

Snow named USGA Director

James Snow has been named Director of the Northeastern Region of the USGA Green Section. Formerly Senior Agronomist of the Northeastern Region, Snow joined the Green Section in 1976. He holds a master's degree in ornamental horticulture from Cornell University. He replaces Carl Schwartzkopf, who resigned.

In other Green Section news, two subregional offices have been opened. A subregional office of the Northeastern Region is now located at 236 Goldthwaite Road, Whitinsville, MA. It will be staffed by Brian Silva, Northeastern Region Agronomist. A subregional office of the Southeastern Region has been opened at 5579 Adair Way, Lakeworth, FL. Newly-appointed Southeastern Region Agronomist Steven Batten will man this office. Batten holds a master's degree in agronomy from Oklahoma State University and is a former research associate in the Department of Agronomy at Texas A&M University.

The USGA has increased its fee for Green Section Turf Advisory Service to \$500 from \$350. The increase represents a 10% annual rise since 1978 and will include all expenses incidental to the initial visit. "Our expenses for the Turf Advisory Service far exceed the income derived from the fees, but we want to maintain this valuable service for our member clubs and courses," said USGA Senior Executive Director Harry Easterly Jr. "This increase will help us keep up with inflationary pressures."

Additionally, the USGA Executive Committee has decided to keep the association located in Far Hills, NJ. The association is currently leasing three buildings in addition to Golf House. USGA will turn Golf House into a golf museum and an office building will be built on the grounds to house the association.

Harsh weather slows winter play

The length and severity of "Winter 1982" led to a 2.7% decrease in rounds of golf played during the first quarter of the year, according to the National Golf Foundation's survey. The same period in 1981 had a 16% increase in rounds played due to great conditions and early openings. However, during the first three months of 1982 24% (3200) of the 13,000 courses across the country were closed.

Golf courses in the Sunbelt are still feeling the effects of a sluggish economy. Even in areas that reported increases in rounds played, the general impression was that the tourist trade was down. Activity was mixed in the three major golf states. Florida was up 3.3%, California up 3.9%, but Texas rounds were down 9.1%.

By types of facility, play at municipal courses was up 3.8%; while both private clubs and daily fee operations were down 6.0% and 0.7% respectively.

GCSAA sets new Referral policy

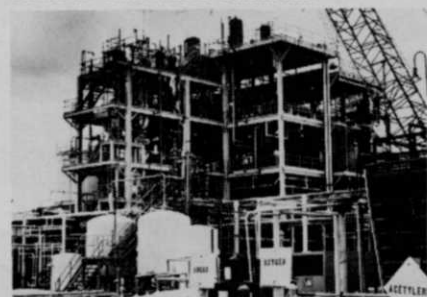
The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has instituted a new fee schedule for its Employment Referral Service. Clubs will be charged \$50 for listing openings through ERS, in effect, picking up the major part of the expense of running the service. Members will pay \$10 to receive ERS listings for a six-month period. Previous policy allowed members to receive the service for four months at no charge. The fees are expected to cover the costs of sending ERS listings to 500 members every week.

In other GCSAA news, the association will be establishing a mini-GCSAA museum at the Industry Hills Golf Course, City of Industry, CA. Industry Hills will display five small pieces of historical equipment or documents. GCSAA is planning a series of mini-museums throughout the United States.

CHEMICAL

Dacthal goes on the market for '83

Dacthal should be available for the 1983 growing season, if manufacturer Diamond Shamrock meets its present construction schedules. The company expects to have the reconstruction of the plant and systems completed by early October, enabling production of the pre-emergent herbicide to begin by the last quarter of 1982. "We are confident we will be able to meet these construction deadlines," stated George Lawrence, vice president and general manager of Diamond Shamrock's Agricultural Chemicals business.



Reconstructed plant for Dacthal nears production stage.

An explosion damaging the Houston plant in July of 1981 halted the production of the widely used herbicide. Plans for the plant now being built were approved by the board of directors by October of that year and construction began immediately.

The reconstruction of the plant has been the work of two firms. Construction engineering and management of the Dacthal plant was handled by Fruco engineers of St. Louis, while the actual construction has been done by the Houston firm of Voss International.

NURSERY

AAN protests Immigration bill

In a statement to the Senate Judicial Committee, the American Association of Nurserymen has strongly objected to several parts of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1982 (S-2222). Virtually all of the 3200 AAN member firms are small businesses that employ a significant number of seasonal workers.

As the legislation now stands, it would require small businessmen to be able to prove that employees had pro-

Continued on page 16