Scott comes from the Mississippi Dunes Links Course in Minnesota. Brett Mullikin is Scott Spiers' new assistant at Trappers Turn in the Dells. Brett was at Hillmoor Golf Club in Lake Geneva and is a Rutgers grad. Andy Kronwell, superintendent at Lake Geneva CC, hired Phil Davidson as his assistant. Phil comes from Mount Vernon CC in Virginia. Congratulations to all of you on your new jobs.

Oscar, Oscar, Oscar

Anyone who knows him loves him and will be happy to know that Oscar Peterson and his wife Melissa (Missy) had a little baby girl. Teagan McGuire was born on September 18 (Oscar's birthday too!). She weighed in at a healthy 8lbs. 13 oz. Must be all that clean Illinois living, right Oscar? Congrats from all of us!

I wish I had more of the "skinny" for you all but I guess it's just that time of year. If anyone would like to share any news, please contact me at (630) 514-8754 or e-mail me at cubobrien@aol.com. 

