

by Bruce F. Shank, executive editor

Multi-course ownership grows as TPC eyes 20 courses by 1990

The pattern established by Club Corporation of America and American Golf Corporation is being carried a step further by the Tournament Players Club, which has set a goal to own 20 prestige, stadium-style golf courses within ten years.

TPC courses are designed to attract various tournaments and the revenue television and other media shell out. Pete Dye, primary architect for TPC, has a mean pen when he designs the courses.

Word is most of the 20 courses will be new, but a few, such as Edgewood Country Club, are reconstructed to Dye's specifications. See story in Golf Update.

Low dose pesticides may alter application methods in future

New low-dose herbicides and growth regulators, such as Du Pont's Oust and 3M's Embark are testing current application equipment and technique. These products are used in ounces per acre rather than pounds. Slight miscalculations can have harmful results. The value of the products and the sense of low dose pesticides in regard to environmental concerns, will force rethinking of application technology within the next five years. The resources of companies like Du Pont and 3M will see to that.

Housing starts to hit 1.7 million

The National Association of Home Builders are forecasting more than 1.7 million new homes for 1984. The increase may slow in the second half depending upon interest rate increases following the presidential elections. Apartment construction is expected to fall in some areas due to overbuilding.

Ford exec sees landscape boom

Jack Johnson, general sales manager for Ford Tractor North America, expects a complete recovery in construction by year's end. "The key to revival is housing starts," Johnson told HBJ Group Publisher Bob Earley during Ford's product introduction news conference in San Antonio, TX. The company has introduced new tractor/backhoe/loader models specifically for the landscape construction market.



Jack Johnson

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