

Turfgrass Adaptive Research Program - by Clifford A. Wagoner, CGCS

The six year report on TARP by Bill Davis was published in its entirety in the July and August 1974 Newsletters. Since this report two meetings have been held, one with your Board of Directors and Bill Davis and John Madison and the other with the Northern California Golf Association TARP Committee, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California TARP Committee and Bill Davis and John Madison.

The purpose of the first meeting was to acquaint the board members with the program and allow them the opportunity to visually observe the work being carried out at Davis. A lengthy discussion was held and everyone agreed a great amount of information had been developed that could be used in maintenance on individual courses.

On September 11, 1974 the second meeting was held. Those present were Dr. Blake, Carl Dawson and Bob Hanna, Northern California Golf Association, Bill Davis and John Madison, University of California and Extension Service and Larry Feliciano, John Engen, Kaz Maseba and Cliff Wagoner, Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California

It was generally agreed that

1. TARP projects can only be successful at courses where clubs and superintendents have a genuine interest in solving problems. These clubs can serve as places for demonstrations during and at the conclusion of the project.
2. TARP should also be directed towards improving existing conditions on courses.
3. a better means of communicating is needed both at superintendent levels and to club officials to the benefits of supporting the program.
4. club officials should be made aware of the benefits their organization can derive from the superintendents attending educational meetings and belonging to the Golf Course Superintendent Association.
5. Superintendents be made aware a great deal of assistance can be had by each superintendent contacting County Extension office. As more contacts are made by superintendents the Extension Service will appreciate our industry more.
6. The Institute at Asilomar will be continued. Every Superintendent of a Northern California Golf Association course, all members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California along with club officials will be notified of the time, place and subject matter. No club cannot afford to send the superintendent and NO superintendent can afford to miss the 1975 session on Personnel Management and Equipment Maintenance.

Projects for the coming year include the continuation of the topdressing

experiments on the experimental green and the football field. Why the football field? Because it is similar to many of the areas on the golf course.

The plan is to install drainage in a problem green similar to the one at Haggin Oaks in Sacramento.

If possible a soil screening device will be engineered so it can be constructed by clubs at a reasonable cost.

Clubs may continue to send samples of available sand to Davis for physical analysis.

Area meetings are being held to demonstrate some of the techniques of evaluating the efficiency of irrigation systems and infiltration rates on greens.

A tree planting and growth evaluation started in previous years will continue.

The Northern California Golf Association has again solicited the member clubs for support and will continue their support. Although this program cannot be all encompassing, it can be of great value to superintendents and clubs if they will avail themselves to the information and services available to them.

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Dues are now due and payable.
Where applicable bills are enclosed.

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