

ATLANTIC NEWS Letter



Published by Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Supertintendents to aid in the Advancement of the Golf Course Superintendent through Education and Merit

VOLUME XXV

JANUARY, 1974

NO. 1

INDIAN SPRINGS ELECTION MEETING

1974 Board of Directors

President Vice President Secretary-Treasurer David S. Fairbank Army Navy C.C.

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Virgil G. Robinson Chantilly Golf

& C.C.

President Emeritus Lee Dieter

Washington Golf & C.C.

Next month the membership will be notified of the respective positions and responsibilities of the 1974 Board of Directors.

MID-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

January 7-8, 1974

SHERATON INN Washington-Northeast 8500 Annapolis Road New Carrollton, Md. Exit 30 West off 495 (Washington Beltway)

Program

Sunday evening, January 6th Get Acquainted Party

Monday, January 7th

8:30 A.M. Registration 10:00 A.M. Call to Order 12:10 A.M. Adjourn for Lunch 1:30 P.M. Afternoon Session Adjourn 4:45 P.M. 6:30 P.M. Social Hour 7:15 P.M. Dinner - Speakers - Awards Tuesday, January 8th

8:00 A.M. 9:30 A.M. 11:30 A.M. Coffee and Danish Renovation Symposium Conference Summarization

12:00 Noon

Adjourn

SPEAKERS

Lee C. Dieter - Washington Golf & Country Club Mid-Atlantic President

Honorable Y. D. Hannel - Secretary of Agriculture -Maryland

Holman Griffin - Agronomist - U.S.G.A. Greens Section

Dr. C. R. Funk - Rutgers University

Dr. Bill V. Lessley - University of Maryland Alex Watson - Sparrows Point Country Club -

Baltimore, Maryland

Dr. Houston B. Couch - V.P.I and State University

Dr. John R. Hall - University of Maryland Jack B. McClenahan - O.M. Scotts and Sons

Ken Emerson - National Club Association

Angelo Cammarotta - Hobbits Glen Golf Course Columbia, Md.

Dr. Jack Harper - Pennsylvania State University Dr. A. J. Powell - V.P.I. and State University L. Robert Shields - Woodmont Country Club -

Rockville, Md.

Robert Orazi - Hunt Valley Golf Club, Hunt Valley, Maryland

TURF CONFERENCES ARE **IMPORTANT**

What are you missing by not attending our annual Mid-Atlantic Turf Conference?

This meeting is the basic tool of your maintenance program - education.

It is imperative for each golf course superintendent to stay abrest of current changes within the turf grass maintenance and grass production industry. The club greens chairman, board members, and president would also benefit greatly and be made aware of the many problems encountered by their superintendents.

Our turf conference offers superintendents the opportunity to share ideas and discuss individual problems with fellow superintendents and specialists in every field of turf maintenance.

If you value your money and time, invest wisely – attend the January 7-8 Mid-Atlantic turf conference and you will return home with renewed enthusiasm for your job, renewed acquaintances with old friends, and renewed knowledge of turf maintenance.

AMERICAN LIFE CYCLE

Article from Divot News - So. Calif.

An electric light company received the following letter from one ot its customers:

"Dear Electric Light Company:

"You have asked why I have not sent a check in payment of the bill I owe you and are threatening to turn off my current. Let me explain:

"The present condition of my bank account is due to laws—federal laws, state laws, county laws, city laws and trade association laws. The only laws that do not affect my small business are outlaws. We have never been robbed illegally; only by elected officials.

"Because of these laws of many kinds I am compelled to pay taxes—a business tax, amusement tax, head tax, bank tax, school tax, gas tax, light tax, water tax, sales tax, excise tax, auto tax, phone tax, sewer tax, garbage tax, fire tax, highway tax and three kinds of income tax—federal, state and city.

"These laws also require me to get licenses at varying fees for my small meat store—a business license, refrigeration license, retailers' license, sanitation license, inspection license, weighers' license, dairy license, carter's license, delivery truck license and interstate deliverer's license. I bought two licenses voluntarily, a marriage license and a dog license.

"My trade association insists that I contribute to causes. I have given to the Red Cross, Community Chest, United Fund, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Brownies, Salvation Army, Heart Fund, Cerebral Palsy Fund, Muscular Dystrophy Fund, Child Care Center, Old Folks' Center, Fund for the Blind, Fund for the Indigent, four hospitals. four churches, one synagogue and two volunteer fire companies.

"I have one employee. I must pay his Blue Cross, Blue Shield, unemployment compensation, workmen's compensation, Social Security, Retirement Pension Fund, and company life insurance premiums.

"For the sake of my bank, my creditors and my business, I am required by law to carry life insurance, property insurance, liability insurance, burglar insurance, fire insurance, accident insurance, windstorm, flood and earthquake insurance, and freezer-loss insurance.

"I must pay these premiums promptly or my insurance coverage, like my electricity, will be turned off.

"I am inspected, suspected and disrespected, and though I am bled white while maintaining a constant flow of money to other people, there simply does not seem to be enough to go around.

"Please do not turn off my electricity, for due to a miraculous stroke of good fortune, you will get your money. While chopping out a loin of pork this morning, I was lucky enough to miss and completely sever my thumb. It was insured. The money will arrive next week, at which time I will endorse the check and forward it to you.

"I shall be grateful for your patience.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE
of the
MID-ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION
of
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

Under the Auspices
of the
Extension Service
University of Maryland
Sheraton Inn
Washington N. F.

Washington, N.E. New Carrollton, Md. January 7-8, 1974

CAN WE COME TO YOUR CLUB IN 1974?

Our Mid-Atlantic Association has a membership of over 100 superintendents, 80 of which are at clubs which have clubhouse facilities. We are aware that some clubs do not permit outside organizational meetings, but this only accounts for a small percentage of potential meeting places.

This message is aimed at those of you who have not had our association at your club, as well as some of you who have not hosted our group in several years.

If you would be interested in hosting a monthly meeting, please contact Lee Dieter at Washington Golf and Country Club, Arlington, Virginia, phone 538-6800, or contact any board member. Please act soon so that we may plan our 1974 meeting schedule early.

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GOLF COURSE EQUIPMENT

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TROUBLE CHART FOR **GASOLINE ENGINES**

As the fall of the year approaches much of our powered equipment will begin to cost us much "down time." Possible these trouble shooting guides can help your men keep all machinery running smoothly until winter rebuilding begins. These charts, if posted on large size poster boards, would enable your crew to avoid many end of season breakdowns.

Engine Won't Start or Stops Running

Empty fuel tank.

Fuel valve closed or line clogged.

Fuel filter or strainer clogged.

Fuel tank vent clogged.

Carburetor flooded or float stuck.

Spark plugs defective.

Moisture on porcelain of plugs.

Weak battery or loose battery cable.

Ignition switch turned off or defective.

Water in fuel or frozen fuel line (vapor lock).

Defective ignition system (check for spark).

Tractor in gear.

Throttle not advanced.

Overheating

Lack of water in cooling system. Lack of oil in crankcase.



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Overloaded engine. Slipping fan belt. Oil too heavy Radiator or cooling system clogged. Radiator shutters closed. Excess engine deposits. Improper fuel. Timing or carburetor adjustment off.

Excessive Fuel Consumption

Choke pulled out. Too rich carburetor adjustment. Fuel leakage from tank or lines. Incorrect ignition timing. Cracked or worn out spark plugs. Engine overloaded. Pilferage.

Excessive Oil Consumption

Engine requires overhaul (excessive wear). External or internal oil leaks. Oil too light for conditions. Improper type of oil. Excessive oil pressure. Oil level too high in crankcase. Excessive crankcase pressure (clogged breather).

Lack of Compression

Sticking, dirty, or warped valves. Improper valve adjustment.



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Engine requires overhaul (excessive wear).

Leaking head gasket.

Hissing or Backfiring

Spark plug fouled.

Water in fuel.

Incorrect fuel mixture.

Cylinder or manifold gasket leaking.

Engine not warmed up.

Stuck valves.

Improper ignition timing.

Moisture in ignition parts.

Engine Knocks

Improper fuel.

Out of oil.

Incorrect timing.

Engine overloaded or lugged.

Overheating (see under this heading).

Too lean fuel mixture.

Loose bearings or piston pins.

Broken piston rings or loose pistons.

Excess deposits in combustion chamber.

Low Oil Pressure

Out of oil.

Oil too light.

Excessive oil dilution.

Badly worn bearings.

Defective oil pump.

Clogged screens or lines.

Leaking oil line.

Oil relief valve defective.

Defective oil gauge.

Explosion in Exhaust Pipe

Defective ignition.

Exhaust valve hung open.

Exhaust valve warped.

Smoky Exhaust

1. Black Smoke

Fuel mixture too rich.

Choke pulled out.

Carburetor adjustment incorrect.

Carburetor float level too high.

Air cleaner clogged.

2. Blue Smoke

Excessive oil in combustion chamber.

Worn or stuck piston rings.

Worn valve stems and guides.

Oil pulled over from too full air cleaner cup.



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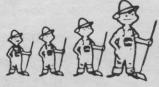


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WINTER TURF INJURY

We are faced with four major types of turfgrass winter injury in our Mid-Atlantic area.

- 1. low temperature kill
- 2. desiccation
- 3. low temperature disease
- 4. foot and vehicular injury

Unfortunately in our area all four types of winter injury may be present at one time, but one will usually be dominent and result in greater damage to the grass. This month's newsletter will stress the low temperature injuries, including ice damage to turf.

In low temperature kill the actual killing temperature is determined not by the air temperature, but rather the soil temperature surrounding the grass crown and nodes of lateral shoots such as rhizomes and stolons.

Symptoms — At the time of spring thaw the leaves initially appear water-soaked with a whitish — brown color that turns rapidly to a dark brown. The leaves tend to lay in a limp mat over the soil surface. The damaged area is frequently associated with poor drainage such as depressions or drainage swales where water has been allowed to stand for a period of time. The appearance will vary in a large irregular pattern or patches associated with sites where standing water occurred. In some cases a distinct, pungent odor occurs within 14 days after spring thaw.

The relative degree of low temperature hardiness varies seasonally throughout the winter. Maximum hardiness is reached in December followed by a gradual decline until a minimal hardiness level exists just at the time of spring thaw. At this point, the hydration level of the plant tissues is quite high and thus the plant is most prone to direct low temperature kill during this late winter — early spring period prior to the initiation of growth. Direct low temperature kill may occur as there is a rapid decrease in temperatures to below 20 degrees.

Preventing low temperature injury — Aside from selecting a low temperature hard turfgrass, the most effective method of minimizing low temperature injury is to ensure adequate surface and subsurface drainage. The importance of proper drainage and the avoidance of standing water in depressional areas cannot be stressed too much.

SEEDS

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WM. G. SCARLETT & CO.

608-632 PRESIDENT STREET BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202 Some cultural practices can either promote the fall hardening off process or increase insulation against low temperature stress.

- 1. Avoid excessive stimulation of shoot growth use moderate nitrogen levels.
- 2. Provide adequate potassium levels to encourage adequate hardening capability.
- 3. Raise height of cut.
- Eliminate thatch which serves to elevate the vital crown tissues above the protective layer of the soil.
- 5. Avoid excessive irrigation that would sater log the soil and increase the degree of crown hydration.

Ice sheets — Contrary to the statements appearing in some literature, ice sheets that cause oxygen suffocation or lethal gas accumulations under the ice cover are not a major concern in the terms of turfgrass winter injury. Most perennial cool season turfgrasses will survive at least 60 days of ice coverage. Serious injury to annual bluegrass can be anticipated if the ice cover remains in place, for a period of 70 to 90 days. (Merion Kentucky bluegrass and Toronto creeping bentgrass have been subjected to ice coverage for up to 150 days with no significant injury.)

Removing ice and snow covers — The best way of minimizing damage associated with ice covers is to ensure that there is adequate surface drainage from the area. From a turfgrass standpoint, the plants should enter the winter at a moderate growth rate with adequate but not excessive nitrogen nutritional levels of potassium nutrition.

The situations that have been documented where ice removal has reduced the degree of winter injury have usually been associated with direct low temperature kill. Rather than breaking up the ice barrier to enhance gas movement, the professional turfman was actually mechanically removing water from the turfgrass area; thus minimizing the degree of crown hydration that could occur and in turn reducing the chance of direct low temperature kill.

Where crown hydration due to standing water and subsequent direct low temperature kill associated with the ice cover is of primary concern, it is important to remove the ice cover and snow prior to periods of anticipated thaw.



One should not attempt to remove the entire ice or snow cover but should leave a protective layer of between one and two inches remaining on the surface. This modest layer will serve to protect against winter desiccation injury and will also function to a certain degree in insulation against direct low temperature stress.

It is preferable to remove the ice and snow during periods when the turf and underlying soil are frozen in order to minimize damage to the surface itself.

Excerpts from the preceding article were taken from an article appearing in *Weeds Trees and Turf*, Nov. 72, written by DR. JAMES B. BEARD, Professor, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, Michigan State University.

OUT OF BOUNDS IS REALLY OUT

Canon City, Colo. (AP) – When the golf tournament opens here Saturday all shots over the wall will be unplayable.

The tournament will be held among inmates at the Colorado State Penitentiary medium security unit.

Associate Warden Jack M. Capelli said prisoners have been working for several years to install the nine-hole, par 34 course at the main yards of the medium security section. The longest hole is 325 yards and the shortest is 105.

Reprinted from the "Tri-State News".

MODERN BUG-A-BOO

While the gypsy moth and the fir tree moth eat up millions of acres of our forests and destroy millions of board feet of needed lumber, DDT is banned because it might upset the tummy of some freak fish way out at sea. Protected from harm, Mr. Moth strips the forests and kills billions of trees, displacing birds and wildlife, who are being protected from DDT aftereffects, so they are told, while they shiver and die. So now, the dumbest animal of all, MAN, not only protects murderers and rapists, but gypsy moths, insects & shop lifters. Teach pornography in school, coddle killers, encourage dop addiction, throw bottles and cans along the roadside, drive drunken, but don't touch the gypsy moth or fir tree moth. Please!!

The preceding was contributed by Bob Miller. It is reprinted from *Deere Tracks*, published by The Milton James Co.

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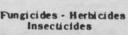
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Happy Holidays

A good supervisor, someone once said, is a guy who can step on your toes without messing up your shine.

America has become so tense and nervous it has been years since I've seen anyone asleep in church — and that is a sad situation.

-Norman Vincent Peale

A good superintendent is a guy who takes a little more than his share of the blame and a little less than his share of the credit.

People can be divided into three groups; those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and those who wonder what happened.

-J. W. Newbern

A man rarely succeeds at anything unless he has fun doing it.

The trouble with the guy who talks too fast is that he often says something he hasn't thought of yet.

One acre of grass has the cooling effect of a 70-ton air conditioner. The cooling effect is caused by a loss of water from the grass. Ona single summer day, an acre of grass will lose about 2,400 gallons of water through the transpiration and evaporation

Happy New Year Published monthly by the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to aid in the advancement of the golf course superintendent through education and merit.

Craig A. Spottswood Kenwood Country Club Bethesda, Maryland Editor — 301—460-5038

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14405 PECAN DRIVE ROCKVILLE, MD. 20853

