



June, 1997

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California

— Committed to Responsible Turfgrass Management —

## Martin, Crow Canyon To Host June Meeting

It's safe to say that when Ernie Martin says he has seen it all as the Golf Course Superintendent at Crow Canyon Country Club, he's not exaggerating. For Martin, the Ted Robinson designed course has been his home away from home since it opened in 1977. That's quite an accomplishment in an industry where five years at the same location can be considered a milestone.

Martin's interest in golf course maintenance began rather unassumingly when he accepted a position as a greenskeeper at Castlewood Country Club in 1956. True to form, it was 17 years later when he was lured away by Castlewood's Superintendent, George Finin to assist in the construction of Pleasanton Fairways. Under owner/operator Ron Cortola, Martin assumed

the position of Golf Course Superintendent for three years before making his move to Crow Canyon.

A 23 year member of GCSANC, Martin describes Crow Canyon as a course layed out amongst the rolling hills of Danville. Its characterized by a variety of trees including ash, pine and redwood all of which Martin says were planted during construction. One of the unique features of the course are the concrete cart paths which function as drain swales, collecting winter runoff. As with most courses constructed in the late 70's, the irrigation system is currently being evaluated. Martin anticipates the system to be replaced in the near future and is presently involved in the planning process for the new Rainbird Maxi system.

Crow Canyon Country Club and Martin are scheduled to serve as the hosts for the June meeting on Monday the 23rd.

## New Fungicide To Be Introduced At June Meeting

For years the turfgrass industry has heard talk of new revolutionary chemicals that could be applied at ultra low rates, offer increased control, and environmental safety. Slowly, over the past two years we have watched several of these products make their way into the California market.

Heritage, a new fungicide developed by Zeneca is the latest of these new breed of materials to receive California approval. You can learn all about it later this month at the June meeting where it will be featured in an hour long presentation.

Mr. Jim Petta of Zeneca Professional Products will describe the new fungicide class which features Heritage. His discussion will include a summary of the unique chemistry of the product which is derived from naturally occurring wood decaying fungi.

In addition to its low rate, less than .5 ounces per 1,000 sq.ft., Heritage controls a wide range of foliar and soil borne diseases. It's low ecological risk to birds, mammals and fish make it a potentially attractive alternative to traditional fungicides for use in IPM programs. Come see and hear for yourself on June 23rd.

## State Meeting A Quiet Success

In spite of a disappointing turnout, punctuated by a mere 45 representatives from Northern California, Santa Clara Golf and Tennis and the Westin Hotel played host to the CGCSA Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 18th and 19th.

The two day event opened with the state meeting called to order by Association President, John Pollock. At the conclusion of the general business session questions were raised regarding the long range plans of the Association. Mr. Pollock suggested that a strategy session was planned for the August Board Meeting at which time a plan would be formalized.

The remainder of the day saw a host of speakers talk on a wide range of subjects. GCSANC Superintendents, Mike Basile and Sean Nicholson did an excellent job of sharing their experiences with courses management on landfills and Dave Davies, CGCS added to the discussion with, an often humorous talk, on effluent water. Meeting Moderator Ali Harivandi concluded

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