

USGA forms research committee

The United States Golf Association has formed the Turfgrass Research Committee. "In time, the research compiled by this committee could lead to major breakthroughs in turfgrass maintenance," said USGA Senior Executive Director Harry Easterly Jr.

The long-term program will be a multi-million dollar undertaking. The primary purpose of the program is to develop minimal maintenance turfgrasses that are water conserving, salt tolerant, disease and insect resistant and will provide excellent playing surfaces. One of the major efforts of the committee will be to form a computerized reference source for all turfgrass research literature. This will bring together every piece of literature dedicated to turfgrass research from throughout the world.

The committee will also fund overseas expeditions which will enable researchers to gather grasses from all over the world. An expedition for plant material search in Asia and South Africa has already been authorized.

Owners form independent group

A new golf industry trade association, the Golf Course Association (GCA), has been formed by the owners of privately-held public golf courses. Directors of the National Association of Public Golf Courses voted in April to become an independent group and adopt the new moniker, "Golf Course Association." NAPGC had been an affiliate of the National Golf Foundation for the past five years.

GCA's objective is to grow quickly as the voice for the owners of tax-paying public golf courses and earn a position as one of the major independent forces within the golf industry, according to Bailey Trull, owner of Trull Brook Golf Course, Tewksbury, MA. The association will represent public course owners on industry and governmental issues and is envisioned as an important business and management education resource for the daily-fee segment of the golf industry.

GCA is beginning with a membership of approximately 150 golf course owners. As of January 1, 1982, NGF reports that there are 5428 daily fee golf courses in the U.S. GCA predicts a membership growth rate in excess of 200% annually over the next several years. Michael Rippey of Smith, Bucklin and Associates has been named executive director of the association which is headquartered in Chicago and has offices in Washington, DC. Regular membership dues are \$175 for nine-hole courses and \$250 for courses with 18 or more holes. Companies which provide products or services to GCA member courses may enroll as associate members for \$200. Charter memberships are being offered until the Golf Course Association's 1982 Annual Meeting, December 1-4, at Arnold Palmer's Bay Hill Club and Lodge, Orlando, FL.

INTERIOR

California announces national interior show

A California publisher has announced plans for a National Interior Landscape Exposition to be held at Disneyland Hotel Convention Center, Anaheim, for June 1983.

Florida has been the center of the interior foliage market since its creation, although interior landscapers are now in business throughout the U.S.

Hester Communications, publisher of *Western Landscaping News*, hopes to attract thousands of interior plant specifiers to Anaheim as well as hundreds of exhibitors. Hester currently coordinates the American Pavilion at the International Bicycle and Motorcycle Exhibit in Cologne, Germany.

A panel consisting of representatives from the Associated Landscape Contractors Association, the Interior Plantscape Association, the American Society of Landscape Architects, and interior landscape firms is helping Hester with show planning.

NURSERY

Nurserymen hit the beach (in Hawaii)

"Oahu" means gathering place in Hawaiian and the nurserymen did just that as they flocked to Honolulu, HI, to attend the 107th Annual Convention of the American Association of Nurserymen.



NLA President Gerald Harrell

The convention ran five days and was chock full of information for the sundry affiliated associations of AAN. Tours and seminars were held for nurserymen and National Landscape Asso-

Continued on page 10