

The lingo of a golf course superintendent is something else, too. It includes much talk about bentgrass, ryegrass and blue grass, topdressing, aerating and verticutting as well as those awful occurrences know as Pythium, Aetenius and that dreaded wilt. Then there is Milorganite. I've even been made aware of what that can do. Our Springer Spaniel, Thatch, who hangs out at the golf course, tasted some of it one day and later got sick and deposited it all over our living room carpet. What a mess! Not knowing what this thick black substance was I panicked, thinking for sure Thatch was doomed. She looked so sick and pathetic lying there motionless. After a few questions to the golf course superintendent, the mystery soon unraveled. Thatch survived the Milorganite but it certainly didn't promote any growth in her intelligence.

Soon after I met this golf course superintendent I became aware that our lives would revolve around the golf season. Unlike our neighbors who would be leaving town for weekends during the summer, we would always be around to watch them drive away with their campers or other recreational vehicles pulling

their boats and motors. What a bummer! Our summer vacation usually falls on a rainy day in late October. Oh, well!

Even on a rare weekend away from the golf course thoughts of it are always foremost in the golf course superintendent's mind. Also, being in the presence of more than one golf course superintendent means that any given time the topic of conversation is guaranteed to be golf courses. What furthered my realization of the total devotion that a golf course superintendent has for his profession became evident to me when a huge cardboard box containing a portion of the 16th green appeared on our dining room table one day this past winter. Unlike most people who may have common house plants on their dining room tables, we had something unique that proved to be quite a conversation piece. After a few weeks of TLC I was informed that the green had survived the winter and so had the golf course superintendent.

I have found the weather to be an important variable which influences the

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MINNESOTA FRAC SAND COMPANY is now offering two grades of highly recommended silica sand for building greens and tees, as well as for topdressing and sand traps, at their Jordan Plant. This sand has been tested and approved by Dr. Don Taylor of the University of Wisconsin, and tests have also been obtained from Texas A & M University from Dr. K.W. Brown. The particle size analysis of our two products is shown below.

PARTICLE SIZE ANALYSIS

SOIL MIX MATERIALS	GRAVEL > 2mm (>9 mesh) %	TOTAL SAND (9.300) mesh %	SILT .002-.05mm (< 300 mesh) %	CLAY <.002mm %	SAND FRACTIONS					PRICE/TON F.O.B. Jordan
					VERY COARSE 1-2mm (9-16 mesh) %	COARSE 0.5-1mm (16.32 mesh) %	MEDIUM 0.25-.5mm (32-60 mesh) %	FINE 0.1-25mm (60-140 mesh) %	VERY FINE 0.05-.1mm (140-300 mesh) %	
Sand 4070	0.0	99.7	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	86.9	12.4	0.1	\$6.00/ton
Sand 3560	0.0	99.7	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.5	98.6	0.5	0.1	\$10.00/ton

Because of our convenient location, and highly competitive price, pure silica sand can now be purchased at a similar price as local mortar sands. Combinations with peat can be arranged through Leitner Company in St. Paul. Contact your Minnesota Frac Sand Sales Representative for further information.

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life of the golf course superintendent. A rainy day in July is always welcomed. I even find myself occasionally wishing for rain while others are planning various outdoor summer activities. I have learned that a good rain now and then can work wonders for the golf course superintendent's mood. If he lives through the golf season he still finds himself concerned over such situations as amounts of snow cover and the possibility of snow mold during the winter.

As a close acquaintance of a golf course superintendent I feel that being a supportive listener and trying to be patient and understanding can help to ease some of the pressures on the golf course superintendent. Attempting to convince him to relax is another task I try to undertake. Even if I am not able to understand fully all of the stress involved with being a golf course superintendent, I can appreciate the hard work and resulting beauty of the golf course on a warm summer day. Although I don't regret having met this golf course superintendent, I'm sometimes very thankful that at least I have a "normal" job with "normal" hours.

WHAT A PRICE TO PAY!

We all know that the prices of various goods advance at different rates. Some will shoot ahead, while some will remain static. What would happen, though, if you took the price trend for the last five years and projected it to the next 10 years, or to the year 2001?

That is exactly what Manplan Consultants, a Chicago-based management consulting firm, has done in a recent study. Here are projected prices for various goods based on their price trends in the past 10 years (are you ready?)

	1973	1977	1987	2001
Low priced car	3,000	5,000	17,700	105,000
High priced car	6,500	12,000	55,320	471,240
Private college tuition	3,000	3,840	7,219	17,510
Average house	34,500	54,000	191,160	1,134,000
Bar of soap	.15	.35	3.01	61.12
Toothpaste	.39	.79	4.89	62.80
Rump roast (lb.)	1.49	1.49	1.64	1.89
Ground beef (lb.)	.89	1.19	2.57	7.54
Coffee (lb.)	.70	3.25	163.86	39,642
Jelly (small jar)	.25	.59	5.28	113.98
Sunday Newspaper	.30	.60	4.38	70.92



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HERB GRAFFIS

On the Golf Course Superintendent:

"The golf course superintendent is more of an artist than he realizes. I think he's tremendously important in providing the 'golf garden view' to the members as an escape from the concrete and steel that overpower us in today's world.

"He's got to do this with a budget that is often too small, with challenges that were never there before — like water shortages and environmentalists — and the guy who pulls it off has gotta be a genius.

"I think we owe him a lot more praise than he's used to getting and I know it's going to happen. I can think back to when my own profession didn't get the appreciation it deserved. The reporter was supposed to be a rather devil-may-care underpaid guy and not generally given profound respect, if any at all. But times are changing. When you heap responsibilities on people you've got to give them respect, you've got to give them bucks and you've got to give them privileges.

"The television guys still haven't learned to point out the beauty of a golf course or the work that went into it, months and months. People accept the beautiful greens and fairways instinctively. I don't say the superintendent has to be interviewed at length but they can mention his name and let him share a split-billing with God!"

WHOSE JOB IS IT?

This is a story about four people named everybody, somebody, anybody and nobody. There was an important job to be done and everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it. But nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was everybody's job. Everybody thought anybody could do it but nobody realized that everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that everybody blamed somebody when nobody did what anybody could have done.

.....

You will never find time for anything. If you want time you must make it.

Charles Burton

.....

"Most people would be glad to tend their own business if the government would give it back."

—Unknown

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