

MGCSA RESEARCH UPDATE

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VICE-PRESIDENT

The summer of 1984 was a busy one for the MGCSA Research Committee. The construction of the proposed demonstration green at the University of Minnesota Golf Club was completed.

The 6,000 Sq.Ft. green is divided into 5 sections of different soil mixes. The objective being to determine which soil mix would prove to be the best possible choice in the construction of a new golf green. This green was constructed with proper drainage and a gravel subgrade and 12 inches of the following topsoil mixes; 1.) A 3-1-1 mix of Arsenal sand, Northern peat and an available soil which was tested to insure that certain desirable properties were included. 2.) 85% Arsenal sand and 15% Northern peat. 3.) Straight Arsenal sand with some Spagnum peat spread on the surface and roto tilled in to a depth of approximately 3 inches for seed establishment. 4.) 85% Frac sand and 15% Northern peat. 5.) A 6-1-1 mix of Frac sand, Northern peat and the same available soil as in mix #1.

The green was seeded with Penncross in early September and will be exposed to traffic at University G.C. through the coming seasons. As well as visual observations, we hope to test each mix for such things as Bulk Density, Percent Porosity and Percolation Rates in the future. For those of you who are interested, stop by the University of Minnesota Golf Course and check the green out. It is located at the end of the Practice Fairway and can be seen from the Club House.

The Research Committee would like to thank the following clubs, individuals and companies for their contributions to this project. Without these people and

organizations this green could not have been completed, under budget no less. Minneapolis Golf Club, Interlachen Country Club, Oak Ridge Country Club, Town and Country Club, Midland Hills Country Club, Somerset Country Club, Southview Country Club, Bunker Hills Golf Club and the University of Minnesota Golf Club for donating labor to this project. Turf Supply Company, R.L. Gould Company, Peat Resources, Inc., Minnesota Frac Sand, Arsenal Sand and Gravel, Southview Country Club, Majestic Oaks Golf Club and Minneapolis Golf Club for donating supplies, equipment and other materials to the project.

We would especially like to thank Dr. Don Taylor for all the time he spent supervising, overseeing and laboring on the project. His knowledge and assistance was invaluable.

We would also like to acknowledge Mike Lietner of the Lietner Company who donated all the trucking and mixing as well as coordinating all the sand, peat and soil. This alone saved us a great amount of time and money and we greatly appreciate it.

We would also like to thank Russ Adams and all those associated with the University of Minnesota Golf Course for donating the site and putting up with the entire project as well as assuring responsibility for future maintenance.

Chances are that we have forgotten to thank someone and we are sorry if we have.

Again, thanks to everyone connected with the project and we would like to add a special thanks to everyone who has contributed to the research fund this year, 1984 has REALLY BEEN A SUCCESSFUL YEAR.