

EDITOR'S CORNER

TOM FISCHER

If you were unable to attend the April meeting last month you missed a dandy. Somerset Country Club was in excellent condition from tee to green. Even the three inch rough was mowed for our enjoyment. We would like to thank Gerry Murphy and his staff for the fine dinner and use of the golf course and clubhouse.

This year's fishing opener had a gamut of reports. If you were angling in the southern areas, it felt like July with a high temperature of 93, while in the north the temperatures were similar to many fishing openers, cool in the 50's and 60's. As in most openers it just had to rain to make the weekend complete. The

fishing reports were varied similar to that of the weather with one group reporting a catch of seven walleye while another group was reeling in northern. Good luck to the anglers for the remaining season.

Congratulations go to Keith Scott who was appointed to serve on the USGA Greens Section Committee and also to serve as a Minnesota Golf Association Director.

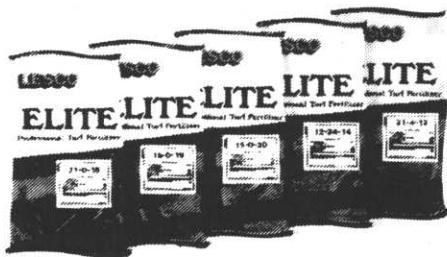
The Association feels our dress code is very important to the image of our Association. Therefore, I am reminding you that at our evening meetings a suit coat or sport coat is required for dinner.

PLANT HELP FROM U of M

by MS. JILL D. POKORNY
DIRECTOR, PLANT DISEASE CLINIC

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Minnesota's commercial clientele such as turfgrass managers, farmers, agricultural consultants and greenhouse and nursery growers.

The Plant Disease Clinic is equipped with modern, state-of-the-art, expertise and facilities for the diagnosis of most turfgrass disease problems occurring on Minnesota turf areas. A suitable sample to submit would be a 4 inch x 4 inch core of turf taken from the margin of the problem area. A 4 inch core taken with a cup cutter would also be an acceptable sample. If you need to store samples for a day or two after collecting, place them in a refrigerator (not a deep freeze) until you're ready to submit the sample. Samples should be mailed the fastest way possible or may be brought directly to the Clinic. Provide as much background information as possible concerning species and cultivar of grass affected, weather conditions, description and pattern of damage, cultural conditions, chemicals applied, and any other relevant facts. A photograph of the damaged area might also be useful. Forms for submission of samples may be obtained from your county extension office or from the Clinic directly. There is a \$15.00 fee per sample, payable to the University of Minnesota, to help defray the cost of personnel, supplies and equipment required for analysis. Samples and information should be submitted to:

Plant Disease Clinic
495 Borlaug Hall, 1991 Buford Circle
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108 (612)625-1275

Last season, with a grant from the Golfcourse Superintendents' Association, the Plant Disease Clinic worked

cooperatively with Dr. Ward Stienstra and Dr. Phil Larsen to survey the occurrence of "Patch Disease Syndrome" in Minnesota, and isolate and identify associated fungal pathogens. Through this study, *Leptosphaeria korrae* (necrotic ringspot disease) was positively identified for the first time on turfgrass in Minnesota. Although a positive identification of *Leptosphaeria korrae* requires four months of greenhouse testing and is not a practical diagnostic procedure, a tentative identification can be made in 7-10 days. The tentative identification is based on the presence of dark runner hyphae on host tissue, and macroscopic characteristics of the fungus in culture.

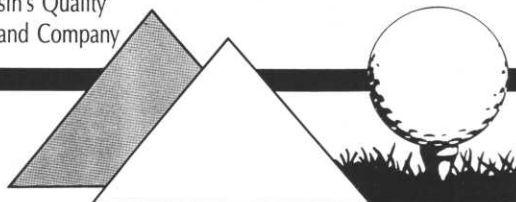
We invite golf course superintendents to visit the Plant Disease Clinic and the Department of Plant Pathology to discuss and observe the services that are provided. Please call or write for our free Clinic brochure.

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