

new products



Two New Products To Fight Summer Stress

Vivax™ is a combination of four new surfactant technologies designed to manage water across a wide range of soil and turf types. Vivax™ resists microbial breakdown for extended soil solubility and hydration resulting in firm surfaces and uniform soil moisture.

As the first post-patent azoxystrobin, **Strobe™ 50WG** is a new wettable granule from Quali-Pro that prevents or cures over 27 turf diseases. Strobe is a perfect addition to your integrated pest and disease management program.

PRO TURF
SOLUTIONS

Matt Kinnard
(262) 720-0251
matt@pro-turfsolutions.com
pro-turfsolutions.com

STUDENT ARTICLE

I knew that Erin Hills golf course near my hometown was going to host the 2017 US Open so I thought that would be the first course to get in touch with. It was apparent that I had more than just luck on my side when I opened my email the next day and Zach Reineking, former Badger and Superintendent of Erin Hills golf course asked when I could come meet with him and discuss the job. I took the first chance I could get and made the trip to Hartford, Wisconsin where I would spend my first summer as an intern at a golf course.

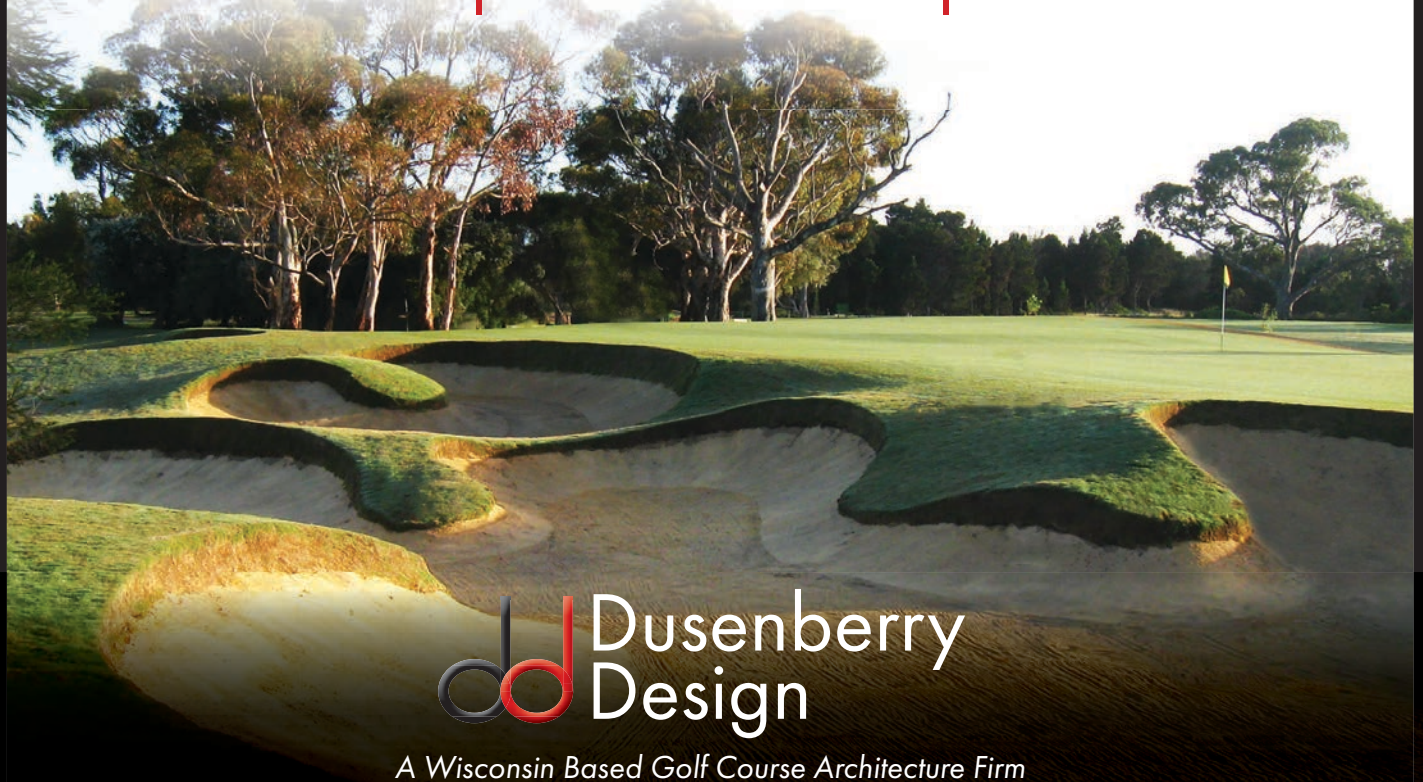
Both my advisors didn't want me to make the official change of majors until I saw how the golf course industry was and if it was really what I wanted to do. Within the first couple days of working, I knew that this is what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. The summer at Erin Hills was not only the most knowledge I have ever gained and one of the best experiences, but it was also the most inspirational work I have ever done because I know that it will prepare me in my days to becoming an Assistant Superintendent as well as someday of becoming the head Superintendent.

The summer at Erin Hills went by quick and I can't thank the staff over there enough for how much they were able to teach me. When the internship came to an end, I knew it was time to start thinking about my next internship. I wanted to stay in Wisconsin because this is where I want to be for work to start and I thought the more knowledge and connections I can get within the state, the better I will be. With that being said, I ended up visiting Blackwolf Run in the fall and decided that is where I wanted to be.



Luke needle tining greens a putting green at Blackwolf Run during his internship.

Renovation | Refinement | Restoration



 Dusenberry
Design

A Wisconsin Based Golf Course Architecture Firm

email: matt@dusenberrydesign.com ph: (262) 395-5294 www.dusenberrydesign.com

STUDENT ARTICLE



Above and Left: Luke McGhee along with fellow intern Alec Hindman from Illinois State helped to renovate a tee box by seeding, spiking, brushing and watering.

Below Left: Luke aerifying a nursery green.

Below Right: Luke spraying fairways.



STUDENT ARTICLE

My first year as a soil science major was completely different than anything I have ever done in school before. It was the first time I didn't have any studio classes, and it was a complete transition of study habits and in general, an entire different major. I was lucky enough to have some classes from landscape architecture count towards my new degree, however, I knew it wasn't going to be easy to fulfill the required turfgrass management credits in 3 semesters, but I'm doing it, and graduating in December of 2014.

This past summer at Blackwolf Run was simply put, amazing, and has helped prepare me as I take my next steps. One of the main reasons I interned there is because I was told by many people that I would get to do plenty of different things; I never expected I would be spraying greens, tees and fairways within my first week on the job though. From there, I was involved with plenty of small projects, flood clean up and irrigation work, sometimes cleaning up my own mess but that's exactly how I learned and the staff at Blackwolf Run made it clear that it was going to be a learning experience. One of the neatest parts about my internship there was that I was able to split time between the two courses along with another intern. Almost every three weeks we would switch between the River course and the Meadow Valleys course and I was able to get to see plenty this way. Not only was this a great internship and taught me a surreal amount, but I got to play plenty of golf too.

Now, I sit a 5th year senior at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, counting down the days until graduation and checking for jobs postings every minute. Working at University Ridge, taking 17 credits, being the President of the Badger Turf and Grounds Club and a manager for the men's basketball team will make the semester fly. Everyone says that I'm going to miss it, which I am, but for anyone that knows me, I just want to get out there and start working. I can't thank God, my family, friends and staff I've worked for enough for helping me along this journey. I have been given the opportunity to shoot a mulligan and this time, I am going to make sure that the shot sets me up for success. 🍀



Luke McGhee (left) with other Senior Managers of the Badgers Basketball Team.



JOHN DEERE
LANDSCAPES

**Agronomic
Sales**

Northern Wisconsin

Steve Wasser
920-362-1809

Southern Wisconsin

Rob Wasser
262-206-0775

From Reservoir to Rotor...

Rain Bird has you covered.



Lush fairways and manicured greens can also be highly water-efficient. Every Rain Bird product is a testament to that truth. From water-saving nozzles to highly efficient pumps to leading-edge Control Technology, Rain Bird products make the most of every drop, delivering superior results with less water. Keeping the world and your golf course beautiful. That's The Intelligent Use of Water.™

To learn more, contact your local sales rep today!

Kevin West
Outside Sales
(708) 341-1687
kwest@rainbird.com

Dustin Peterson
Outside Sales
(309) 314-1937
dpeterson@rainbird.com

Jason Westmoreland
Inside Customer Support
(888) 907-5535
rbiservices@rainbird.com

RAIN BIRD®

Is There A Normal Summer?

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

Summer in Wisconsin has no normal. Each year as we head for summer there is nothing we can count on as far as weather. We all wait for the “Dog Days of Summer” but what or shall I ask are the Dog Days of Summer? According to Weather.com:

If you thought that was a term your grandma made up, you'll be surprised to learn the phrase dates back to ancient Rome. “Caniculares dies,” or days of the dogs, was what the Romans called the period from the first week of July to the second week of August.

Located in Canis Major is a star named Sirius, also called the “Dog Star.” With the exception of our sun, Sirius is the brightest star visible from Earth. The brilliant, blue-white star's name comes from the Greek word for “searing.”

Because Sirius is so bright, it was easy to track even for early astronomers. During April and early May, Sirius was visible in the southwest after sunset. But by the time mid-summer would come along, Sirius would rise and fall with the sun and get lost in the daytime light.

However, the ancients knew that the “Dog Star” was still there, up in the sky with the sun during the hottest time of the year. They reasoned that since Sirius was so bright and up there with the sun, it must be adding to the heat to produce the hottest time of the year.

We know that the Sirius does not disappear and that it does not add any heat to the earth, but we dread these five weeks of summer.

The summer of 2014 these so call dog days of summer were maybe the most pleasant weather I can remember for that stretch of time. For those of you that made the track



**Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab
O. J. Noer Turfgrass Research
& Education Facility
2502 Highway M,
Verona, WI 53593-9537
www.tdl.wisc.edu
E-mail: bschweiger@wisc.edu
Phone: 608-845-2535
Fax: 845-8162**

to the OJ Noer for Summer Field Days you know the day was perfect. So with such a great year how come we had so many disease issues?

From work that Dr. Koch has been doing this year on dollar spot modeling we saw three spikes in the dollar spot weather. Thanks to social media the days when I arrived at the Noer and walked out on the plots to find massive dollar spot I was assured that I was not alone. Of course I was excited to see how the various dollar spot fungicide trials looked. As I text and tweeted with many of you I realized I have been converted.

The Superintendents I was talking to were not as excited as I was. In my defense the data we were able to compile this summer is wonderful. According to Dr. Koch this might be one of the best data years in a very long time. Two years with Dr. Koch and as they say he has moved my cheese.

Receiving a sample into my lab is a bitter pill since it means that one of my fellow turfies is having a problem. My entire career has been trying to prevent turfgrass disease. Once the sample is logged in I then begin the procedures that Dr. Koch has taught me

and try to be as much assistance to the Turf Manager as possible. The paradox of this is that up until now turf disease has been the unwanted part of my career but now our research, fungicide trials and disease diagnostics lab are all driven by active disease. Oh how things have changed! This sum-


mer was dominated by three diseases, dollar spot (*Sclerotinia homoeocarpa*), Basal antracnose (*Colletotrichum graminicola*) and Necrotic Ring Spot (*Ophiosphaerella korrae*). It appears the cool wet spring and very mild summer provided a perfect environment for these diseases.

Aside from these issues the summer was fairly calm. I only saw three cases of pythium but the interesting find was the number of flying ant issues. See *Golf Course Maintenance*, May 2001, Dr. Chris Williamson, “Dollar Spot? Maybe not”.

During the summer more than a few superintendents either called me or sent in samples of dollar spot they could not control. They had thrown the kitchen sink at it and it was not getting better. A quick review, tells us that as these corn ants emerge they actually fight for territory and in that battle they release formic acid that causes the damage to the plant. There is not much we can do after the damage is done except wait for the plants to recover. This is a real brief description but I encourage you to read this article again. If you cannot find it just send me an e-mail and I can forward it to you (bschweiger@wisc.edu).

So even in an “easy” year we still can find turf issues. I guess that shows me how valuable the lab can be to everyone involved. As one contract member put it, “It is like and insurance policy, I never want to use it but am I glad it is there when I need it”.

Have a great fall and if possible get out and enjoy the fall weather because we are geared up for our Snow Mold trials and that means snow is just around the corner.

Remember January 6th is the WTA Winter Conference. More information will follow but I look forward to seeing many happy faces in-person and on the webinar. 



Bayer Environmental Science

**John M. Turner
Sr. Sales Specialist - Golf
Bayer Environmental Science**

**Cell Phone: (630) 215-6110
Office: (630) 443-7807
Fax: (630) 443-7839
Email: john.turner@bayercropscience.com**

THE MOWER THEY DON'T WANT YOU TO SEE.



The competition doesn't want you to see the Jacobsen ECLIPSE® 322 riding greens mower. They can't match its **ZERO leak points**. They can't provide **individual reel control** to vary cut patterns. They can't offer **programmable frequency-of-clip** from an LED screen. And they can't get anywhere near the **true hybrid fuel savings** or **legendary quality-of-cut**. When it comes to the ECLIPSE® 322, the competition can't do *anything* except hope you don't see it. I guess we just ruined that for them, too.



Phone: 800-279-2341
Fax: 920-849-9576

www.horstdistributing.com
HORST DISTRIBUTING, INC.
CHILTON, WI

JACOBSEN

1.888.922.TURF | www.jacobsen.com

Joint Meeting at Brown County Golf Course

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

The Joint Northern Great Lakes Golf Course Superintendents Association (NGLGCSA) and Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association (WGCSA) meeting was held August 18th at Brown County Golf Course in Oneida with Scott Anthes as our host.

Brown County was designed by Lawrence Packard and opened for play in 1958 after being built by the Wadsworth Company. The popular tree lined links has been rated in the top 50 for public golf courses by Golf Digest and 9th for Municipal Golf Courses.

Owned and operated by the County of Brown the course has previously hosted the State Amateur and State Open.

Scott Anthes has been the Golf Course Superintendent since spring of 2008 when he replaced long time superintendent Paul DeFosse. Anthes had previously served as superintendent at Northern Bay Golf Course and Kestrel Ridge.

Anthes was not only our host but also our speaker for the day as he discussed the topic "What To Do With Repeated Winterkill"

Anthes opened with some history of the property and how in the glory days of the business the course was so busy the staff

changed cups twice a day to scatter wear from play.

The County of Brown operates with a County Executive who is a elected leader for the departments. Scott reports not only to the executive but also a committee made up of 5 of the 26 county board members and in turn the entire board. Add in the golfers and you could say Anthes has 4 bosses to communicate with.

The greens at Brown County had little internal or surface drainage and often sustained damage during winter from ice cover and freezing and thawing but also during the summer stress periods.

In January of 2013 the course received numerous rainfalls causing ice that did not melt. In February Scott warned the executive and committee there could be damage due to the ice cover. As you may remember spring of 2014 was cool and late so the decision was made to remove as much ice as possible in March.

Having been through regular winterkill in the past Scott had that familiar bad feeling in his stomach and could not sleep at night. In April as spring finally arrived it was clear many of the greens had widespread damage. Covers, no covers, ice re-

moved, ice not removed; it didn't matter they all had damage.

Anthes had to move fast and held a tour of the course with the county executive, golf professional, and colleagues Scott Bushman, and Mark Storby along with Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab Manager Bruce Schweiger.

A game plan to re-grass the greens was created and taken to the recreation committee in May.

Plans included stripping the sod from the greens and surrounds, install slit drains, do some minor grading to reduce ponding from sand dams, low spots and to increase cupping. Then greens would be fumigated, final graded and seeded with sod placed around the greens.

Luckily Scott had some experience in green revision and had done a test green with the fumigant basamid in October of 2009. The green was seeded in March of 2010 and in play by July.

Having to move fast the job was bid out and with 4 bids returned the lowest bid was taken to the committee on June 6th and the full board on June 19th. It takes a 2/3rds board approval to change a current budget and and approve a ten year loan



The 524 Yard Par5 6th Hole from the tee (left) and from behind the green (right)

How are you
doing as a
professional?



49TH
ANNUAL

Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium

WHEN December 3rd and 4th
WHERE The American Club
Kohler, WI

Registration packets to be mailed in
late October. You can also register for
the symposium at www.wgcsa.com

Questions? Contact Jaime Staufenbeil 1-800-287-9645 or jstaufenbeil@milorganite.com



PROGRO solutions

ABSOLUTE CONFIDENCE

Servicing the professional golf, lawn care, landscape and sports turf markets

Proudly representing the following Brands...

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Aquatrols | Hydro Pak Soil Surfactants |
| Armor Tech Products | JRM |
| Arysta | KNOX Fertilizers |
| Barenbrug Seeds | Miltona |
| BASF | Par Aide |
| Calcium Products | Precision Labs |
| EC Grow Fertilizers | SePro |
| EnP Specialty Liquids | Spectrum Technologies |
| Foliar Pak | Standard Golf |
| Greenleaf Technologies | Valent |
| Greens Groomer | |
| Holganix Bio | |

Brett Ziegler
 Regional Agronomist
 Chicago/Wisconsin
 847.302.9673
 brett@progro-solutions.com

Mike Werth
 Regional Agronomist
 Wisconsin/Illinois
 608.214.7011
 mike@progro-solutions.com

Business & Distribution Center
 21969 N. Pepper Rd.
 Barrington, IL 60010
 847.381.9333
 www.progro-solutions.com

for \$300,000 from the general fund. Over the years the course had given over 2 million dollars to the general fund so that fact along with good communication led to the loan being approved.

The course was scheduled to stay open with temporary greens and the last outing to play the regular greens was scheduled for July 15th. Anthes said he ran into a problem with mistaken forms when taking the fumigation category test from the state and ended up having to retake the test last minute to be eligible to purchase the product.

Scott decided to use Basamid rather than Methyl Bromide to allow staff to do the job themselves and do one green at a time. Methyl Bromide crews travel from project to project and want to do all the greens at one time. Cost was also a benefit with Basamid 1/5th the cost.

Under Wisconsin law when using Basamid only the applicator could go in application zone while other employees can go in buffer zone. Brown County used a air tester to make sure the area was safe for workers to enter. The main putting green was not done due to the close proximity to the clubhouse staying open to golfers and the 25' buffer zone requirement.

After the Basamid was applied the green was watered heavy the first day with less water applied each subsequent day. After 7 days workers can go in and grade the surface.

After rough grading 2" tile was installed on 6' centers 14" deep. Depending on the design some holes have smile drains on the low side and others have a center main.

Construction ended on August 16th and the greens were seeded to Luminary Bentgrass. The new turf was mowed at .175 into winter and covered with evergreen covers.

The covers were removed the second week of April and the greens were aerified with a vertidrain before being rolled with a 3,000 pound drum roller to smooth them out.



The Par 3 17th Hole plays 177 yards from the back tee over water with a sand bunker to the right.