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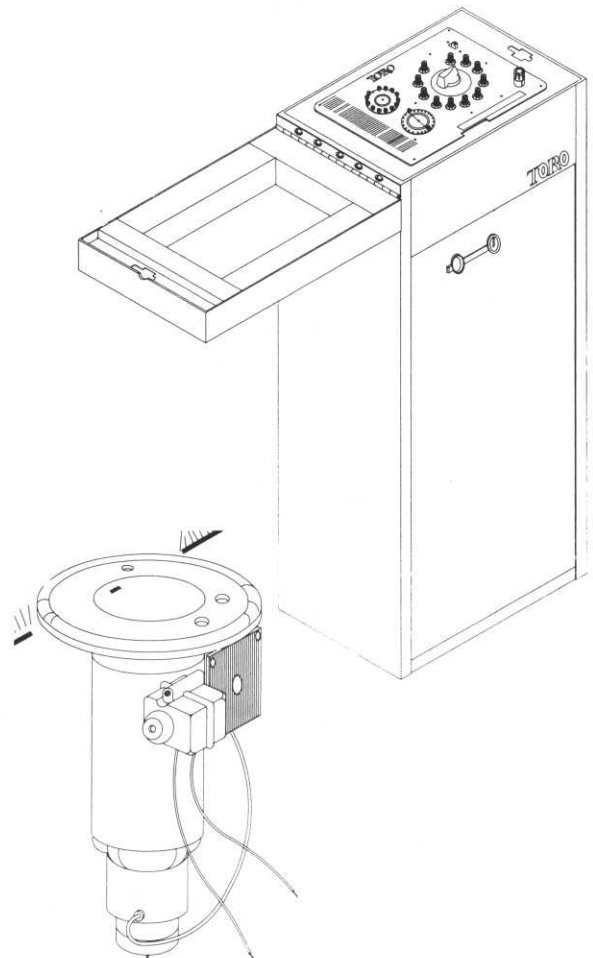
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HOLE NOTES

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THE TASKS KEEP COMING

by KEITH SCOTT, CGCS
MGCSA PRESIDENT

We all know as an association, the days of golf course maintenance are over and the days of golf course management are here. Over the past few months we have heard and read much information in regard to the "Employee Right-to-Know" and the "Child Labor" laws. We must also be continually aware of the various regulations governing the Federal and State Pesticide laws, the quality of ground and surface water, underground storage tanks, proper disposal of wastes and the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA). Attaining compliance at your course may involve simple modifications in record keeping or procedures or more sweeping changes and investments in training programs or equipment. The MGCSA Board is working hard to bring this information to you and if there are any questions, please contact any board member.

The March Mini-Seminar held at the Sheraton Northwest was a tremendous success. Inclement weather didn't deter over 220 registrants from participating. Our thanks to Dan Hanson, Kevin Clunis and Kerry Glader for arranging this event and special thanks to Dr. Ward Stienstra for admirably filling in for the snow-bound Dr. Richard Cooper.

The GCSAA Seminar "Disease Identification and Control", held at the Sheraton Northwest on March 13 & 14, was a complete sellout. Just another indication how and why turf managers are continually upgrading their profession.

The University of Minnesota - Waseca is offering two golf course related programs entitled "Golf Course and Grounds Management" and "Golf Course and Grounds Mechanization". These courses are two years in length and participants will attain an Associate of Applied Science Degree. MGCSA members, over the past two years, have assisted UMW in setting up and critiquing these programs. I would encourage each of you to look into these programs and to visit their facility. Brad Peterson, Associate Professor of Horticulture, will further describe these programs in the May issue of HOLE NOTES.

See you April 10 at the New Prague Golf Club.

A SILENT EMPLOYEE - MOST OF THE TIME

by RANDALL NELSON, CGCS
Owatonna Country Club

I have been thinking of writing this article ever since Fred Anderson wrote about his maintenance building security system at Purple Hawk Golf Club. Fred had the luxury of connecting his alarm directly to the local law enforcement center, however, in Owatonna, local ordinances do not allow direct connection.

My maintenance building for those of you who are not familiar with it is a 24' x 50' building with one service door, two overhead garage doors, and two easy to break windows which provide access for intruders. At least once each year from 1975 until 1987 our shop was forcibly entered. Entry was gained either by breaking one of the windows or by kicking in the wooden service door which finally had to be replaced with a steel door. We installed our security system the same time the new steel service door was installed. Our system consists of one infrared motion detector located between the two windows and a magnetic switch located on the service door. The motion detector will detect any movement through the first room on into the second main room. The motion detector and magnetic switch are hard wired to a main control panel, then on to the Sensa-phone or dialer. As I mentioned earlier, we cannot connect directly to our local law enforcement center. We can by programming the dialer with simple touch pads have the system call my home phone first, then my mechanic's, then my assistant's phone. We picked this order simply because of proximity to our maintenance building. When anything sets off the motion detector the dialer begins dialing my home number within thirty seconds. As soon as I pick up the receiver a recorded message is announced to me telling me a "Code 1" or entry has been gained. I then have the ability to listen back to my shop via a speaker microphone on the dialer to determine if there is someone moving around or possibly a false alarm has occurred. The feature is nice because many times no noise can be heard, but I know from experience small chipmunks have gained access occasionally and set off the alarm. If no one is at my residence to answer the message the dialer goes to the second phone number or third until the "Code 1" message has been received and acknowledged.

Now comes the tricky part. After receiving the message and listening back to the shop, I still have to decide by the time of the alarm or if I heard noises inside the shop or not whether to call the police dispatcher and have an officer meet me at the shop. Many times my decision to have the police come out has resulted in false alarms and

me losing about two hours sleep that night. The few times that our system has notified me of a break-in our response time has not been fast enough to catch the guilty party. As in most cases, the location of our maintenance buildings give criminals fast undetected getaways. I feel the reason we have been unable to apprehend anyone is because my shop is so small that the thieves can find our snack tray or pop machine money very quickly and leave before the police can arrive at the scene.

I do like my silent employee anyway because there is also other standard features on the Sensa-phone which have paid for the system many times over. A temperature sensing device which constantly monitors the temperature around the dialer is a standard feature. Initial programming I can set a high temperature limit and a low temperature limit which if either one is reached will trigger the dialer to call and notify me that a "Code 2" or temperature limit has been reached. I received this message of both temperature imbalances over the last two years. Our shop furnace thermostat stuck on one night and brought the shop temperature to the upper 100 degree limit. This happened in January and my shop felt like a very dry sauna. The other incident happened on Christmas Eve last year when the furnace pilots failed to stay lit and the shop temperature dropped to the lower 40 degree limit. As you can see my temperature ranges were extremely far apart, but the system notified me of both irregularities. Any temperature range can be programmed into the unit which may prevent costly chemicals from freezing, as in my case, or it may prevent a worse disaster like a fire. A smoke detector can be wired to the unit or may be positioned close to the dialer which by a high sound level alone will also set off the alarm.

Sensa-phone will also notify me if its batteries are low. Batteries are needed in case of a power failure which Sensa-phone will continue operating on for 15 hours before notifying me that its batteries are low. Sensa-phone will also wait 5 minutes after a power failure has occurred before notifying me that a power failure exists. One other standard feature which some of you have experienced is the ability to check on shop conditions from another location. By programming into the dialer an arbitrary number of rings I can call my shop number, even from long distance, let the phone ring that same number of programmed rings, then listen to a recorded synthesizer tell me the time, temperature, battery condition, alert condition status, and I also have the ability to again listen into my shop for fifteen seconds.

All these features are standard on my security system which was installed by a local locksmith. The dialer is called a Sensa-phone, the motion detector has a range of about 35 feet, and the total system installed cost \$500. If you have costly chemicals which must be kept above

SILENT EMPLOYEE to Page 11

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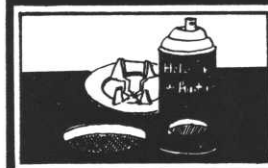


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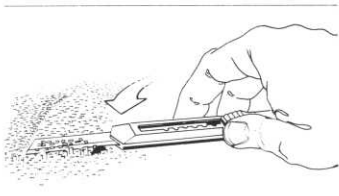
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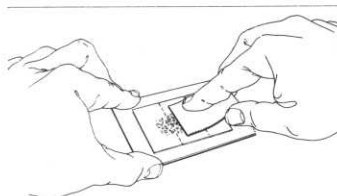


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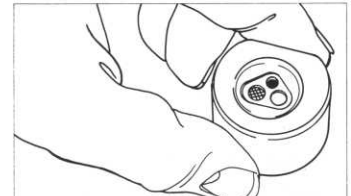
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LAKE LEVELS AND THEIR INFLUENCES

by **JOHN HARRIS**
Lafayette Club

Drought and its effects on irrigation systems and pumping plants is not a new problem for golf course superintendents, but one that certainly causes much discomfort as evidenced by last year. This discomfort becomes even more severe when your major source of irrigation water is surface water as it is at Lafayette Club. With a huge reservoir of water like Lake Minnetonka at your pumphouse door, water shouldn't be a problem. Lack of rainfall, social concern, and government regulation have turned this natural resource into one of the hot issues of 1989.

Lake Minnetonka is one of the largest lakes in Minnesota and probably one of the most widely used. Past years have seen almost record highs in lake elevation, but the recent lack of rainfall has seen lake levels drop dramatically. Water levels have historically been much higher. Lafayette club pumps directly out of the lake and our suction lines reflect these higher historical levels. At present, we run our suction lines on the surface of the lake using a sectional dock and elbow into the lake at sufficient depth to accommodate our rotating screen. At one time, 35 feet of suction line was sufficient. Now, due to lowered lake levels, 75 feet is required. If the lake drops another 3 inches, we will need over 90 feet of suction line to serve our needs. This extra length can cause a number of problems. Pump motors draw more wattage than specifications allow. Susceptibility to cavitation increases. Boat traffic and its wakes put undo stress on the support structure causing peaks and valleys that require realignment of the suction line. Stress cracks in the line and joints (no matter how well anchored) increase and seasonal replacement becomes a must. We must constantly respond to changes in lake elevation and respond quickly to avoid costly pump problems and irrigation system downtime.

To add insult to injury, a new pest has invaded the shores of Lake Minnetonka, Eurasian Water Milfoil. This aquatic weed, recently introduced, has the potential to choke every inch of shoreline. It propagates from cuttings which are compounded by boat props. Under ideal conditions, the plant obtains a growth rate of up to two inches per day. At this rate, I'll take crabgrass! Obviously, we must remove the weed by mechanical and/or chemical means to insure proper operation of our water supply system. Both methods require a permit from the DNR which can be time consuming and laden with red-tape.

In response to these problems, the Greens Committee at Lafayette is considering a proposal for a new pump station with wet well and automation of our present irrigation. Once again, permits must be obtained from the DNR. With lake levels dropping, will they readily issue such a permit? Should we abandon the lake as a source of irrigation water or opt for a deep well and use the lake on a contingency basis? Should we make use of the existing water supply structure since new structures are not allowed on the lake shore? All these questions will have to be answered before we can improve on our situation and many decisions will be made by those outside of Lafayette as government and regulatory bodies determine our fate.

Low lake levels pose all sorts of problems from lost boat props to higher insurance premiums to water management difficulties. Lake Minnetonka is quickly becoming a hotbed of political, economical and social controversies. Certainly nothing, outside of Mother Nature, is being done to increase the lake's water level. The question is how to deal with the current situation, meet the demands of the public, and still maintain the ecological balance of this highly used natural resource. We at Lafayette are still determining the answers.

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WHAT AN EXPERIENCE!

by **MIKE LIGDAY**
Manitou Ridge Golf Club

This years regional GCSAA seminar, Disease Identification and Control, was a double barreled, rapid fire educational experience. Dr. Phil Larson of the University of Minnesota and Dr. Houston B. Couch of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute had an excellent curriculum laid out for those attending. It included discussion on terminology, nature and control, diagnostic procedures and chemical control of turfgrass diseases.

The first portion of the seminar, nature and control, consisted of examining the pathogen, environmental factors, affected plant species, cultural practices and their interrelations. As each disease was discussed we identified the name and description of the pathogen involved. The soil fertility level, soil moisture level and weather conditions conducive to disease development were then discussed. Susceptible turf species and cultivars, pathogen survival sites and disease cycles were explained. Finally, the best types of control were covered.

The topic of chemical application was a highly informative and fitting end to the seminar. Through research, Dr. Couch has determined the optimal factors for the application of a variety of fungicides. These factors include nozzle size and type, delivery pressure at the nozzle and fungicide dilution rates. I highly recommend obtaining a copy of the pamphlet Maximizing the Effectiveness of Fungicides written by Houston B. Couch and sponsored by Milliken Chemical. This pamphlet contains a lot of the information covered in the seminar concerning chemical application. Check with your local chemical distributor for availability.

Other interesting items presented at the seminar were new and exciting information on the synergistic effects of certain chemicals, disease forecasting stations and specific disease diagnostic kits.

In conclusion, this seminar was an excellent two day learning experience, one well worth attending. Without GCSAA sponsored seminars, this information would not be as readily available to us. We left at the end of the second day with the immortal words of Dr. Couch echoing in our ears, "TOOTALOO CARIBOU".

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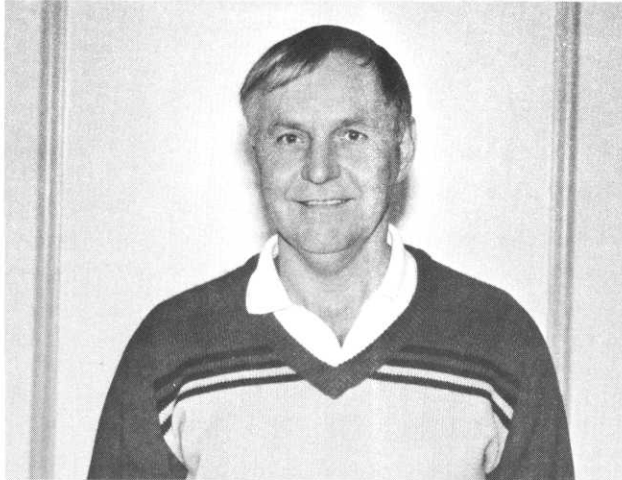
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CHILDREN - Michele, Paul, Tamara and Anthony.

CLUB AFFILIATION - Edina Country Club, 24 years.



PAST EMPLOYMENT HISTORY - Nemadji Municipal Golf Course, Superior, WI; Assistant Superintendent 1953 to 1965.

INTERESTS - Golf, Hunting and Camping.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS - Editorial Committee and Arrangements Committee.

COMMITTEE GOALS - To assist in upgrading the HOLE NOTES and to assist the chairman of the Arrangements Committee.

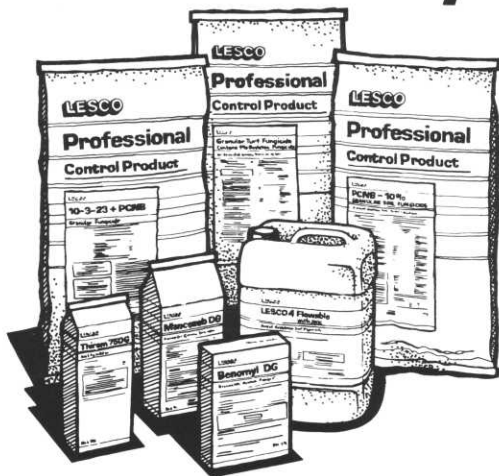
MGCSA GOALS - To continue to promote the welfare of the Superintendents.

PAST MGCSA POSITIONS - Past President, Conference Committee Chair, Arrangements Chair, Membership Chair, Bylaws Chair, Research Committee and Nominating Committee.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS - Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

CAREER GOALS - Plan on remaining at Edina Country Club until retirement.

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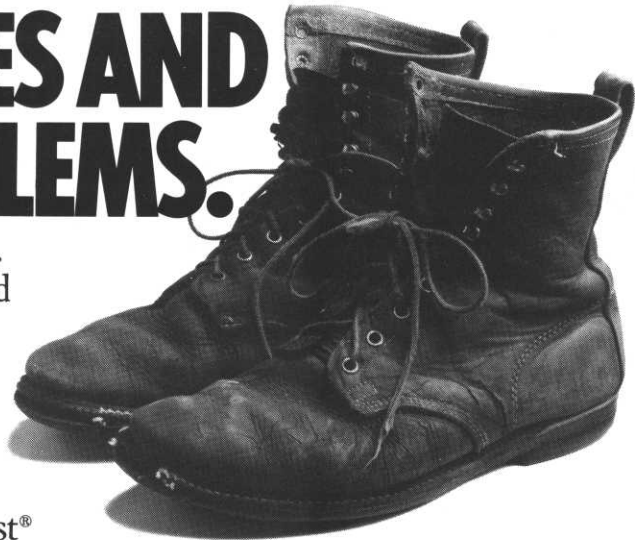
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INDUSTRY NOTES

News From MGCSA Associate Members

Rhone-Poulenc Ag Company announced the EPA registration of CHIPCO MOCAP brand 5G pesticide. The 5 percent granular product was registered for the control of white grubs and other surface and sub-surface turfgrass pests on Home Lawns and on Commercial Turf such as Golf Courses and Sod Farms.

Andy Seckinger, Rhone-Poulenc Ag Company's Product Manager for CHIPCO branded products, said "Years of testing by universities and Rhone-Poulenc Ag Company of CHIPCO MOCAP 5G have consistently shown high levels of white grub control. The high efficacy levels are the result of the product's effectiveness and the increased ground coverage achieved by the 5 percent granule".

In addition to white grubs, CHIPCO MOCAP 5G also was registered for the control of chinch bugs, black turfgrass Ataenuis beetle, blue grass billbug, sod webworm, mole crickets and nematodes.

To control white grubs, CHIPCO MOCAP 5G should be applied by a Certified Applicator at the rate of 2.25

lb/1000 sq. ft. or 100 lb/acre. Irrigate immediately after application to increase safety and efficacy. University studies have shown that white grubs come up into the root zone soon after irrigation.

CHIPCO MOCAP 5G will be available January 1989 in 50 pound bags from the nationwide network of CHIPCO product distributors.

For more information, write to CHIPCO/Specialty Products, Rhone-Poulenc Ag Company, PO Box 12014, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

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INDUSTRY NOTES to Page 11



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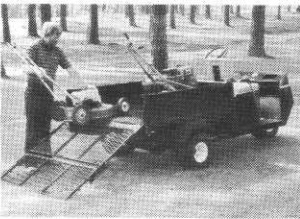
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