

come reacquainted with your family. You're prepared to kill the weeds and grow new improved turf varieties next season. The membership realized it wasn't greener on the other side of the fence and now want that new irrigation system you've been dreaming about. I'm sure some joy will come from the friendship that will be made with our DNR officials in the future. This past season is almost history and that fact alone is a joy.

The association had a very successful year in regard to our turf research funding and promises to be a benefit to all. The success of not just the research projects but every aspect of the association is dependent upon participation by its membership whether it's serving on the board or committees or just attending the monthly meetings.

One of our bylaw changes for this year's election is to allow career assistants classified BII with five years in that classification to be changed to Class B. This will allow them the privilege of voting and increase participation even more.

The annual conference is soon approaching, November 30 through December 2 at the Sheraton Inn Northwest, with a great slate of speakers on hand. Once again we'll have a casino night so dust off the cards and dice and get prepared for a great time.

The wind blew but that didn't detract from the nice time we had at Rolling Green Country Club. Rick Fredericksen had his leaf blowers out in force and the course was superb. The clubhouse crew presented about the best lunch ever and I think high scores could only be blamed on too full of stomachs.



*"You didn't lose it in the sun . . . you lost it in the pond."*

## PESTICIDES AND PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

by **MARJORIE A. SOHN, Associate Professor**  
**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

Exposing your skin to some pesticides presents a health hazard and clothing provides a vital protective barrier against exposure.

Pesticide applicators can purchase chemical-resistant apparel, but recent surveys indicate the majority of pesticide users wear traditional work clothing when mixing, handling, and applying pesticides. They prefer ordinary work clothing because it is more comfortable, less expensive and easily available. They also doubt the need for protective clothing.

A non-punctured-type Tyvek is one of the disposable chemical-resistant garments on the market. It is made from spunbonded olefin, a non-woven fabric that provides an effective barrier to many types of chemicals. Although you usually must dispose of non-woven garments after one use, Tyvek garments withstand up to four launderings. However, if your clothing is contaminated with a concentrated chemical, dispose of it rather than trying to clean it because of safety considerations.

### Fabric Studies

Testing is under way on Gore-Tex fabric to determine its ability to provide protection from pesticides. Gore-Tex is a microporous membrane that is laminated between a shell fabric and a fabric lining. As a result, Gore-Tex allows perspiration to pass through the fabric, but it keeps liquid from entering the outside of the garment and contacting the skin.

A North Central Region research project focused on the influence of the following characteristics in creating a protective barrier:

- Fiber content,
- Fabric construction,
- Functional finishes, and
- Laundering methods.

### Choosing Clothing

Absorbency and wicking are important considerations in determining chemical resistance. Tests conducted on cotton, polyester/cotton blends, polyester, nylon, acrylic and spunbonded olefin fabrics yielded these results:

- Pure cotton fabric exhibits the highest rate of absorbency, which means it absorbs a large amount of pesticide solution. However, less pesticide solution travels to under-clothing or skin.

- Lightweight fabric (broadcloth) demonstrated lower absorbency than poplin or twill in tests, but it also exhibited very rapid wicking. Broadcloth's tight weave appears to transport pesticide solution more rapidly and in greater quantities to under-clothing or skin.

- Synthetic fiber - acrylic, nylon and polyester - had low absorbency, but they had the highest wicking levels. Compared to other fabrics, the pesticide solution flowed rapidly from the garment to underclothing or skin.

- Spunbonded olefin fabric showed the lowest rate of absorbency and wicking of the fabrics tested. It provides an excellent barrier against pesticide penetration and it offers extra protection when you wear it over work clothes.

- Clothing with a consumer-applied fluorocarbon soil-repellent finish gives the the same protection as spunbonded olefin, but is more comfortable to wear.

Credit: *THE BULL SHEET*



---

## **NEW TO MGCSA**

Congratulations to the following new members:

Lloyd "Tom" Thompson, 5-Flags CC, Balsam Lake, WI  
David Dahlberg, Rum River Hills GC, Ramsey, MN  
Jeff Anderson, Interlachen CC, Edina, MN  
James Kassera, Interlachen CC, Edina, MN  
Jay Gustafson, Elk River CC, Elk River, MN  
Tim Kuebelbeck, New Hope Village GC, New Hope, MN  
Robert Panuska, Waseca Lakeside CC, Waseca, MN  
Steve Shumansky, Brackett's Crossing CC, Lakeville, MN  
Dan Boyle, Minnewaska GC, Glenwood, MN

---

### **59TH Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference**

January 16-18, 1989

Clarion Hotel and Conference Center  
Lansing, Michigan

Contact: Michael Saffel  
Department of Crop and Soil Sciences  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824  
Phone 517/355-9022.

---



## *Professional Tree Care*

*by*

# **S & S Tree Specialists**

- Consultation and Diagnosis
- Pruning of Shade Trees
- Emergency Operations and Storm Damage Repair
- Tree and Shrubbery Fertilization
- Removal of Dead or Undesirable Trees
- Cabling and Rod Bracing Structurally Weak Trees

## **451-8907**

**LICENSED – BONDED – INSURED**