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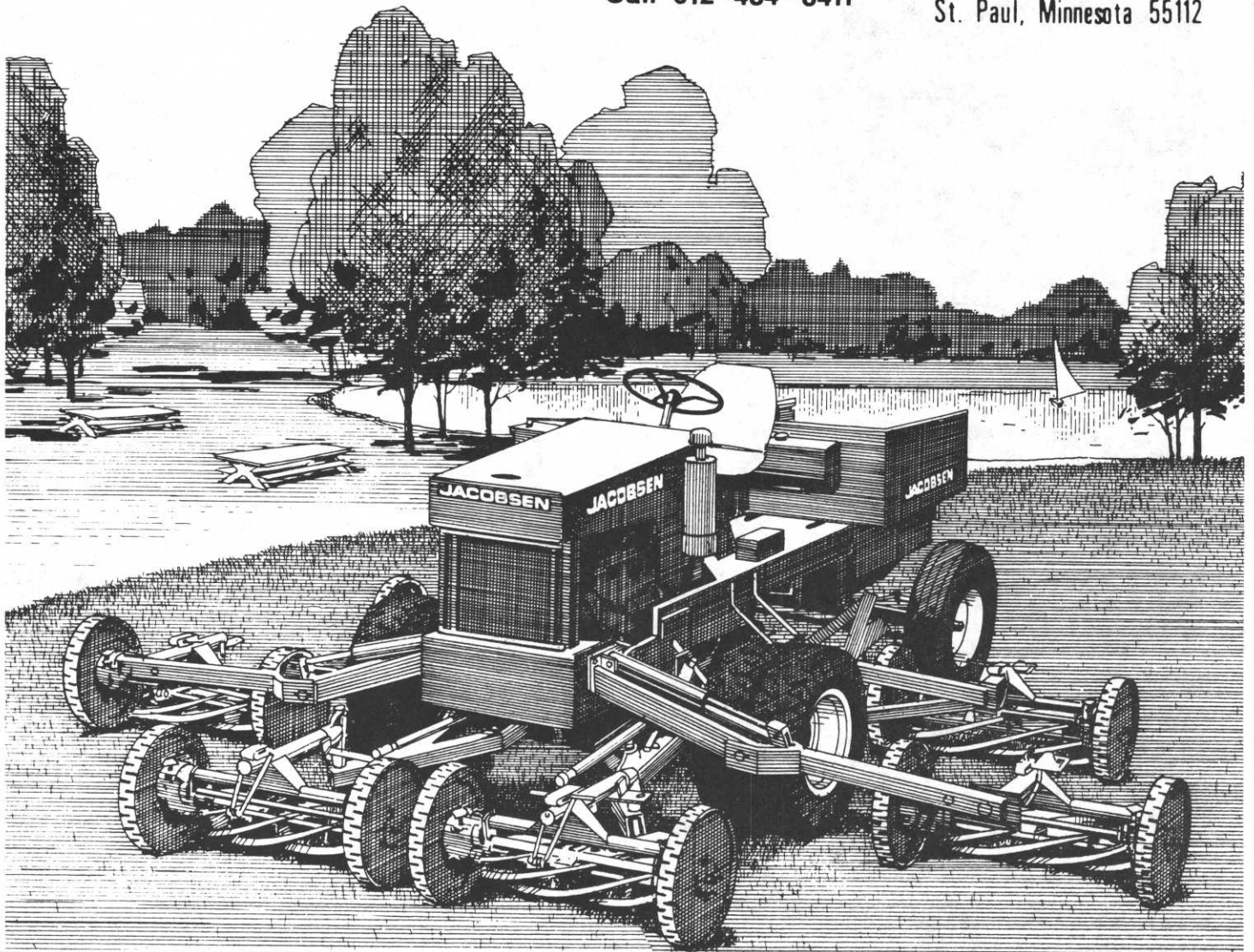
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HOLE NOTES, official publication of the MINNESOTA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

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NO JOKE

ALL MEMBERS OF M.G.C.S.A. PLEASE NOTE!

We are in the process of compiling the 1981 Roster. If you have had a change of address since last year's roster and have not notified the office, please do so at once.

Second notices for the 1981 dues have been mailed. If you have not received a Membership Card, your dues have not been paid. PLEASE BE SURE YOUR 1981 DUES ARE PAID.



**FROM THE
PRESIDENT'S
DESK**

**DENNIS
HENDRICKSON**

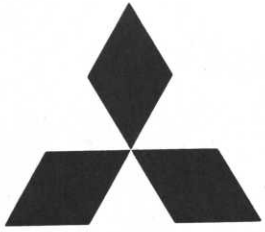
This is the time of year when we look forward with anxious anticipation to the start of the golf season. The big question is, "What has the winter season done to the turf that was so beautiful last fall?" Hopefully, the unusual winter will have mercy on us and will not have been as devastating as the last two winters have been.

One of the difficulties we all face this time of year is the problem of keeping the golfers off the course until the greens are ready for play. It is a decision we all have to make for ourselves since soil and moisture conditions vary greatly even within the metro area. Play on greens too early may result in turfgrass rhizome and root injury and in greens which are thin, rough and more compacted for the entire golf season.

I hope all of you who attended the Mini-Seminar at Hazeltine and the Horticulture Industry Days at the UofM found them to be very educational. I'm sure all who attended felt it was time well spent. We all know the importance of education in our rapidly changing profession. THANK YOU to Nick Dunn and his committee for a job well done, to Hazeltine for hosting us and to the UofM and those involved with making the Horticulture Industry Days possible. The university continues to help us with problems we encounter each year.

We need more participation from more of our members for articles in this publication. We all have items of interest which would be informative to the reader. For example I plan an article on changes at the Honeywell C.C. It is now called Brackett's Crossing of Lakeville.

Remember the April 13 meeting at the Mankato C.C. and also don't forget the Research Committee. It still needs more support. HAVE A GREAT COURSE OPENING DAY!



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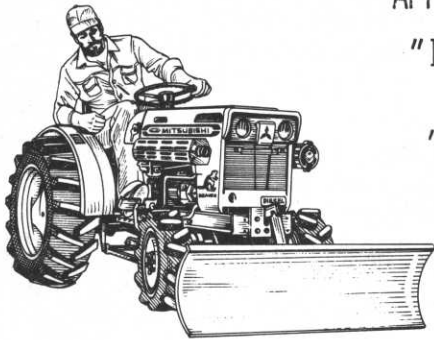
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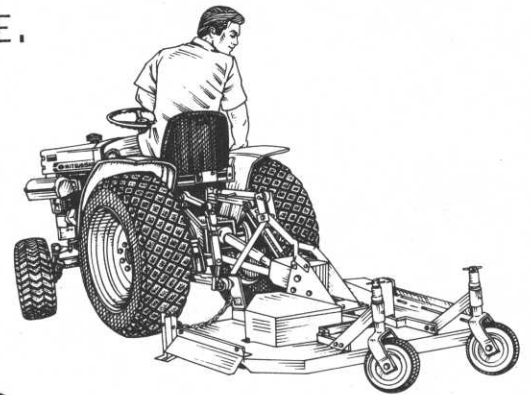
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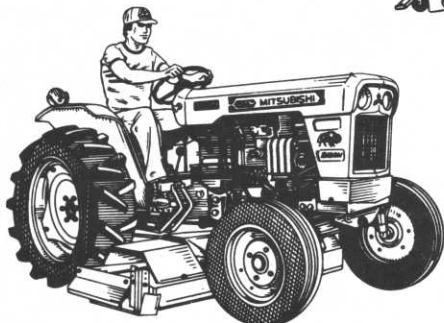
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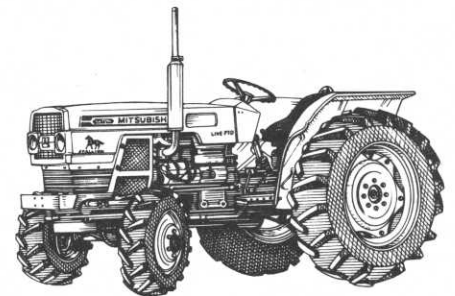


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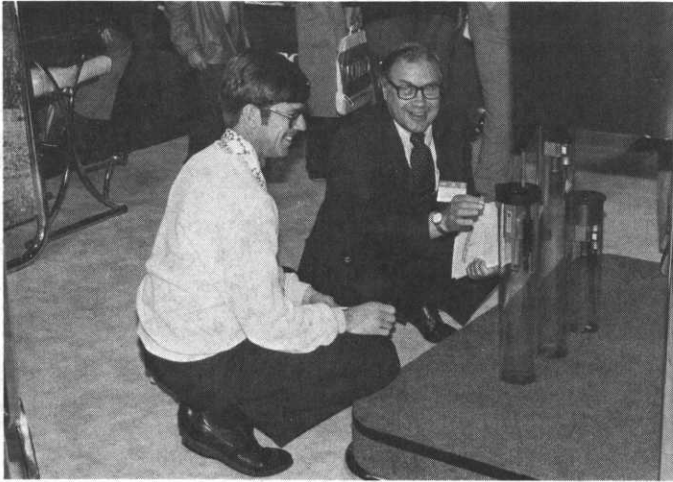


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NATIONAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



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CONCENTRATION. Bill Johnson waits to learn something new.



SHOPPER. Arnie Bodhaine looks like he's selling, not buying.



WELCOME. Some booths and devious methods to attract customers.



HUCKSTER. John Wiley, behind counter, points out the benefits of his product.



UPLIFT. Kisch and Nylund pose in front of ingenious way to change nines at Industry Hills.

NATIONAL ELECTION RESULTS

Michael R. Bavier, CGCS, superintendent of Inverness Golf Club, Palatine, Ill., was elected President of the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America in the group's annual membership meeting held during the 52nd Turfgrass Conference and Show in Anaheim.

Also elected were James A. Wyllie, Bayview Country Club, Thornhill, Ontario, Canada, Vice President; Eugene D. Baston, CGCS, Birmingham (Ala.) Country Club, Director; and Riley Lee Stottern, CGCS, Jeremy Ranch Country Club, Salt Lake City, Utah. The election was in conjunction with GCSAA's 52nd International Turfgrass Conference and Show in the Anaheim Convention Center.

Bavier who served as GCSAA Vice President in 1980 has been a GCSAA member for fifteen years. He also served as a Director of GCSAA for four years. Wyllie, formerly GCSAA Secretary-Treasurer, has served as a Director of the Association for three years. He has been a member of GCSAA for twenty years. Baston, a GCSAA member for fourteen years, has been superintendent of the Birmingham course for the past eight years. Stottern, a GCSAA member for thirteen years, has been superintendent of the Jeremy Ranch course for nearly one year. Prior to that he was superintendent of the Desert Inn Country Club, Las Vegas, for two years and Oakridge Country Club, Salt Lake City for twelve years.

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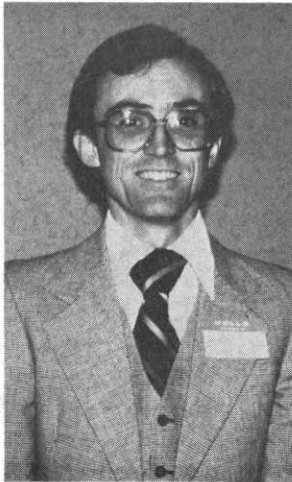
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DALE CALDWELL

IT'S GONNA BE BROWN

Much of the conversation overheard when two golf course superintendents get together of late centers around the question, "What are the golf courses going to look like in the spring?" In an effort to find an answer to this question, we contacted two highly responsible sources of information, both quite knowledgeable in the field of turf, Dr. Ward Stienstra and Dr. Donovan Taylor. Each of whom seemed more optimistic than one might expect.

The common concensus is that things will come out of the winter looking very brown. This, we are sure of. Due to the lack of moisture the past fall and the lack of snow cover this winter, there is a real good chance of winter dessication of turf. Right now this is more superficial than actual. Superintendents who have taken plugs of turf in and thawed them out have gotten good results. At

the same time, we might emphasize that no two situations are ever the same. What might be true at one location is not necessarily true at another.

There are many variables which come into play which can affect the present conditions. What is more important is what kind of weather we receive from now on and the kind of spring we get. If we get good growing weather this spring we will be looking good. Early and fast growth determines how long the turf will stay brown.

Perhaps we should be more concerned with problems we might have with the young trees, ornamentals and perennials which were planted last fall. Because of the dry fall, the subsoil or root zone area of many small trees and ornamentals is also very dry.

Right now it appears that the condition of our turf and ornamentals depends on an early and wet spring. However, knowing Minnesota climates and weather systems, we realize that this is something we can't count on. So, it would be a good idea to be prepared to assist your turf and ornamentals as much as possible this spring by irrigating as soon as possible.

We're seen in all the right places.



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NATIONAL CONFERENCE REPORT

The M.G.C.S.A. was quite impressively represented by nearly fifty superintendent members and another twenty associate and honorary members at the 52nd International Turfgrass Conference and Show in Anaheim. Many of these members were accompanied by their families who enjoyed the final week of January in the not too objectionable climate of Southern California. Only on one day were activities nearly totally disrupted by inclement weather with the remaining days seeing mostly sunshine and temperatures in the 60°-70° range.

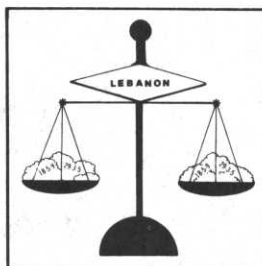
Tours and excursions were popular with M.G.C.S.A. members and their families during slack periods in conference activities. Nearly everyone took in the sights, sounds and excitement of Disneyland which was within walking distance of the conference center. Other outings which proved quite popular were trips to Knott's Berry Farm and Universal Studios. Side trips to San Diego and Mexico also attracted much interest. On the business end, a tour of Toro's Irrigation Plant at Riverside attracted much attention. Golf was naturally a popular event with play at the new Industry Hills complex, the site of the pre-conference tournament and golf course tour, an especially interesting and intriguing site.

The education sessions were particularly stimulating. Emphasis focused on items and situations we can all look forward to in the '80's and how to effectively deal with them. Attention was given to economically coping with problems which might arise in the near future concerning maintenance and management of turf, equipment and personnel.

The U.S.G.A. Green Section Educational Conference held in conjunction with this year's conference was very beneficial and a bonus to many superintendents. Holding these two conferences at the same site at the same time makes a great deal of sense and has the effect of "killing two birds with one stone" so to speak. This session was well attended and greatly appreciated by all of us.

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As usual, the equipment show was the focal point of the entire week. It was well worth the trip to be able to see virtually every piece of equipment, service, fertilizer and chemical available at the same location. This is the ultimate experience in the world of comparison shopping.

Unfortunately, our candidate for national director, Jim Lindblad, having been nominated from the floor, didn't quite succeed in his bid for election. However, his showing was more encouraging than disappointing. Jim received a considerable amount of exposure this year and should he decide to run for office next year, he should do quite well.

All in all, the 52nd International Turfgrass Conference and Show was enjoyed by all M.G.C.S.A. members in attendance. I'm sure that each individual and each organization that was represented will benefit greatly because of their participation. The time and energy were well spent.

Dale Caldwell
Chairman
Editorial Committee

RESULTS 1980 MINNESOTA TURF SURVEY

COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

In September 1980 a survey was sent to over 1,000 turf growers in Minnesota to assess their problems, needs and interests. The purpose of the survey was to determine the most important concerns of turf growers in Minnesota. The results were needed in order to develop an extension program in turfgrass management which addressed the major problems of those involved in growing turf. A secondary purpose of the survey was to bring to the attention of turf managers throughout the state the fact that the university had employed an extension specialist with major responsibility in turfgrass.

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS' SURVEY

The interest in different turfgrass topics is shown in Figures 2-A and 2-B on Page 10 for the 71 golf course superintendents who responded to the survey. Interest was very high for any topics related to maintenance practices or green construction. Disease control received the highest rating of all topics. It was also the most frequently mentioned problem in survey question #2.

Over 50% of the golf course superintendents felt disease was one of their three biggest problems. Compaction and traffic problems were also listed by many
continued on Page 9



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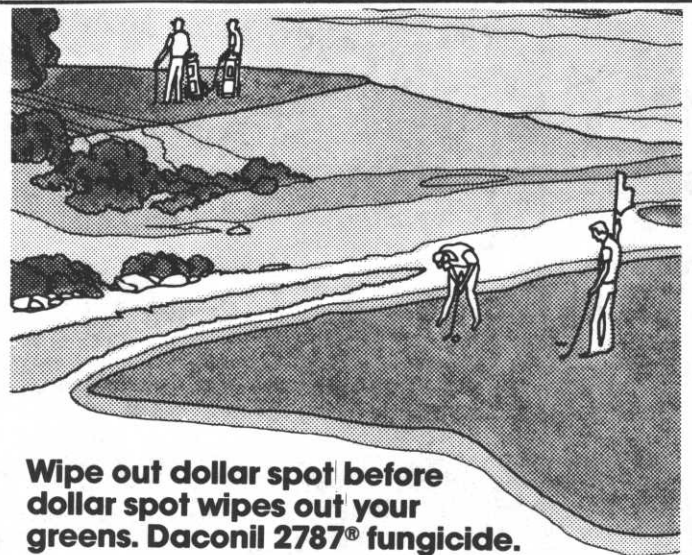
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continued from Page 8

superintendents (44%). Generally this was listed as compaction on the greens, but some superintendents also mentioned compaction and traffic of tees and cart paths. Irrigation and watering were listed as problems by a greater percentage of golf course superintendents (37%) than by any other group of turf managers, but weed control was not considered as big a problem for golf course superintendents (35%) as it was for other groups of turf managers. When weed control was mentioned by golf course superintendents, it was often a problem with annual bluegrass.

Turf renovation in the form of rebuilding greens, tees or starting a sand top-dressing program was the most popular expectation for the coming five years (Figure 2-D). A significant number (21%) of the superintendents felt they were going to have increasing budget problems while 14% were anticipating expansion.

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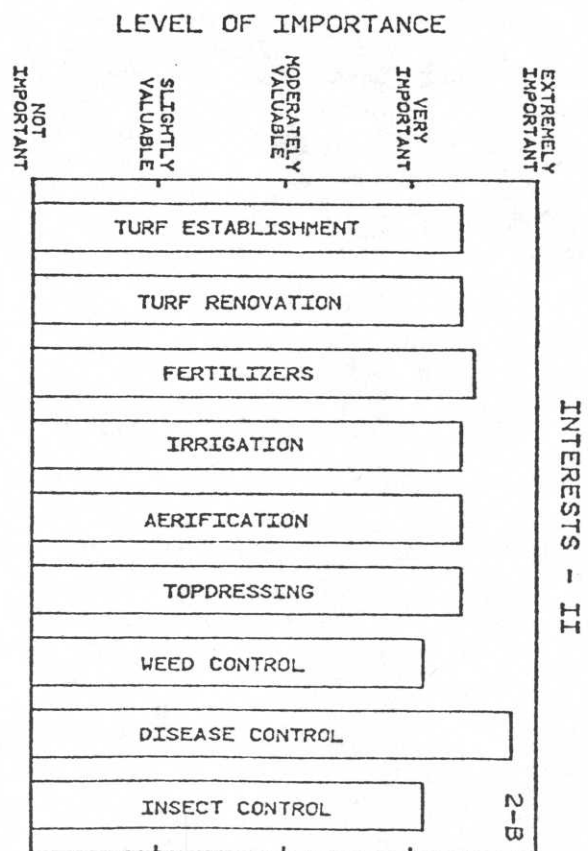
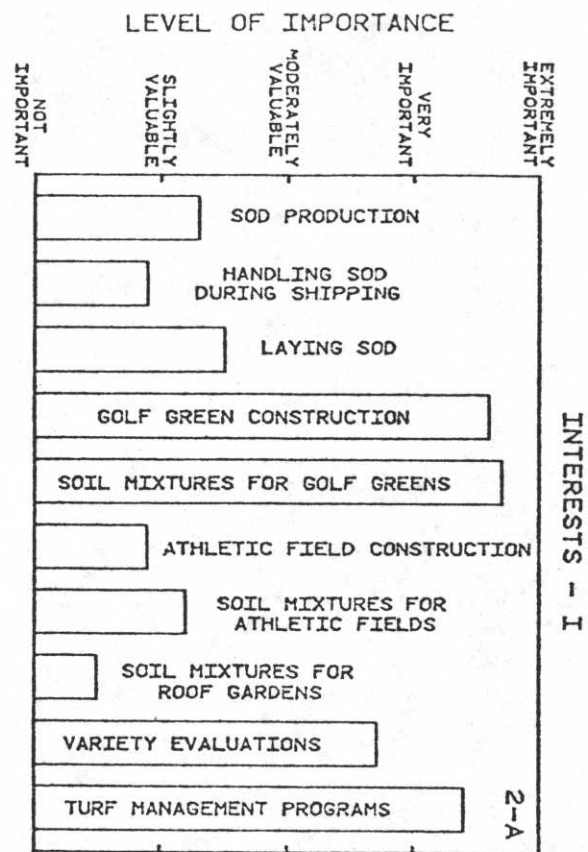
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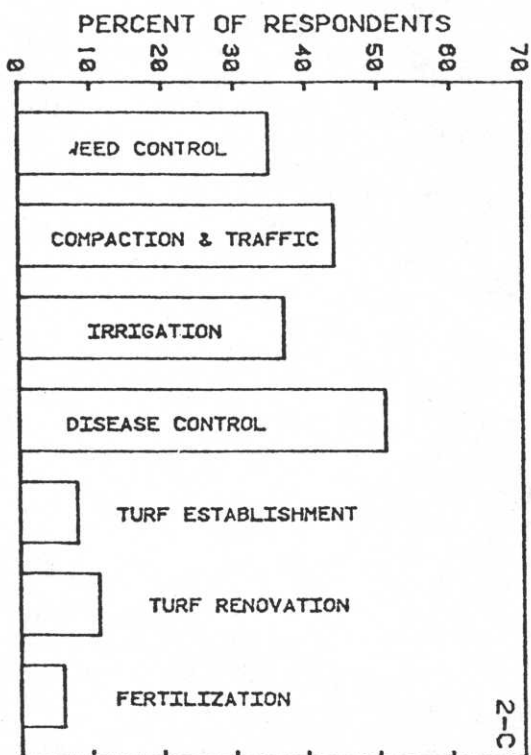
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GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS



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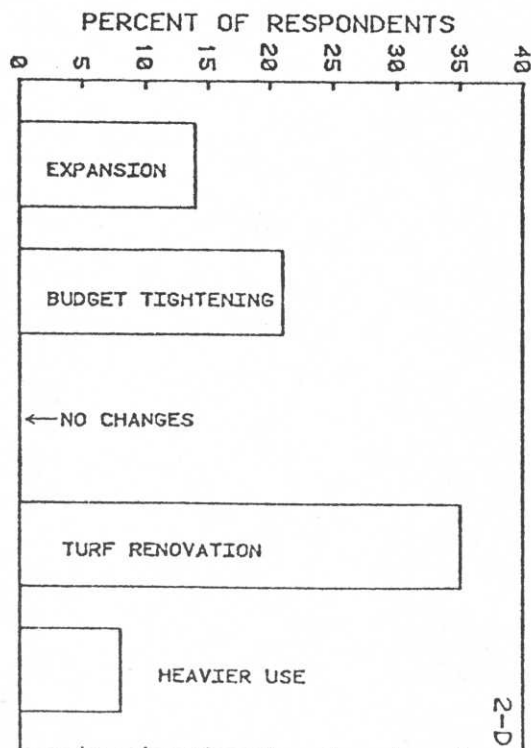


Figure 2. Responses to survey from 71 golf course superintendents.

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

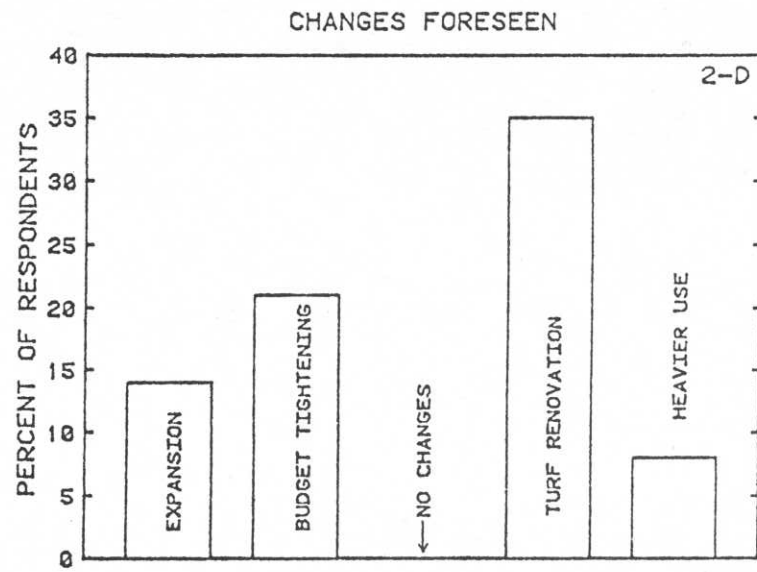
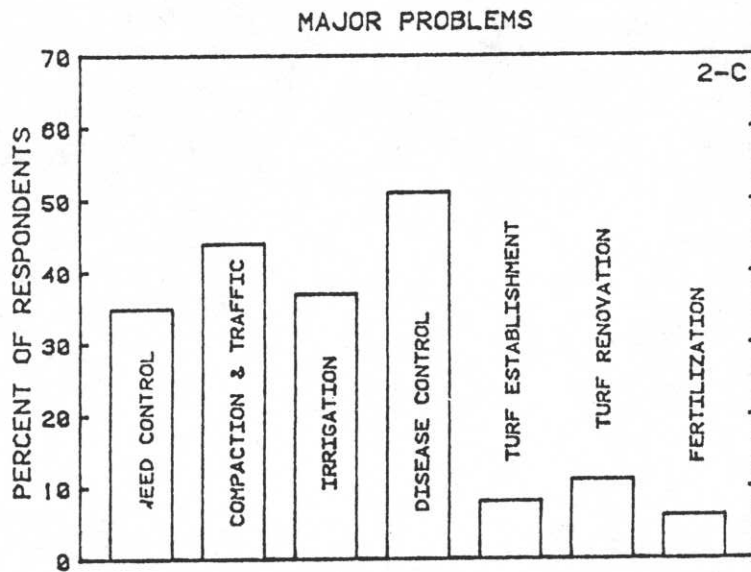
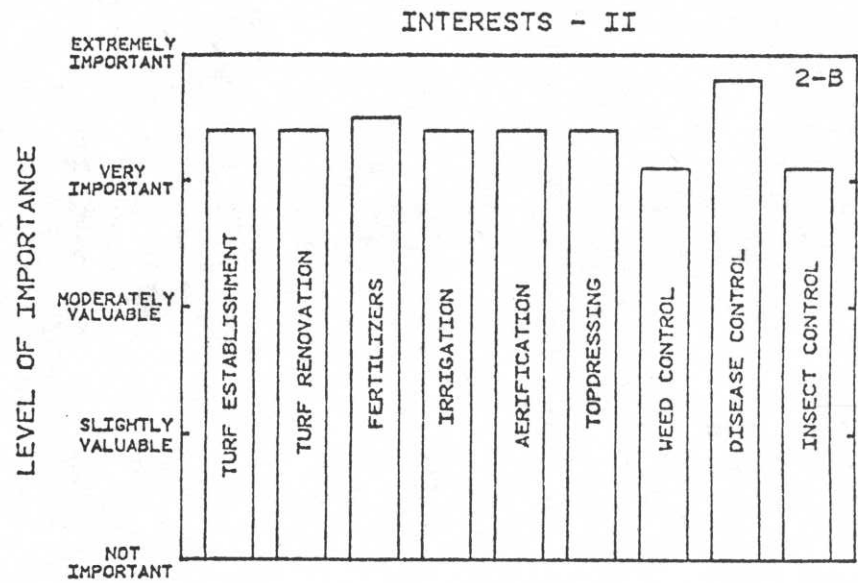
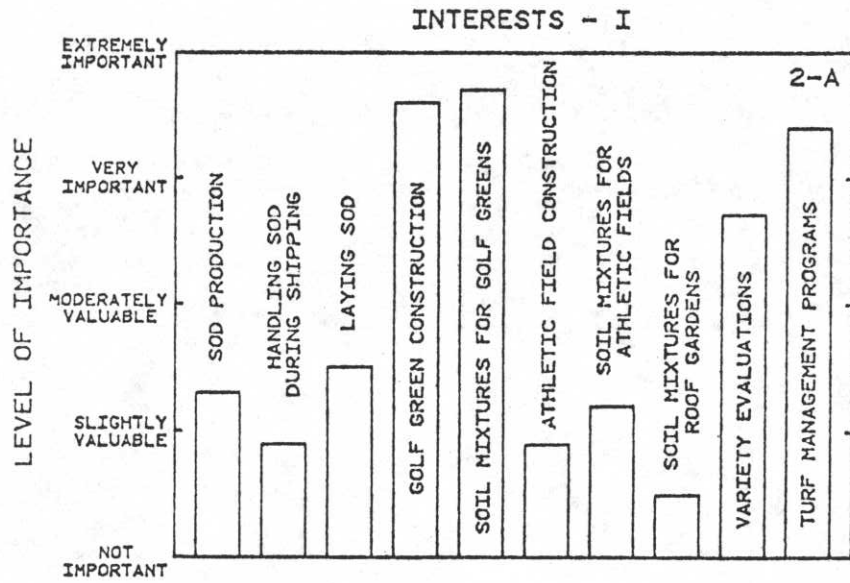


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