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WISCONSIN PATHOLOGY REPORT

3. Snow cover alone isn't enough to cause snow mold.

As mentioned previously, our Madison site was basically free of snow mold despite being only 2 hours south of Wausau. It wasn't due to lack of snow cover, as Madison approached a record for consecutive days with at least 1 inch of snow cover (over 90 days). Why the lack of disease despite prolonged snow cover? While several factors likely played a role, the primary impact was likely due to colder surface temperatures under snow cover at the Madison site relative to Wausau and Marquette (Figure 4).

Despite colder air temperatures at both Marquette and Wausau relative to Madison, the surface temperature was significantly colder for most of the winter at Madison. Snow mold fungi cannot grow when temperatures are well below freezing, and a deep snow cover will provide enough insulation to maintain or increase surface temperatures to near freezing (and allow for disease development). But a shallow snow cover will not insulate the surface well, leading to lesser amounts of disease during exceptionally cold winters like those experienced last year.

These trials are an important part of the research and extension program here at the University of Wisconsin, and provide you with unbiased information regarding the efficacy of a wide range of fungicides. This research would be impossible, however, without the generous support of our host facilities. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the superintendents at each host facility for their spectacular hospitality: Marc Watts of Tumbledown Trails GC, Randy Slavik of Wausau CC, Craig Moore of Marquette CC, Matt McKinnon of Cragun's Resort, and Norma O'Leary of Silver Bay CC. Without their support our extensive snow mold research program would not be possible.

If you have any questions regarding these trials or about snow mold management in general, please don't hesitate to contact me at plkoch@wisc.edu or 608-262-6531.





Figure 2: The mixture of Interface and Triton FLO at Wausau CC in 2013-2014 provided excellent disease suppression while either fungicide applied alone provided very poor protection.

(Figure originally appeared in the August, 2014 issue of Golfdom.)



Figure 3: The mixture of Torque and 26/36 at Wausau CC in 2013-2014 provided excellent disease suppression while either fungicide applied alone provided very poor coverage.

(Figure originally appeared in the August, 2014 issue of Golfdom.)

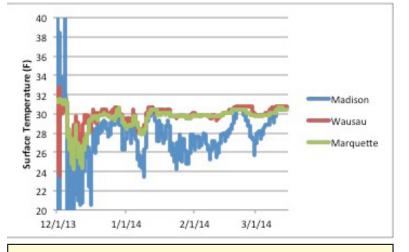


Figure 4: Surface temperatures under snow cover at Tumbledown Trails GC in Madison, WI; Wausau CC in Wausau, WI; and Marquette CC in Marquette, MI throughout the winter of 2013-2014. (Figure originally appeared in the August, 2014 issue of Golfdom.)



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TURFGRASS DIAGNOSTIC LAB

Turfgrass Around The World

By Bruce Schweiger, Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab Manager, O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility

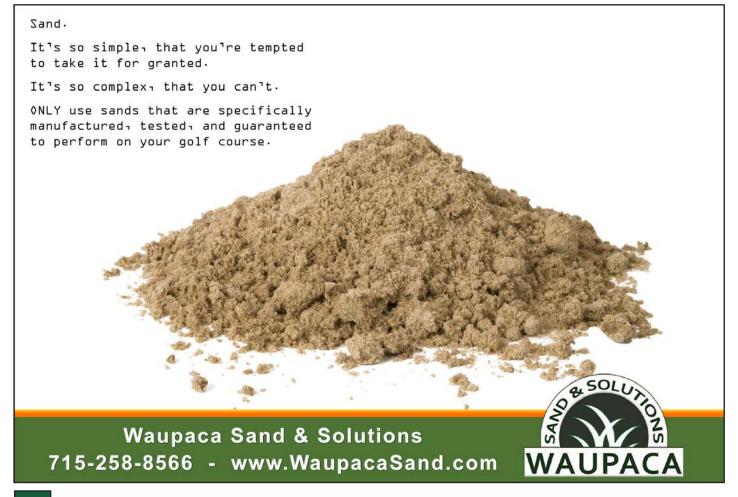
y the time you read this the summer **D**will be on the downside. Most of the major summer events at your course and around the world will be over. The two biggest events will have ended one on July 13th and the other on July 29th. The second biggest is The World Cup which was won by Germany over Argentina in 120 minutes of pure futbol. This year the USA seemed to catch World Cup Fever with many more people talking about the happenings. World Class futbol should be near and dear all turf manager's hearts. Unlike baseball and American football, world-class soccer is NEVER played on artificial turf. FIFA (the governing bodies of Futbol, sort of like the R&A and USGA) mandates that futbol shall only be played on natural turf. Natural turf has

more give when players collide, slide, trip, fall, dive or are taken down. Natural turf is not perfectly level like artificial turf, so the ball may not always bounce perfectly. This adds to the skill levels of the players the excitement of the fans.

Futbol, for those that do not understand it, can be like watching paint dry, but for purist this years games were excellent. The semi final game between Germany and host Brazil was an Americans dream with a score of 7-1. As we all know scoring in futbol is not that easy and the games are usually very low scoring. For those of you that are not huge futbol fans try to think of it as a baseball game where both pitchers pitch a 1 or 2 hitter or a football game the ends after a great defensive battle 3-0. So what does this have to do with

the TDL, well not much except I had two German Turfgrass professionals spend three weeks in Brazil watching the games and making tours of the stadiums. Brazil may have been the host but the pictures I receive from my friends could have come from almost anywhere in Wisconsin the last few weeks.

In years past I was fortunate enough to make a few visits to Germany and make friends in the Turfgrass industry. On one trip I had a meeting with Christoph Seiler, the Field Manager for the FC Colonge Soccer Club in the first division of the Bundesliga (Germany's top league). My counterpart Sabina Braitmeier had asked me to accompany her to RheinEnergieStadion to assist in their field maintenance.







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TURFGRASS DIAGNOSTIC LAB

On another trip to Germany I had the opportunity to spend an afternoon at Leverkusen Golf Club as the guest Ulf Dieckmann, the golf course superintendent.

At this time I had been making visits like this almost my entire career but I was a little apprehensive as to what would happen. The day was exactly like any other day If I had not know better I would have thought I was in Wisconsin touring the course with one of you. Disease control was the major topic and we had a very enjoyable time trying to understand what product he was using and what those products were called in the back home. Finally we reverted to chemical names, the discussion was much simpler. The very interesting thing was the lack of chemicals they had to chose from and the restriction they had on their use and timing. This was for me a glimpse of what could come into our world and has come New England states and Canada. Our tour also looked at wear areas, methods to overseed, driving range tee management, aerification (which Germans also despise) and fertility. In Leverkusen their winters are much different then in Wisconsin, their temperatures will hover between 30F and 45F. A heavy snow may be 2-3 inches and melts in days. On this trip for us it was overcast and misting almost everyday. They will battle with active Microdocium Patch for up three to four months. Many of the best treatments for Microdocium Patch are not available in Germany so they have some interesting ways to obtain some control. This was eye opening especially when we toured the course you could look off in the not too distant landscape and see a Bayer sign from the manufacturing facility.

These visits drove home the realization was that turfgrass no matter where we grow it is really all the same. The issues we deal with here are much the same as the issues dealt with all around the world. The TDL has been receiving some worldwide notice. With the conferences attended by Drs. Kerns and Koch and a few friends I have a made around the world we are being noticed. Periodically we receive emails with pictures and even microscope pictures asking for our assistance.

Ok back to the TDL. Well the year started out very slow with most of the samples coming from outside Wisconsin, but things have picked up. Last month the telephones and social media was a blaze with dollar spot. It seemed to come all at once and with a vengeance. The month of June brought rain and wet conditions. I had many samples and calls about various leaf spot issues and on the lawn care side we saw asccochyta appear all around the state almost overnight. With all the rains wet wilt was seen on many courses with not much we could do. We needed dry weather and all we received was more rain. Late June until now the rains have faded some and the heat and humidity comes and goes and the root pathogens are starting to be seen. Take-all-patch and summer patch are starting to show up in samples at the lab.

Dr. Koch has been sending out the word that we are doing a research project on Sum-



Divot repair tool for a soccer pitch, same as the one you carry except much larger.

mer Patch and Take-all-patch. He and an intern are attempting to isolate the fungus and start work on a quick detection method that could possibly become a detection kit. This project requires many replications and we are asking you to send us any possible sample so we can put them in their experiment (thank you to those that have already responded). Dr. Koch has so kindly offered my services at TDL Diagnostician to examine every sample and provide you with a diagnosis, before they enter the project.



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TURFGRASS DIAGNOSTIC LAB

In an effort to make this a more attractive offer Dr. Koch is offering my services free of charge, yes free! If you have a suspected sample just go to our web page, tdl. wisc.edu and fill out the form under commercial sample submission and send the sample to me and I will diagnose it and send you a report.

As long as we are asking for your samples please remember the rust project from last year is being conducted again this year. We need rust samples from your course, your yard, your neighbors yard, the park down the street, anywhere you can find rust please send it to us. Again go to our website, tdl.wisc.edu and look on the right side for Rust Project, click on it, print off the form, fill it out and enclose it with your rust samples that you send to us. If every member sent us three samples that would be outstanding and get us well on our way to our goal of over five hun-

dred samples.

Now before I started rambling back to the number one event in the Turfgrass world, The WTA Summer Field Day at the OJ Noer Research Facility. By the time you read this the event will have passes, but I want to thank all that attended! My prediction is that it will be another huge success. Every year I have always looked forward to this event to see old friend (many of them are now really old), make many new friends, find out what is going on around the state and get a glimpse of where the newest and greatest research is leading the industry. If you missed it that is too bad but the good news is there is another one next year. Put it on you calendar now, it is always the last Tuesday in July.

If you did miss WTA Summer Field Day, then hopefully you can make the WTA Fall Golf Outing, being held this year at University Ridge Golf Course on October 7th.

Keep your chins up the Wee One Outing is just around the corner and that marks the end of the summer golf season.

Congratulations to Michael Boettcher at Miller Park for a very successful hosting of a futbol match on July 16th. The first match ever at Miller Park between Swansea City of the English Premier League and Chivas of the Mexican league was played the night of July 16th. These are two top clubs in soccer and played a great match and the field looked good and held up excellent. As we waited for the stands to clear the grounds crew was out marking and filling divots immediately. From the number of flags they use to mark the divots there were not too many. As the world watched Miller Park presented another great impression of the level of turfgrass management to the world.



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WGCSA

June Meeting At Brown Deer Park

By David Brandenburg, Golf Course Manager, Rolling Meadows Golf Course

The WGCSA Tournament Meeting was held at the historic Brown Deer Park Golf Course. The course was designed in 1929 by George Hanson is well known for hosting the Greater Milwaukee Open later named the U.S. Bank Championship from 1994-2009.

Brown Deer Park hosted the states first major national amateur championship when the USGA Amateur Public Links came to town in 1951 and returned in 1966 and 1967. Although some redesign work was done by Roger Packard and Andy North in 1991

design work was done by Roger Packard and Andy North in 1991 ORGANIC NITROGEN **Milorganite** FERTILIZER **USE MILORGANITE TO RELIEVE** STRESSED TURF ~IMPROVE COLOR & DENSITY~ Use Milorganite mixed with sand (eg. 50/50 by volume) as a topdressing on thin spots on greens. Apply weekly until the turf has recovered. Partnering with: 1-800-785-3301

the original Hanson course remains.

Tim Wegner our host for the day started at Brown Deer Park in 2002 after 4 years as a superintendent at Blackwolf Run in Kohler and as an assistant Merrill Hills Country Club. Tim started at UW Madison to obtain a accounting degree like his dad and uncles but his summer job at Brown Deere Park and his enjoyment of the outdoors led Tim to obtain Bachelor of Science in Soil Science from UW Madison.

Bob Smail, Water Supply Specialist from the Wisconsin DNR

was supposed to be our speaker for the day but he had to cancel. The group had round table discussions before lunch to learn from each other rather than from a speaker.

An abundance of rain had the course a little wet and little roll could be found from tee shots. Luckily the rain stopped so we could play the challenging layout. Carts had to stay on the paths which made "cart golf" the goal of the day.

Despite the being on the wrong side of most holes the course was a joy to play and the greens were very challenging to for our group. We said more than once I would hate to putt on these greens when they are dry.

The wet conditions did not stop Phil Davidson and Scott Bushman from shooting 73s. Scott won the annual tournament again due to a playoff scorecard starting with the hardest handicap hole.

Thanks go out to Golf Course Superintendent Tim Wegner, Head Golf Professional Scott Evans and the rest of the Brown Deer Park staff for inviting us and providing a great venue for our tournament meeting.



This plaque on the 10th tee marks Tiger Woods pro debut at the course when he played in the Greater Milwaukee Open. Despite making a hole-in-one on the 14th hole, he finished tied for 60th and took home \$2,544 in earnings.

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WGCSA

BROWN DEER EVENT WINNERS

A FLIGHT

Gross - Scott Bushman (73)

Net - Jon Canavan (66)

B FLIGHT

Gross - Paul Schaefer (81)

Net - Jeff Millies (74)

AFFILIATE FLIGHT

Gross - Stacey Gasner (72)

Net - Dave Kloss (63)

FLAG EVENTS

Closest to the Pin Hole 5 - Phil Davidson Long Drive Hole 6 - Matt Lohmann Longest Drive Hole 12 - Eric Leanord Closest to the Pin Hole 14 - Eric Leanord Long Putt Hole 18 - Scott Bartosh



Above: Bob Lohmann putts out on the Par3 14th hole.

Below: Jon and Nate Stahl tee off on hole 14.

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