



TURFGRASS MATTERS

May/June 2002

Volume 73, Number 2

Alternative Chemicals for Dollar Spot Suppression On Golf Course Turf

By Dr. Peter Dernoeden

University of Maryland

Nationally, more dollars are spent on fungicides to control dollar spot (*Sclerotinia homoeocarpa*) than any other turf disease. Dollar spot historically was mostly a spring and early summer disease in Maryland. Today, dollar spot can be active from late April to early December and severe summer outbreaks are common in Maryland. The reason for this dramatic change in the incidence and severity of dollar spot is not clearly understood, but some reasons include: 1) lower mowing heights, more frequent mowing and the removal of clippings; 2) lower inputs of nitrogen; 3) more frequent night irrigation, which extends leaf wetness duration; 4) planting of very susceptible cultivars such as Crenshaw and SR 1020; and 5) lack of good thatch and soil compaction control programs for fairways and tees. A University of Maryland study also showed that a composted sewage sludge (i.e., ComPro), a product used on area fairways to improve soil properties, can greatly intensify dollar spot when applied routinely.

Fungicides are the primary means of providing effective dollar spot control. Fungicides are expensive and there are additional costs for handling and applying these materials. We do know of several cultural approaches that help to suppress, but not eliminate, the need for fungicides. The following cultural approaches that significantly reduce dollar spot pressure include: 1) mowing early in the morning to remove leaf surface exudates; 2) poling or dragging to disperse leaf surface exudates on mornings when turf is not mowed; 3) foliar or spoon-feeding with low rates of water soluble nitrogen (0.1 to 0.125 lb N/1000ft²) on 10 to 14 day intervals; 4) rolling (no more than

three times weekly); 5) avoiding light and frequent nighttime irrigation; 6) raising the mowing height and recycling clippings; 7) controlling thatch and soil compaction; and 8) avoiding planting of susceptible cultivars or planting them in blends with resistant cultivars. Furthermore, the plant growth regulators Trimit and Cutless, and the herbicide Prograss also suppress dollar spot significantly.

In a 2001 routine fungicide trial, we included Primer (wetting agent), Macrosorb and ammonium sulfate to assess their effects on dollar spot. The results of the trial are presented below, but several treatments and rating dates were deleted to conserve space. Turf was Crenshaw creeping bentgrass, which was mowed to fairway height. The plots were rated for percent of plot area blighted by *S. homoeocarpa* on a 0 to 100% scale. Blight ratings exceeding 0.5 and 1.0 % of plot area affected with dollar spot were considered commercially unacceptable for putting green and fairway turf, respectively. The application dates of all treatments are footnoted in the data table. Dollar spot first became active in late April. The disease, however, did not progress during the entire month of May. During May and early June, trace amounts of dollar spot were evident in most treated and untreated plots (data not shown). Dollar spot became more active about mid-June and remained moderately severe to severe in July and August.

It is important to note that all treatments were last applied on 2 July. During the low disease pressure period from 11 June to 15 July, all fungicide treatments provided acceptable control (all data not shown). Primer and Macrosorb reduced dollar spot on most

dates between 11 June and 23 July. Primer provided commercially acceptable dollar spot reduction from 11 June to 15 July and continued to reduce dollar spot significantly when compared to the untreated control as late as 13 August. Ammonium sulfate reduced dollar spot on 11 June, and 15 and 30 July when compared to the control, but dollar spot levels generally were unacceptable. Three chlorothalonil formulations (Echo 720F, Echo 90DF and Daconil Ultrex) were compared. All chlorothalonil formulations provided equivalent dollar spot control between 11 June and 23 July. On 20 July (18 days since last applied) the Echo 90DF lost its residual effectiveness and by 13 August there was more dollar spot in Echo 90DF-treated plots, when compared to plots treated with Echo 720F and Daconil Ultrex. Echo 720F and Daconil Ultrex provided an equivalent level of dollar spot control on all rating dates. Eagle and Manhandle (Eagle G) provided equivalent dollar spot control from 11 June to 15 July. By 27 July (25

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President's Message

Michael Evans

We all know that managing golf course turf during a Mid-Atlantic summer can be a nerve-racking proposition. I am discovering, however, that it pales in comparison to the time consuming and daunting task of buying and selling a home during this time of year. With that in mind, blame for the tardiness of this newsletter falls squarely in the lap of yours truly, and for that, I sincerely apologize. With the demands of our profession these days, occasionally a Board member temporarily falls behind in their MAAGCS responsibilities. At times, our Executive Secretary Charlotte Norris bears the wrath of the membership for things that are beyond her control. It's easy to be critical when things are not as you believe they should be, but please keep in mind that the Board of Directors are volunteers trying their best to balance priorities between job, family, faith, self, and Association business. In the grand scheme of things, I believe the Board and our Executive Secretary have done a good job of fulfilling the membership's needs for quite some time. With that said, there is always room for improvement. I am sure that the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Chris Ayers, CGCS would be happy to have some strong candidates to run for office this December. If you have the time to commit and the desire to serve your Association, please call Chris. His office telephone number is (301)762-0570.

For those who did not participate in the Superintendent/Professional tournament at



Heritage Hunt in May, you missed an excellent event. Host superintendent Steve Cohoon, CGCS and his staff had the Arthur Hills layout in fabulous condition. Kudos Steve, to you and your staff and to the winners of the Presidents Cup, Crofton's Bo Jumbercotta and Steve Cramer. Sadly, participation in this event has dwindled sharply in the past two years, a fact that has caused more than a little consternation on the Board. The tournament affords all superintendents a great opportunity to strengthen our relationship with our golf professional, away from the grind of our daily duties. If you have any thoughts on how we can resurrect the Superintendent/Professional to its former stature on our annual golf calendar, please share your thoughts and ideas with any member of the Board.

Speaking of wonderfully conditioned golf courses, how about the job Bill Augustin and his staff have done at the Country Club of Maryland. Wow! If you missed our June meeting, you missed a real treat. It is a pleasure to see what money, a talented architect, and a quality contractor can create. Any superintendent whose facility has their sights set on golf course remodeling, owes it to themselves to pay Bill a visit.

In closing, a reminder about several upcoming events, the University of Maryland

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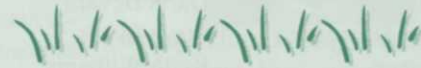
Dollar Spot,

continued from page 1

days since last applied), Manhandle had lost its residual effectiveness, and by 30 July dollar spot levels in Manhandle-treated plots were equivalent to the untreated control. Eagle (0.5 oz, 14-day interval and 1.0 oz, 28-day interval) lost residual effectiveness on 6 and 13 August, respectively.

The dramatic reduction in dollar spot with Primer was unexpected. It is theorized that Primer helped to suppress dollar spot by reducing leaf wetness duration, but other factors may have been involved. Because of these promising results, Primer will be further evaluated in 2002. We are grateful to the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Aquatrols, and Nutramax Labs, Inc. for providing funding in support of this and other studies. In this study, Primer and other non-fungicide materials (including Trimmit, Macrosorb, urea, ammonium sulfate, Lesco's 12-0-0 Plus Iron and Micronutrients) will be applied alone or in tank-mixes with Primer. Daconil Ultrex will serve as a standard for comparison. Unlike the 2001 study, the Primer rate will be reduced from 3.0 to 2.0 fl. oz/1000ft² (as specified by the label for fairways) and the materials will be applied in 50 gallons of water per acre rather than the 109 gallons used in the 2001 fungicide trial. Hopefully, treatments will be identified that reduce dollar spot severity and thereby help reduce the rate and frequency of fungicide applications. Dollar spot suppression and control in Crenshaw creeping bentgrass with fungicides, Primer and Macrosorb, College Park, MD, 2001.

Support Turfgrass Field Days



July 24

University of Maryland
Paint Branch Turfgrass Research Facility
College Park, Maryland

For more information contact:

Dr. Peter Dernoeden

301-405-1337 pd9@umail.umd.edu

July 30-31

Virginia Tech University
Blacksburg, VA

For more information contact:

Dr. Dave Chalmers

540-231-9738 chalmers@vt.edu

Treatment and rate/1000 sq ft*	Spray	% of plot area blighted								
	Interval (days)	25 Jun	2 Jul	9 Jul	15 Jul	23 Jul	30 Jul	6 Aug	13 Aug	20 Aug
Primer 100 L 3.0 fl oz	14	0.5 cde**	0.7 de	0.5 de	0.4 c-f	1.6 bcd	2.0 cd	7.5 bc	22.3 b	33.3 a-d
Macrosorb 2-0-0 2.0 fl oz	14	0.8 bcd	1.4 bcd	1.3 bcd	1.0 bcd	3.3 bc	5.8 abc	13.3 ab	29.5 ab	31.3 a-d
Amm. Sulfate 21-0-0 2.0 oz	14	1.2 abc	3.6 ab	1.9 abc	1.4 b	4.5 ab	5.0 bc	16.0 ab	31.0 a	42.0 ab
Echo 720F 3.6 fl oz	14	0.0 f	0.0 f	0.0 g	0.0 f	0.1 e	0.4 ef	0.5 fg	2.9 e	8.5 g
Echo 90DF 3.0 oz	14	0.2 ef	0.1 ef	0.1 efg	0.1 f	0.5 de	1.3 de	3.0 cde	9.3 cd	20.5 b-f
Daconil Ultrex 82.5WDG 3.2 oz	14	0.1 ef	0.0 f	0.0 g	0.0 f	0.1 e	0.3 ef	0.7 efg	1.6 e	7.3 g
Eagle 40WP 0.5 oz	14	0.1 ef	0.0 f	0.0 g	0.0 f	0.1 e	0.2 ef	1.0 def	8.5 cd	20.5 a-e
Eagle 40WP 1.0 oz	28	0.0 f	0.0 f	0.0 g	0.0 f	0.0 e	0.1 f	0.2 fg	2.0 e	10.8 efg
Manhandle 6.47G 6.4 oz	14	0.3 def	0.3 ef	0.1 efg	0.3 ef	5.3 bc	8.8 abc	15.3 ab	35.8 a	48.3 a
Untreated	--	3.1 a	6.6 a	3.6 a	6.6 a	10.5 a	14.0 a	25.3 a	45.8 a	44.8 abc

*Treatment on the 14-day interval were applied 8 and 23 May; 4 and 18 June; and 2 July.

Treatment on the 28-day interval were applied 8 May, 4 June and 2 July.

**Means in a column followed by the same letter are not significantly different at $P=0.05$ according to the least significant difference t-test.

Avoiding Golf's Pain in the Neck

Dr. William Erbe

A computerized motion analysis of more than 150 tour golfers conducted by Mike McTigue and Sportsense, Inc. determined that the average golfer's upper body turn is 88 degrees on the backswing and 110 degrees on the follow through. For the typical golfer, that is about 200 degrees of body/shoulder rotation around a fairly stationary head and neck. The middle thoracic part of your back is designed for rotation while the lower part of your neck is slightly less qualified for this movement. This causes a great deal of stress on the cervicothoracic junction (where your neck meets your upper back). Because of this problematic junction, a number of players have developed intervertebral disc problems. Some of them have been minor and others severe enough to require surgery.

"De-conditioning" is the inability of your joints and muscles to perform with strength, stability and full range of motion. As we mature, our tissues tighten and dehydrate due to our sedentary lifestyle. By sitting and standing, we actually train our muscles and joints to resist movement. You are already aware of this problem when symptoms include stiff necks, shoulders and up-

per back. These symptoms are a result of underlying muscles and joints that need to be strengthened, stretched and mobilized. Specifically, these conditions coupled with improper golf posture, lead to injury. In general, these conditions lead to osteoarthritis and disc degeneration.

Let's start with self analysis. (1) With your back two feet from a wall and without moving your feet, can you turn and place your palms on the wall behind you? (2) Without moving your feet, can you turn your head at least 70 degrees to the right and left? (3) With your arms out to the side and elbows bent 90 degrees with your hands up, can you rotate your forearm backward past your head? If you cannot do these actions, you need to begin to work on conditioning for general health and golf performance.

If you can do these with no trouble, then a strengthening that emphasizes stability is advisable. If you cannot, then a stretching and strengthening program is advisable. If these cause some pain, then a trip to a sports-oriented chiropractor for joint examination should be done first before engaging in strengthening or stretching.

Here are some general exercises for these problem areas:

A. Lie on your back with your knees bent and your arms straight out to the side. Turn your head to one side and let your bent knees rotate to the other side.

B. Lie on your back. Interlock your fingers above your head and stretch you arms above your head.

C. Lie on your stomach with your arms at your side. Raise your head and chest off the floor.

These exercises should be held for 6 to 10 seconds and repeated 3 times each.

Even though we are talking about golf performance and injury prevention, you should take these exercises to heart for general health benefits. Remember, general maintenance of your muscles and joints is a necessity, not a luxury. Before starting any program, see your sports-oriented doctor first. If you feel any pain while performing any exercise, stop and see your sports-oriented doctor immediately.

Printed with permission from *Pros N' Hackers*. Dr Erbe is the Chiropractic Coordinator for the Middle Atlantic PGA.



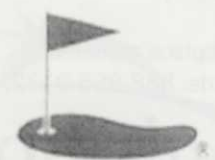
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IPM for the Body

by Richard Matteson, CGCS

As turfgrass professionals, we have developed keen observation skills. We can detect minute irregularities on our golf course such as the initiation of snow mold, localized dry spots, weeds, etc. We then respond to correct the problems before they become disastrous. How often do we employ that same ability to detect abnormalities on our own bodies? Dr. Eileen Smith, a dermatologist from the Walla Walla Clinic, has spoken of the dangers of ignoring ourselves.

We are exposed to the sun's radiation in everyday activities. However, for those of us working on golf courses, our rate of exposure is higher than most. Even during the winter months, or periods of overcast skies, we are in danger of contracting skin cancer. Without detection these problems can become disastrous, even leading to death.

The skin is the largest organ of the body. It covers the internal organs and protects them from injury, protects them from infection, and controls the loss of too much water. The skin regulates body temperature, helps rid the body of excess water and salts, and provides for temperature and touch sensations.

Skin tumors can either be benign or malignant. Benign tumors are not cancerous. They do not spread in the body and can be removed by surgery, and they

are not likely to return. Malignant tumors are cancerous and it is this type that we should be on the lookout for, according to Dr. Smith. There are several types of skin cancer: basal cell, squamous cell and melanoma. Basal cell carcinoma accounts for more than ninety percent of all skin cancers in the United States. It is slow growing and seldom spreads to other parts of the body. Early detection usually results in minor surgery with insignificant scarring. However, if no action is taken, surgery can be major. Melanoma skin cancer is less common, but far more dangerous. Found in the melanocytes, melanoma is a malignant form of skin cancer and can spread to other parts of the body. If left untreated, malignant melanoma can kill a patient.

Dr. Smith recommends an annual examination by a trained dermatologist. However, the best prevention is to employ the same observation skills on ourselves that we use on our golf courses. Examine your entire body in a full length mirror monthly. Look for small, smooth, shiny, pale or waxy lumps. Get to know the pattern of moles, blemishes, freckles and other marks on your skin. Be particularly observant of spots that are changing in size, shape or color. Spots that are asymmetrical, have irregular borders, color variations or are larger than 6mm in diameter (the size of an eraser) should be examined by a physician. Look everywhere,

even where the sun does not shine; between the toes, the genitals, buttocks, etc. Melanoma can even occur in the eyes.

It is nearly impossible for us to avoid the sun. Dr. Smith highly recommends using sunscreens that are designed to block both UV-A and UV-B wave lengths with a minimum SPF factor of at least 15, or higher if you skin is fair. Wear large brimmed hats, sunglasses, long sleeved shirts and pants. Consider it IPM for the body.

Richard Matteson is the Superintendent at the Pendleton Country Club in Pendleton, Oregon
Credit: *Grass Clippings*, Idaho GCSA

President *continued from page 2*

Turfgrass Field Day will be held July 24; the Virginia Tech Turfgrass Field Day will be held July 30-31. Your attendance means a great deal to the professors who work so hard to provide pertinent, scientific information to the turfgrass community. Please show your gratitude and support by attending the field convention for your. Lastly, our third annual Stewards of the Chesapeake tournament to raise funds for MAAGCS education and research will be held August 12, at Chevy Chase Club. Tournament Chairman Tim Norris, CGCS and host superintendent Dean Graves have planned a wonderful day for us. Assemble a foursome from your facility and come on out and enjoy a day of camaraderie and golf at one of the finest venues anywhere. I look forward to seeing you at Chevy Chase Club.



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Student News

Maryland Student Chapter of the GCSAA

A first time win against the Virginia Tech Turf Club in the Mid-Atlantic Challenge Cup was one of the major highlights for the Maryland Student Chapter of the GCSAA this past April. Of course the other major highlight was claiming the 2002 National NCAA Basketball Championship.

The six-person team of Mike Bostian, Scott Crownwell, Eric Long, Terrance Mentzer, Adam Newhart, and Rick Waltrup took the Cup over a two-day match play competition on the Blue Heron Course at Fords Colony and Two Rivers Golf Club in Williamsburg, VA. April 19-20. Go Terps!

Elections for the coming school year were held at the Maryland Open this past May and the new officers are as follows:



2002 Middle Atlantic Challenge Cup

l to r: Eric Long, Terrance Mentzer, Rick Waltrup, Adam Newhart, Kevin Mathias, Rob Rosier (alternate), Scott Crownwell, Mike Bostian

Rick Waltrup: President
Mike Cline: Vice-President
Mike Bostian: Secretary
Todd Kyper: Treasurer

Terrance Mentzer will serve as the Ag Council Representative. Special thanks to Jed Vail for his involvement as an officer this past year.

On May 23rd the Institute of Applied Agriculture graduated 16 students during the University of Maryland Commencement Exercise held at Memorial Chapel. This class consisted of students who completed their studies in December 2001 and in May 2002.

The December graduates were Nicholas Albrecht, Chris Ellis, Steve Griner, Kevin Lafferty, Eric Monnig, Brian Moreau, Brian Munnely, Dan Neus, Matt Neus, and Tom Turi. The May graduates were Dave Canavan, Josh Jordan, Eric Long, Chris Pence, Rob Rosier, and Jed Vail. Congratulations to our new alumni!

This summer the club will be involved in planning meetings, the U of MD Turfgrass Field Day and the Stewards of the Chesapeake Tournament.



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Golf Notes

by Charles Poole

Two Man Team Championship

There were a total of sixty golfers who participated in the Two Man Team Championship Tournament at Hunters Oak Golf Club on Tuesday, April 9, 2002. It was a difficult course with rolling tight fairways and quick greens that made you use your head as well as most of the clubs in your bag. Thanks to our host Kurt Wittman and his staff who had the course in great condition. Also, the golf director Tony Mederia did an outstanding job coordinating the tournament and food, which was also great.

Low Gross	Mike Evans & Rick Wakefield
2nd Gross	Glen Smickley & Paul Brandon
3rd Gross	Tom Walsh & Keith Williams
Low Net	Joe Herkalo & Donn Dietrich
2nd Net	Walter Montross & Bryan McFerren
3rd Net	Bill Shirk & Scott Wagner

Closest to the Pin

# 4 Mike King	# 6 John Long
#11 Jim McHenry	#16 Bill Shirk
Straightest Drive	Rick Wakefield
Longest Drive	Charlie Poole

Points Tournament

There we a total of sixty four golfers that participated in the Points Tournament held at the Country Club of Maryland on June 11, 2002. Thanks to our host Bill Augustin and his staff who had the course in great condition., especially the bunkers and ryegrass fairways. Also, thanks to the head professional Mike Healy for his assistance in coordinating the tournament and the fine food that was served before and after the tournament.

Low Gross	Rick Wakefield	Low Net	Chris Jennings
2nd Gross	Joe Herkalo	2nd Net	Matt Marsh
3rd Gross	Bill Shirk	3rd Net	Bill Neus
		4th Net	Harry Fridley
Closest To Line	Bob Orazi	5th Net	Ed Walker
Long Drive	Nick Vance	6th Net	Tom Ritter
Closest To Pin			
#5 Mark Kingora		#8	Bill Neus
#13 Joe Herkalo		#17	Barry Grote

Thanks to our sponsors for these two events, TESCO, Ace Tree Movers, Newsom Seed, Finch Services, Syngenta, G.L. Cornell, Davisson Golf, Lucks Sales Associates, and Simplot Partners.

Crofton Country Club Captures Presidents Cup



Crofton CC Superintendent BoJumbercotta and Professional Steve Cramer accept 2002 Presidents Cup

Net Division

1st	Bo Jumbercotta/Steve Cramer	65
2nd	Ryland Chapman/Joan Lovelace	66
3rd	Steve Cohoon/Mark Jansen	67
4th	Archie Hall/ R.J. Butler	68
5th	Ed Gasper/Tim Ruddo	68
6th	Tom Ritter/David Dorn	69

Gross Division

1st	Mark Kingora/Jim Folks	73
2nd	Ken Ingram/Randy Barns	74
3rd	Rick Wakefield/Tom Melideo	75

Long/Straight Drive

Superintendent	Mike Evans	Pro	Tim Ruddo
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Closest To Pin

Superintendent	#6 Brandon Fouche	#11	Steve Cohoon
Pro	#9 Jeff Rosenburg	#18	Tom Melideo

The Superintendent/Pro Tournament was held on May 14, 2002, at Heritage Hunt Golf Club, Gainesville Va. Twenty-six teams participated down from the thirty-four teams that played last year. The golf course was in excellent condition and was a real challenge due to the wind, rain and cold weather conditions. Thanks to Steve Cohoon, CGCS and his staff for a job well done and to Mark Jansen, the head professional, and his staff for the great food, setting up the tournament and scoring at the end of the day. The Presidents Cup went to Bo Jumbercotta and Steve Cramer with a net score of 65.

Thanks to all of the tournament sponsors. They are as follows: Syngenta, G L Cornell, Turf Equipment & Supply, AC Schultes, Century Rain Aid, Ace Tree Movers, Lesco, United Horticultural Supply, Newsom Seed, Organics Unlimited, Country Club at Woodmore, Harford Industries, Finch Services, York Distributors, Lucks Sales Associates and Nutramax, Inc.

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News & Notes

New Members

Class B

William Lewis	Bulle Rock
John W. Long	Mountain Branch G C
Glenn Stowers	Prospect Bay C C
Matthew Wharton	Swan Point Yacht & CC
Kurt Wittman	Hunters Oak Golf Club

Class C

Thomas Harshburger	Four Streams Golf Club
Kevin Potter	Four Streams Golf Club
Ian Williams	Hayfields Country Club

Class D

Nicholas Mooneyhan	Northwest Park G C
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Class F

Randy Adler	Shemin Nurseries
Lee Goodwin	HGS-Pond Doctor
Karen Hartman	Cleary Chemical
Mike Janzer	Plant Food Co.
John Tribbett	Renoscapcs, Inc.

Congratulations

To **Dave Cammarota** upon the birth of his granddaughter, Cassidy Lee

To **Mac and Kim Ryan** upon the birth of their daughter, Kellie Kroll

To **Kevin and Joy Smith** upon their recent marriage

To **Rich Sweeney, CGCS** upon completing his GCSAA Certification

Upcoming Events

July 24	U of MD Field Day U of MD Research Facility
July 30-31	VA Turf & Landscape Field Day VA Tech
August 12	Stewards of the Chesapeake Chevy Chase Club
September 10	Chapter Meeting University of MD Golf Course



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Online Opportunities

A book and a brochure focusing attention on the world's landscape water concerns *Water Right -- Conserving Our Water, Preserving Our Environment*, and *Share The Water* earned the 2002 Environmental Communicator of the Year title for Doug Fender, Turfgrass Producers International (TPI) Executive Director. Fender's communications efforts have focused on replacing myths with scientifically based facts about turf and landscape design, installation and maintenance. From 1973 to 1978 he was the Director of Communications for GCSAA.

The 64-page *Water Right* book can be downloaded (free of charge) from the TPI website at www.TurfGrassSod.org. Hardcopies of the full-color book are available for a \$5.00 handling fee by contacting the Turfgrass Producers International Association at 1855-A Hicks Road, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.

TGM English & Spanish Online, a bilingual publication for golf course maintenance, is intended to be a link between the Superintendent and his Spanish-speaking staff, thus assisting in the education and training of the people involved in golf course maintenance. The purpose of this publication is to provide a tool that would be a source of information and constant update about products and equipment in the market, handled by the maintenance staff on a daily basis.

The subscription to *TGM English & Spanish Online* is free and the first issue came out in May. For more information please visit www.tgm.com.ar.

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