



Poa trivia



By Rob and Steve Wasser
LESCO, INC.

Where do I begin, where do I even begin? Well it's the New Year so I guess I'll wish everybody a Happy New Year. Now that that's over I hope that each and everyone of you enjoyed some time with your family over the past holiday season. We all worked hard throughout the 2004 golf season and we did it so we could provide for our families, so the rest and relaxation we took over the Christmas holiday was well deserved. Now it is time to get our mind back to the task at hand, preparing for the 2005 golf season!

The 2005 golf season isn't looking so hot right now. This isn't because golfers are giving up, but because we received some bad weather throughout the state causing a build up of ice on the greens, tees and fairways. If you divide the state from Fond du Lac north, this is the area hardest hit by the ice storms. Don't get me wrong; there is plenty of ice south of Fond du Lac also. It will be interesting to see what "Mother Nature" will bring us in the next two months. If there is any indication with the "deep freeze" we are in now, there could be some problems with the *Poa annua* that started to come out of its winter sleep.

Superintendents have been doing many different things to try to help their greens along the last few weeks. Some have cleared their greens of the snows that came after the ice, hoping that a "winter thaw" would melt the ice. Some other superintendents went out and spread Milorganite hoping to create holes in the ice allowing the gases to escape. Still other superintendents are taking a wait and see approach; they will evaluate in early February to see what actions might be needed. All in all, in all my travels, I have learned there are many different ways to approach potential ice problems. What works for one person may not work as well for another. I believe it depends on each person's particular golf course.

The 2005 season is upon us and as usual, "Mother Nature" is making us reevaluate our plans so we can have healthy turf for the 2005 season. Are we ready?

Babies

Congratulations go out to Mike Blazich and his wife who were blessed with a gift of a baby boy in December. I am told that father, mother and child are doing fine. Mike is the golf course superintendent at the Wilderness Woods Golf Course in Wisconsin Dells.

New Jobs

Congratulations also go out to Dave Herr, who is the new truck salesman for LESCO northeastern Wisconsin. Dave and his wife Cathy will reside in Keil.

Awards

Emily (Buelow) Erickson, graduate of UW-Madison and former Master's degree student of Dr. Frank Rossi, was recently awarded the Outstanding Service Award by the Turfgrass Council of North Carolina at their annual conference and trade show. For over seven years, Emily has served as an instructor and undergraduate advisor in the turfgrass management program at North Carolina State University. She is also currently the Associate Director at the Center for Turfgrass Environmental Research and Education at NC State. Emily and her husband Bob, Director of Golf Turf Management at NC State, are both former UW-Madison grads and former Blackhawk CC staff.



That is all I have for you this month. If you know of any stories, or if you have any information you like to share with all your fellow superintendents, please give Rob Wasser or Steve Wasser a call at 262-206-0775 or 920-362-1809. You can e-mail us at sls200@lesco.com or sls224@lesco.com.

FOR SALE

Nakoma Golf Club has the following equipment for sale:

- (2) John Deere 3215B fairway units - both are completely serviced and ready to go, 1700hrs. — \$10,000
- (1) Jacobsen Greensking IV w/ 11 bladed reels & groomers 1500hrs. — \$4,000
- (1) Jacobsen Greensking IV w/ 9 bladed reels 2,400hrs. — \$2,500
- (1) Toro Greensmaster 3000 2,500hrs. — \$1,500

ALL equipment is fully serviced, in great shape, and ready to go.
For more info contact either Clark or Jim at 608-238-2033.